

Present: Dwight Baker; Andy Bennett; Hans Brandal; John Coney, Vice-Chair; Ray Day, Jr.; Dave Elliott, Chair; John Jensen; Sandy Paul-Lyle; Holly Plackett; Anirudh Sahni; Joan Sells

Excused: Dick Burkhart; Mike Taylor

Staff: Barbara de Michele, Community Relations Planner; Kevin Desmond, General Manager; Victor Obeso, Service Development Manager

Dave Elliott called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Transit Now

Desmond introduced the Transit Now proposal announced by King County Executive Ron Sims. The proposal would raise local sales tax by 1/10 of 1%, and produce an approximate 20% increase in transit service over the next ten years. Desmond addressed the timing of the measure, saying that it may be on the ballot before the Sound Transit Phase II and the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID). He stated that Executive Sims believes that this measure will lay the necessary groundwork and infrastructure for the success of those two measures. Desmond reviewed the major elements of the proposal: Bus Rapid Transit on five corridors, new technology, new service to rapidly growing areas, frequency and span increases to 35 core routes, improvements to ACCESS service, and service partnerships. Throughout the presentation, TAC members asked questions and provided suggestions both for the ballot measure and eventual implementation.

Bus Shelter Letter

John Coney reported on his presentation of the TAC's letter of advice on bus shelters to the Regional Transit Committee. He said that the letter received positive feedback and discussion on the RTC, with many avenues for follow-up with local jurisdictions. Plackett also attended the RTC meeting and said that Councilmember Lambert discussed the issue with her, and was very supportive of increasing and improving bus shelters. Obeso distributed a response from staff.

Chair Term Limits

Members voted on a proposal to amend the by-laws to extend the term limits of the chair and vice-chair to six months. As specified by the by-laws, the proposal had been submitted in writing by Chair Dave Elliott at the April meeting. The proposal was defeated on a show of hands, 9-2.

Transit Now Response

Ray Day moved that the TAC adopt the following statement: "In the opinion of the majority, the Transit Now proposal introduced by King County Executive Ron Sims is a very positive step for Metro." Joan Sells seconded. After some discussion, the motion was passed, 10-1. Andy Bennett and Hans Brandal will prepare a letter of advice in support of Transit Now.

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Meeting at the Village At Overlake

The June meeting will be held at the Village at Overlake Transit-Oriented Development. Members voted to alter the time of the meeting, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Metro will provide attendees with dinner.

Eastside Outreach

De Michele reported that Metro has received over 3,000 responses to its proposals for service changes on the Eastside. The Eastside Sounding Board will begin meeting again on May 24.

Adjournment

Elliott adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.