



Mercer Island–Sound Transit Settlement Agreement

Transit Integration Meetings - Summary
City MI, Sound Transit, King County Metro

Date: May 31, 2018

Participants: Mercer Island: Julie Underwood, Kirsten Taylor
King County Metro: Bill Bryant, Steve Crosley

Purpose: Preliminary Meeting Between City and KC Metro

Summary: City staff initiated a meeting with King County Metro to discuss the Settlement Agreement, Section 4 Bus/Rail Integration, which cannot be implemented without King County Metro's agreement.

The outcomes for this meeting included:

- initiating discussions
- identifying KC Metro decision makers
- identifying working staff group from each jurisdiction
- clarifying Council objectives as defined in Section 4 Bus/Rail Integration of the Settlement Agreement
- expressing the City's interest in gaining Metro's agreement to transit integration
- listening to KC Metro's initial thoughts regarding the integration as defined in the Settlement Agreement
- committing to meetings to get this resolved in a timely manner

KC Metro was scheduled to meet with Sound Transit staff, and all agreed that it would be most productive to schedule joint meetings with ST/Metro/City.

Date: June 12, 2018

Participants: Mercer Island: Julie Underwood, Kirsten Taylor
King County Metro: Bill Bryant, Stephen Crosley
Sound Transit: Eric Beckman, Charles Benson, Jemae Hoffman, Luke Lamon

Purpose: Begin Transit Integration Work Plan Discussion

Summary: Sound Transit proposed a draft work plan detailing steps necessary to construct the transit interchange operations on Mercer Island.

1. Sound Transit will study 3 Transit Interchange Operational and Configuration options (one of which is the settlement agreement conditions).

2. ST proposed creation of an executive steering committee, with framework and participants to be determined by August 2018.
3. Determination of preferred option scheduled for Q2, 2019.
4. Other work/timing TBD includes property acquisition (2019-2010) and 30% design of preferred option (Q2-Q3, 2019).

The proposed configurations are to be evaluated based on how each satisfies a set of goals and objectives agreed upon by Sound Transit, the City of Mercer Island, and King County Metro, with the purpose of creating a multi-modal transit interchange that:

- creates a seamless transfer experience for the customer that is intuitive, safe, barrier-free, weather-protected, and efficient;
- minimizes transfer walk distance and number of street crossings for bus/rail transfers;
- is ready for operation when the East Link light rail service begins in 2023;
- is cost-effective and represents a transparent and appropriate use of public funds;
- maximizes benefits to Mercer Island residents and local employers;
- minimizes potential overall property impacts and local community access impacts, and maintains through-vehicular traffic on the 80th Avenue SE bridge crossing;
- provides excellent multi-modal access for customers while minimizing general pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle mobility impacts near bus drop-off locations; and
- limits diesel idling and limits regional bus circulation through the town center.

Date: September 26, 2018

Participants: Mercer Island: Julie Underwood, Kirsten Taylor
King County Metro: Steve Crosley, Mark Noll
Sound Transit: Charles Benson, Jemae Hoffman, Luke Lamon

Purpose: Refinement of Transit Integration Timeline and Schedule

Summary: Sound Transit reviewed the refined timeline/schedule. ST hired David Evans & Associates for the Transit Interchange Operational and Configuration Study. Discussion topics included clarification of decision makers (ST and MI with KCM concurrence), additional stakeholders, and public participation. The draft Operational and Configuration Study scheduled for project team review by late October 2018. KC Metro proposed changes that would allow slightly longer layover times because 15 minute layover time does not meet operational requirements. MI requested this be quantified to better understand potential impacts. Metro requests options for study that allow layover on the north side of NMW to allow more service to connect to the east side (not served by light rail), and one that would add drop off on 80th. MI staff reiterated that 80th and NMW local traffic flow was an essential element to consider in any options proposed by Metro. Staff also requested that Metro demonstrate how proposed loosening of Settlement Agreement restrictions would serve MI community.

Potential members of the Executive Steering Committee would include two members from each agency who could decide on a preferred option. Julie noted that she would by necessity consult with MI Council.

Date: November 20, 2018

Participants: Mercer Island: Kirsten Taylor, Julie Underwood, Patrick Yamashita
Sound Transit: Jemae Hoffman, David Evans & Associates staff
King County Metro: Steve Crosley, Mark Noll
WSDOT: Zach Howard, Christina S.

Purpose: Draft Roundabout Design Meeting

Summary: City staff reviewed and commented on preliminary roundabout designs. Significant discussion about placement and size of roundabout and how it might be designed to minimize any potential property takings. Safety must be the first priority. Other priorities include comfortable pedestrian/bike/vehicle interactions, retaining vegetation where possible, ensuring a well designed roundabout that functions well for the community as well as buses.

Date: November 29, 2018

Participants: Mercer Island: Kirsten Taylor, Julie Underwood
Sound Transit: Zack Ambrose, Charles Benson, Jemae Hoffman, Luke Lamon

Purpose: Council Briefing and Public Process

Summary: Discussed how best to brief Council, update public, and determined timeline to do so over next two months.

In January 2019 the following is proposed:

1. Small group briefings to introduce the three integration design options to Council for initial reaction.
 2. ST will reach out to and ST/CMI will meet with affected property owners.
 3. Schedule a study session briefing for Council and community in February.
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Date: December 4, 2018

Participants: Mercer Island: Kirsten Taylor, Julie Underwood
Sound Transit: Charles Benson, Jemae Hoffman, Luke Lamon, Anthony Wilen (DEA)
King County Metro: Mark Noll

Purpose: Roundabout Design Refinements

Summary: The roundabout details are being more clearly designed to reflect the comments provided at previous meeting from City and WSDOT staff. Two designs are moving forward, one smaller version and one larger version that also provides new ADP trail width, a five foot planter buffer between roundabout lane and the ADP trail (sidewalk), turn radius that does not require larger vehicles to drive on the truck apron, etc.

Sound Transit staff will obtain an assessment from ST Real Property to learn if either or both designs will require partial or full property takes from one or both adjacent residential properties.

Date: December 12, 2018

Participants: Mercer Island: Kirsten Taylor, Julie Underwood
Sound Transit: Charles Benson, Jemae Hoffman, Luke Leman, Anthony Wilen (DEA)
King County Metro: Mark Noll

Purpose: Study Revisions/Next Steps

Summary: ST Real Property has determined that either roundabout design would require a full property takings of two adjacent properties.

Staff provided first review of Transit Interchange Operational and Configuration Study (but only had a few days to review).

Confirmed schedule for meeting with City council, neighbors.
ST will prepare an Executive Summary of the Study.
City and ST will schedule January 2019 meetings.

Date: January 9, 2019

Participants: Mercer Island: Kirsten Taylor, Julie Underwood
Sound Transit: Charles Benson, Jemae Hoffman, Luke Leman, Anthony Wilen (DEA)
King County Metro: Stephen Crosley, Mark Noll

Purpose: Study Revisions/Next Steps

Summary: The roundabout design has been further developed and refined, with input from CMI Engineering staff and KCM.

The City Council will be briefed on the DRAFT Transit Interchange Operational and Configuration Study Executive Summary in executive session followed by a February 26 Study Session for a full briefing and update.

On February 4 Sound Transit will initiate contact with affected property owners and set up meetings with **ST Real Property** and **MI**.