



STATE OF WASHINGTON
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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December 6, 2016

john@johnniles.com

Subject: PDC case 9074

Dear Mr. Niles:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its initial review of the complaint you filed on October 18, 2016. Your complaint alleged that Sound Transit violated RCW 42.17A.555 by printing and distributing a voter's guide outlining the proposed impacts of passage of the Sound Transit 3 (ST3) transportation package.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations, and as a result of staff's initial review, we found the following:

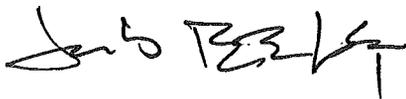
- Sound Transit has a statute, RCW 81.104.140(8), that requires them to create and distribute, "a document describing the systems plan and the financing plan" that, "must also describe the relationship of the system to regional issues".
- PDC staff reviewed the voter's guide and found that on page 4, in the second column, Sound Transit does provide a statement of what would happen if the ST3 package failed to pass, "If ST3 is not approved, existing taxes will continue to be used to complete and operate Sound Move and ST2 projects as provided in their respective plans approved by voters."
- Sound Transit has no previous violations of PDC laws and rules.

Under RCW 42.17A.555(3) Sound Transit is engaging in, "Activities which are part of the normal and regular conduct of the office or agency", by distributing the Voter's Guide 20 days before the election as they have in previous elections (1995, 1996, 2007 and 2008). Sound Transit followed the requirement of RCW 81.104.140.

Based on these initial findings, I have determined Sound Transit has not violated PDC laws and rules. The PDC has closed the matter, and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into your complaint or pursuing further action in this case.

If you have questions, you may contact Jacob Berkey, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at Jacob.berkey@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Jacob Berkey
PDC Compliance

Endorsed by,



Evelyn Fielding Lopez
Executive Director

cc: John Piety