



TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
FROM: Rebecca Boydston, Council Assistant, City Manager’s Office
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution Expressing City Council Support of Sound Transit Proposition No. 1 – Light-Rail, Commuter-Rail, and Bus Service Expansion – September 20, 2016
DATE: September 7, 2016

SUMMARY:

A resolution expressing support for the passage of Sound Transit Proposition No. 1 - Light-Rail, Commuter-Rail, and Bus Service Expansion at the November 8, 2016 General Election, which reads as follows:

The Sound Transit Board passed Resolution No. R2016-17 concerning expansion of mass transit in King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties. This measure would expand light-rail, commuter-rail, and bus rapid transit service to connect population and growth centers, and authorize Sound Transit to levy or impose: an additional 0.5% sales and use tax; a property tax of \$0.25 or less per \$1,000 of assessed valuation; an additional 0.8% motor-vehicle excise tax; and use existing taxes to fund the local share of the \$53.8 billion estimated cost (including inflation), with continuing independent audits, as described in the Mass Transit Guide and Resolution No. R2016-17. Should this measure be approved or rejected?

- APPROVED.....
- REJECTED.....

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Marilyn Strickland and Deputy Mayor Ryan Mello

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

The requested resolution best aligns with the City Council Strategic Policy Priorities of:

- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built environment.
 - This ballot measure addresses the overall plan of the city to provide high quality public transportation options connecting the various communities within Tacoma to each other, as well as to the broader region.
 - This ballot measure includes ensuring public transportation is available to all our residents to serve both their commuting and day-to-day needs.
 - This ballot measure also addresses an increase in public transportation sooner than currently planned, which will have positive environmental aspects.



BACKGROUND:

On May 3, 2016, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 39438 authorizing the City Council to forward a letter to the Sound Transit board, expressing the City of Tacoma's recommendation on the Sound Transit 3 draft proposal. The City Council continues to support the expansion of public transportation options in the South Sound Region in anticipation of a growing population, as well as promoting the use of public transit as an economical and environmentally responsible mode of transportation. This ballot measure, known as ST3, if passed would move forward several of the City of Tacoma's top priorities, such as congestion free light rail service connectivity to SeaTac airport, light rail from Hilltop to the Tacoma Community College transit center, expanded Sounder commuter rail service hours, enhanced Sounder service linking JBLM communities with Tacoma, and expanded bus rapid transit service in partnership with Pierce Transit.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is to not express support for the ST3 plan ballot measure.

RECOMMENDATION:

We respectfully request the City Council adopt a resolution to publicly support the ST3 ballot measure.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.