

Public Transportation Improvement Conference
December 16, 2011 at 2:30 p.m.
Puyallup Library

Attendees:

Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Bonney Lake
Mayor Pat Johnson, Buckley
Councilmember John Ehrenreich, DuPont
Councilmember Daryl Eiding, Edgewood
Councilmember Glenn Hull, Fife
Councilmember Kathy McVay, Fircrest
Councilmember Derek Young, Gig Harbor
Councilmember Claudia Thomas, Lakewood
Councilmember Stanley Holland, Orting
Councilmember John Jones, Pacific
Councilmember Rick Talbert, Pierce County
Councilmember Kent Boyle, Puyallup
Mayor Ron Lucas, Steilacoom
Mayor Dave Enslow, Sumner
Councilmember Jake Fey, Tacoma
Councilmember Javier Figueroa, University Place
Councilmember William Llewellyn, Roy
Justin Leighton, Conference Assistant
Treva Percival, Conference Clerk
Tom Wolfendale, Legal Counsel

Others present:

Lars Erickson, Public Relations Officer, Pierce Transit
Wayne Fanshier, VP of Finance, Pierce Transit
Lynne Griffith, CEO, Pierce Transit
Kelly Hayden, Acting VP of Operations, Pierce Transit
Heidi Hunter, Vanpool Asst. Manager, Pierce Transit
Tina Lee, Capital Planning Manager, Pierce Transit
Paul Loveless, City of Steilacoom
Dawn Masko, City DuPont
Alisa O'Hanlon, City of Tacoma
Eric Phillips, City of Edgewood
Tim Renfro, ADA Eligibility Administrator, Pierce Transit
Raul Silva, First Transit
Peter Stackpole, Senior Planner, Pierce Transit
Kathy Sullivant, Finance Manager, Pierce Transit

Meeting was called to order at 2:31 p.m.

Roll Call

Treva Percival called the roll for the Conference

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Legal Counsel for Pierce Transit Tom Wolfendale shared a brief PowerPoint outlining the steps that the Conference would have to take if they felt there was a need to revise Pierce Transit's boundaries.

PTIC Chair Selection: In accordance with RCW 36.57A.020

Councilmember Hull and Mayor Johnson moved and seconded to appoint Councilmember Young as Chair.

Mayor Lucas and Councilmember Holland moved and seconded to appoint Councilmember Figueroa as Chair.

Each member gave a brief bio as to why they should be chair.

Voice vote for Derek Young. Motion carried.

Voice vote for Javier Figueroa. Motion failed.

PTIC Governing Rules

Councilmember Thomas and Councilmember McVay moved and seconded to adopt Robert's Rules of order as the Parliamentary meeting standard for the conference. Motion carried.

Determination of Conference: Shall the Conference find it desirable to change the boundaries of Pierce Transit? In accordance with RCW 36.57A.030

Mayor Johnson stated that she is in a city with no service and would like to find out what the pros and cons are of being drawn out of the service area. Ms. Johnson would like to know if there are ramifications regarding federal monies if they are drawn out.

Councilmember Thomas stated that she brought along some maps from Pierce Transit that the Pierce Transit Board of Commissioners has seen. The conference wanted to know if they were applying for Federal money; there is a section that asks for transit information, and if they don't have transit service will this affect their chances of getting the money. Capital Planning Manager Tina Lee stated that there are some points on Federal grants that are associated with transit but that PSRC would have the most information on this. Staff would look into this and provide more information.

Councilmember Talbert stated he has a number of colleagues that are interested in this discussion and he feels the conference should at least move forward with the discussion of the boundaries.

Mayor Enslow stated he would at least like to explore what is involved with moving the process forward.

Mayor Lucas stated that the small cities and towns had met with Pierce Transit to work out an option for them to get service. Mr. Lucas stated that this process is not to give communities options for service or to discuss the service options this is to decide whether you are in, or out of the boundaries.

Councilmember Young stated that we should at least continue the discussion.

Councilmember Fey stated that as a Pierce Transit Board member, the Commissioners agonized over the decisions that had to be made regarding service cuts. One of the toughest issues they wrestled with was having jurisdictions pay taxes but not be afforded any service. Mr. Fey stated that he feels it is pertinent

that we have this discussion. He also stated that everyone benefits from public transportation and we often pay taxes for things that don't benefit us directly such as the public education system.

Councilmember Fey and Councilmember Talbert moved and seconded to continue the conference regarding Pierce Transit's boundaries. Motion carried.

Discussion: Preliminary PTBA Boundary Delineation In accordance with RCW 36.57A.030

Councilmember Thomas distributed a preliminary map to start the conversation with.

