

Update: Seattle Streetcar



Seattle City Council Transportation Committee
March 10, 2014

SDOT's core principles



First Hill Streetcar: Project background

- Funded in ST2 Regional Transit Measure
- ST2 Measure projected service by July 2016
- Connects First Hill Urban Center to Light Rail
- 10-minute headways, 20 hour span of service
- Construction started April 2012
- Construction completed May 2014
- Vehicle delivery/operational startup delayed

Current status

- Vehicle manufacturer is six months behind schedule for all vehicles to be ready for service
- First vehicle delivered February 28, 2015
- Vehicle “Qualification Testing” underway in Czech Republic
- Change order establishes new milestones and revises liquidated damages

Vehicle contract modifications: schedule

| Car number | Conditional acceptance – new date | Conditional acceptance – old date |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 4/22/2015 | 10/06/2014 |
| 2 | 6/30/2015 | 10/06/2014 |
| 3 | 5/29/2015 | 10/06/2014 |
| 4 | 5/12/2015 | 10/06/2014 |
| 5 | 6/5/2015 | 10/06/2014 |
| 6 | 6/30/2015 | 10/06/2014 |
| 7 (option car) | 6/15/2015 | 1/25/2015 |

“Conditional Acceptance” means approved for passenger service.

Vehicle contract modifications: liquidated damages

- \$111,000 in damages to be paid in additional spare parts
- \$150,000 in damages waived
- Damages increase as follows:
 - June 1 – June 15: \$500 per car per day
 - June 16 – June 30: \$750 per car per day
 - July 1 – delivery: \$1,000 per car per day

Project cost & budget status

- Spent to date \$127.5 M
- ST funding \$132.8 M
- 2014 Q4 supplemental budget \$ 2.5 M
- Remaining budget: \$ 7.8 M
- Potential remaining cost: \$ 9.4 M
- Potential funding gap: \$ 1.6 M

Project cost factors

- Added \$4 M Pioneer Square Segment—no increase to project funding
- Significant upgrades to signal infrastructure at 31 Intersections--\$1.8 M over project budget



Remaining cost risks

- Close out of construction contract—settlement of potential subcontractor claims
- Final funding need could be higher or lower than current estimate



Next steps



- SDOT will continue daily production meetings with manufacturer
- Vehicle testing to begin in March
- SDOT to provide cost and budget updates as construction closeout progresses.

South Lake Union Streetcar: Project Background

- Opened December 2007
- Funded 50% Local Improvement District, 25% federal grants
- 2,500 Average weekday riders—175% growth from 2009 to 2013
- Catalyst for Economic Development
 - over \$4 billion in private investment
 - \$6 million square feet of commercial space
 - over 3,500 housing units
 - over 20,000 new jobs
- Reliability: On-Time Performance Declined Significantly beginning late 2012

South Lake Union Streetcar: Planned Improvements

- Fleet Expansion (fourth streetcar) and service enhancement funded by Amazon.com
- 10 minute headways, 7AM to 7 PM beginning summer 2015
- Reliability: spot improvements (Fairview/Valley, Westlake/Denny) in 2015
- Reliability: exclusive transit lanes for bus & streetcar in 2016

South Lake Union Streetcar: Planned Improvements

Fairview & Valley "Do Not Block the Box" Signage & Striping



Questions?

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Vehicle & startup updates

| Date | Format | Information Provided |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| December 2013 | Quarterly Report to Council | Vehicle production is behind schedule |
| February 2014 | Transportation Committee Briefing | Vehicles delayed; 5-6 months behind approved schedule and 3 months behind contractual deadlines; vehicles are the critical path for startup |
| April 2014 | Quarterly Report to Council | Vehicles behind schedule, on critical path for operational startup |
| August 2014 | Quarterly Report to Council | Vehicles delayed; has impacted startup and created uncertainty in schedule for startup |
| September 2014 | Quarterly Report to Council | Vehicles and startup delayed, high level of uncertainty remains |
| January 2015 | Quarterly Report to Council | Vehicle completion remains a major concern; first vehicle delivery has slipped to February |
| March 2015 | Transportation Committee Briefing | New delivery schedule agreed upon; service expected to begin Summer 2015 |