



**TO:** Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** Josh Lauer, Engineering Project Manager, Public Works  
 Ramiro A. Chavez, P.E. PgMP, Director/City Engineer, Public Works DS  
RACPP  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution – Sound Transit South Tacoma Access Improvement Funding Agreement – August 27, 2024  
**DATE:** August 8, 2024

---

**SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:**

A resolution authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (Funding Agreement) with Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit), relating to the funding provided by Sound Transit to the City of Tacoma, in the not to exceed amount of \$42,310,763, budgeted from the 1060 Transportation Capital Fund, for the preliminary engineering, final design, and construction of access improvements to the South Tacoma Sounder Station.

**BACKGROUND:**

**This Department’s Recommendation is Based On:** The South Tacoma Station Access Improvements Project is part of the voter-approved Sound Transit 2 (ST2) plan to invest in access improvements to the South Tacoma Sounder Station. Sound Transit initiated the Project in January 2021 and worked closely with City staff and the community to develop a list of priority projects that address barriers to safe and comfortable active transportation and local transit access to the South Tacoma Sounder Station. Sound Transit Board of Directors adopted Resolution R2024-05 on March 28, 2024, amending the ST2 plan to select and implement the Project.

This agreement will fund the City of Tacoma’s preliminary engineering, final design, and construction of the selected priority projects that enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety and access, making it easier to walk, bike, roll and take local transit to the South Tacoma Sounder Station.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:**

Infrastructure improvements identified in the proposed project were identified by a significant amount of public engagement and outreach in Tacoma and from the South Sound area including multiple open-house events, mailers, and advertisements in the Tacoma News Tribune. The outreach included an evaluation of under-represented neighborhoods where improvements have historically been less equitable.

**2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

**Equity and Accessibility:**

This proposed resolution will support the City's goals for equity and accessibility and Public Works’ goals for access and safety on City streets and pedestrian facilities. Infrastructure improvements align with Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP) goals to enhance an organizational culture supporting anti-racist actions and equitable infrastructure investment for the improvements, maintenance, and repair of transportation infrastructure in a timely manner affecting all citizens requiring access to a variety of different modes of transportation.

**Economy/Workforce:** *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase the number of infrastructure projects and improvements that support existing and new business developments.

Increase positive public perception related to the Tacoma economy.



**Livability:** *Equity Index Score:* Very Low Opportunity

Improve access and proximity by residents to diverse income levels and race/ethnicity to community facilities, services, infrastructure, and employment.

Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

**Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).**

This agreement will provide the opportunity to partner with Sound Transit to deliver equitable investment for transportation infrastructure improvements. The project improvement construction will provide additional employment opportunities for residents both during construction and after with enhanced transportation options. The proposed active transportation and transit stop improvements offer safe, economical alternatives to vehicular transport and multi-modal options for residents. Improving the safety of walking, rolling, and bicycling connections between stations and their surrounding neighborhoods supports a better quality of life for residents.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
No partnership agreement.	None	The funding will be lost if the agreement is not approved, and the proposed improvements will not move forward.

**EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:**

Project scope, schedule, and budget are tracked to ensure projects are successful. Project outreach is completed through mailings and public meetings to engage and receive public input.

**STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:**

The Public Works Department recommends authorization of this Funding Agreement with Sound Transit to design and construct the proposed improvements to enable better walking, rolling, bicycling, and bus facilities near the South Tacoma Sounder Station.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The funding covers the project improvements including preliminary engineering, final design, and construction proposed as part of the South Tacoma Station Access Improvements Project (Project) in accordance with the Letter of Concurrence regarding the Project. These improvements are to be funded by Sound Transit in a not to exceed amount of \$42,310,763 and will be budgeted from the 1060 Transportation Capital Fund once the Funding Agreement is executed.

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1060 Transportation Capital Fund	662000	4338002	\$42,310,763
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$42,310,763</b>

**What Funding is being used to support the expense?**

Funds from Sound Transit will be used to support the expense.



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

**Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?**

NO, PLEASE EXPLAIN BELOW

If the Funding Agreement is approved by the City Council, the expenditures and revenues will be budgeted in the 1060 Transportation Capital Fund.

**Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?**

YES

**Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?**

NO

**Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?**

NO

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Proposed Memorandum of Agreement (Funding Agreement)
- Letter of Concurrence
- Sound Transit Resolution No. R2024-05