

Testimony to the Issaquah City Council, Vic Bishop, Chair-elect, Eastside Transportation Association, Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2016

Mayor Butler and City Council Members,

My name is Vic Bishop. I live in Bellevue at 2114 W. Lake Sammamish Pkwy SE, Bellevue, WA 98008. I am here speaking on behalf of the Eastside Transportation Association, as its Chair-Elect and Board Member.

On Dec. 7, 2015 Sound Transit sent a letter to the City of Kirkland, and presumably to all Cities in the Sound Transit Taxing District, thanking you for your input to date and asking you for a letter to:

“...acknowledge the scope elements included in candidate project reports of interest to you and note if there are scope elements that have been overlooked or included unnecessarily.”

ST asks for an acknowledgement of the scope and feedback by January 21, 2015.

Therefore, you and other Cities had 45 days to review and respond over the holidays when you and most councils are shut down part of the time, staff is on vacation, and new Councils and Mayors are being seated as you did tonight.

To stay in conformance with ST’s expectations, the Council needs to react in some fashion. Please consider the following questions in formulating your response:

- A. ST is giving the Council 45 days to respond. The process took 36 months for ST 2.
- B. The Subarea Equity promised in Sound Move and ST 2 is critical to Issaquah. No plan works without Subarea Equity principles explicitly stated in the Ballot issue. Are the Subarea Equity Principles included in the ST 3 Proposal?
- C. What would be the tax cost per household in Issaquah? (Kurt Triplett says “ST taxes will double in Kirkland”; Kevin Wallace says: “The total ST taxes will be \$1000 per household per year in the region”, if ST 3 would be approved.
- D. Ask Sound Transit to “Show me” how much tax revenue Issaquah residents have;
 - a. Contributed to Sound Move and ST 2 since 1996?
 - b. What has Issaquah received?
- E. Ask Sound Transit to “Show me” how much Issaquah residents will:
 - a. Contribute in taxes to Sound Move, ST 2 and ST 3 over the next 30 years?, and
 - b. What will Issaquah receive under the proposed ballot issue?
- F. What will be the outcome for Issaquah in terms of;
 - a. Congestion relief (average person trip delay reduction)
 - b. Transit ridership (Issaquah’s ridership change and travel time reductions)

These are some questions the Council needs to be asking Sound Transit about and getting answers prior to acknowledging the scope of and support for ST 3 in a letter from the City, or even accepting the process to get the proposal on the ballot in 2016 as being ‘fair’ to the City of Issaquah.