



TACOMA STREETCAR

710 North Yakima Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98403 ~ 253.228.7271

Sound Transit
401 South Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98104

February 6, 2008

Re: Tacoma Street Cars in Sound Transit Ballot Proposal

Dear Sound Transit,

Cities across the nation are increasingly finding that restoring their streetcar systems is a vital tool in economic development, reduction of pollution and making a pedestrian friendly and attractive city.

Streetcars are in operation in Seattle, WA; Tucson, AZ; San Jose, San Francisco, and San Pedro, CA; Denver, and Fort Collins, CO; Tampa, FL; New Orleans, LA; Lowell, MA; Charlotte, NC; El Reno, OK; Astoria, Lake Oswego, and Portland, OR; Memphis, TN; Dallas and Galveston, TX; Issaquah, Seattle, and Yakima, WA; and Kenosha, WI.

The Tacoma City Council and many neighborhood and civic groups have indicated support of the planning and development of a streetcar system over the last two years to better connect people with the economic and social activities that build stronger neighborhoods. Therefore, Tacoma Streetcar request that:

- 1) Any Sound Transit Proposal contain an extension of Tacoma's LINK with a goal to connect Tacoma's mixed-use neighborhood centers. Preferably building on work already completed by Sound Transit to extend LINK both east to Portland Ave/Salishan and west to Stadium District/6th Ave.
- 2) The streetcar system should have an aggressive timeline, commencing on the passing of the ballot measure.

Tacoma Streetcar believes that such a streetcar system is not only good transportation policy, environmentally wise, and beneficial to the city and the surrounding area but is essential to any Sound Transit proposal seeking voter approval.

Please let me know if you have any questions in the matter.

Sincerely,

Morgan Alexander
President, Tacoma Streetcar