Councilmember McVay asked if someone could speak directly to the transportation issues surrounding funding.

Chair Young asked if there was any discussion on the map.

Councilmember Ehrenreich stated that he would like DuPont to be part of the excluded portion of the map if they are not going to receive any service in the near future.

Pierce Transit's Acting Vice President of Operations Kelly Hayden stated that there is not an expectation to reestablish service into DuPont in the near future.

Councilmember Ehrenreich stated that he would like to see the map with DuPont drawn out of the boundary prior to the public hearing.

Mayor Enslow stated that he is not sure what his council thinks about it and would like the opportunity to take it back to them and have some discussions.

Chair Young stated that this map is something we could begin showing the public and they can testify on that. The decision on whether a municipality stays in or out is made later.

Mr. Wolfendale stated that the stage we are at now is to determine as a conference what the first disseminated map to the public will look like. All of you will have the opportunity to take this map back to your council and state on a preliminary basis that you want in or out and then a new map will be created and circulated to all cities.

Councilmember Fey stated that we have heard from DuPont wanting to be drawn out of the boundaries; Mr. Fey wanted to know if that was a collective decision or a DuPont decision. The conference agreed to draw DuPont out for the first pass of the map.

Councilmember Talbert stated that he would like as much dialogue as possible on the map before we go about making any adjustments. Mr. Talbert would like to have a conversation about the indirect benefits that jurisdictions with no service receive.

Councilmember Ehrenreich stated that they have had a conversation in DuPont and the fact remains that if they are not receiving service they would like to not have to pay the tax while in DuPont. He stated that most of their citizens shop at the Tacoma and Lakewood malls so are paying the tax when they shop there anyway.

Councilmember Glen Hull asked if there was a possibility of an interlocal agreement for cities that don't have service to funnel the tax money that Pierce Transit receives back into those cities to use for transit. Mr. Wolfendale stated that the revenues that are collected in the Public Transportation Benefit Area (PTBA) must remain in the PTBA.

Councilmember Thomas stated that at this time, not everyone understands whether it is good or bad to stay in or out. Ms. Thomas requested staff to prepare some information on what folks would gain or lose if they stayed in or opted out.

Councilmember McVay stated that she would also like to hear the impact to Pierce Transit if jurisdictions were drawn out of the boundaries.

Councilmember Greg Hull stated that he would like to know if there is another opportunity for DuPont to opt back in if they opt out now? Mr. Wolfendale stated that yes, after the public hearing.

Mayor Enslow stated he would like to see the tax revenue information for each jurisdiction.

Commissioner Figueroa requested an FAQ be distributed to all municipalities after this first meeting.

Chair Young stated that the Gig Harbor council was interested in the impact of the reductions on the Peninsula, not just the city of Gig Harbor.

Councilmember Figueroa would like an informational sheet regarding what the conference is expected to do and what is not within the realm according to RCW.

Mr. Wolfendale stated that the charter of the Conference is to determine if the boundaries of Pierce Transit should be changed.

Chair Young stated that for example negotiating service with Pierce Transit is outside of the purpose of this conference.

Councilmember Ehrenreich and Mayor Ron Lucas **moved** and seconded to approve the map that was distributed with DuPont drawn out. Motion **carried**

Conference Communication

Councilmember Figueroa and Councilmember Glenn Hull **moved** and seconded to have Pierce Transit host a public website for the Conference to share information. Motion **carried**.

Mayor Enslow and Councilmember Eidinger **moved** and seconded that The News Tribune be the paper of record for the conference. Motion **carried**.

Councilmember Thomas and Councilmember Hull **moved** and seconded to appoint Treva Percival as the Clerk and Public Records Officer to the Conference. Motion **carried**.

All conference communication will be posted to the Conference web page and also sent to all jurisdictions for posting on their websites.

The Conference agreed to meet again on January 20, 2012, to hold more discussion prior to going out for a public hearing.

Councilmember Figueuro asked who would Chair the meeting if Chair Young was unavailable. Councilmember Jones and Councilmember Holland **moved** and seconded to appoint Councilmember Figueroa as the Vice Chair for the Conference. Motion **carried**.

Councilmember Talbert asked if it was okay to appoint an alternate if an appointed representative was not available for a meeting. Mr. Wolfendale stated that jurisdictions were allowed to designate an alternate.

Councilmember Thomas and Councilmember Fey **moved** and seconded adjourn the meeting. Motion **carried**.

Chair Young adjourned the meeting at 4:24 p.m.

Treva Percival, MMC
Conference Clerk

Derek Young, Conference Chair

Prepared by: Treva Percival, MMC, Conference Clerk