

Committee for Transit Accessibility

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

REVISED MINUTES

NOTE: MEMBERS MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA.

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) was called to order at 1:08 p.m. by Second Vice Chairperson Eljas in Building A, Auditorium, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Lori Arnberg	CTA Member	Present	
Linda Gallo	CTA Member	Present	
David Grant	CTA Member	Present	
Marjorie Jensen	CTA Member	Absent	
Connie Langford	CTA Member	Present	
Laura Michels	CTA Member	Absent	
Shawna Nourzaie	CTA Member	Present	
Larry Saltman	CTA Member	Absent	
Emma Eljas	CTA Second Vice Chair	Present	
Sandra Gouveia	CTA Member	Present	
Troy Hernandez	CTA Member	Present	
David Julian	CTA First Vice Chair	Absent	
Martin Lasich	CTA Member	Present	

Mike Montague	CTA Member	Present	
Aaron Morrow	CTA Chairperson	Absent	
Dilip Shah	CTA Member	Present	
Thomas Slack	CTA Member	Present	
William Zhu	CTA Member	Present	
Barbara Stahl	CTA Member	Present	
Anthony Drummond	CTA Ex-Officio Member	Absent	
Katie Heatley	CTA Ex-Officio Member	Present	

2. INTRODUCTION OF AUDIENCE MEMBERS

Amy Shao, Santa Clara Valley Council of the Blind; David Ledwitz, Management Analyst; Joe Smith, Chief Financial Officer; Carol Lawson, Fiscal Resources Manager; Greta Helm, Chief of External Affairs; Deborah Harrington, Board Secretary; Sandra Weymouth, Policy and Administration Manager; Camille Williams, Accessible Services Program Manager; Joonie Tolosa, Manager Operations Analysis; Ali Hudda, Deputy Director of Accounting; Jennie Hwang Loft, Public Information Officer, and Dan Smith, Chief Operating Officer.

3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

There were no Public Presentations.

4. Minutes of November 12, 2008

M/S/C (Gouveia/Langford) on a vote of 12 Ayes, 0 Noes, and 2 Abstentions to approve the Minutes of November 12, 2008. Members Gallo and Slack abstained.

5. Chief Operating Officer’s Report

On order of Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objection, the committee received the Chief Operating Officer’s Report.

BUSINESS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS/GENERAL MANAGER

NOTE: M/S/C MEANS MOTION SECONDED AND CARRIED AND, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. FY 2010 and 2011 Biennial Budget

Joe Smith, Chief Financial Officer, provided a report on the FY2010-2011 budget and noted input from all advisory committees is being solicited prior to its completion. Mr. Smith indicated no service reductions or fare increases are anticipated, but other areas of the budget will be reviewed to control costs.

Member Slack questioned the percentage of the total budget the anticipated shortfall represents, and if any personnel changes are expected.

Mr. Smith indicated it is roughly 10 percent of the budget and savings in labor would offset it, but other strategies are being considered first.

Member Grant questioned the anticipated decrease of the sales tax revenue and the types of VTA reserves.

Mr. Smith indicated the budget anticipates an increase of one percent in sales tax revenues. The VTA has both an operating reserve and debt reduction reserve.

Member Grant expressed concern with cuts in fixed route service and asked that not to be considered.

On order of Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objection, the FY 2010 and 2011 Biennial Budget was received.

7. Wheelchair Safety

Jim Unites, CTA Staff Liaison, provided a status report on the safest mobility devices to use on transit and provided a list to the CTA members. Mr. Unites indicated the information will be available on the website by the beginning of the year and a brochure has been developed as well.

Member Grant suggested car cards be used to get the information to riders, and outreach done to professional groups or individuals who recommend chair types to individuals.

On order of Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objection, the Wheelchair Safety was received.

8. Advisory Committee Enhancement (ACE) Process

Jennie Loft, Public Information Officer, provided a progress report on the status of the Advisory Committee Enhancement process. She noted all sub-committees have developed a draft mission statement and are soliciting feedback from their committee members. She noted after the committee approves it, it will be provisional until adopted by the Board.

Ms. Loft indicated the next step is to convene a task force which will include all of the members of the Subcommittees and the first meeting will take place in January.

On order of Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objective, the update on the Advisory Committee Enhancement (ACE) process was received.

9. **Advisory Committee Enhancement (ACE) Subcommittee Report**

Second Vice Chairperson Eljas provided a brief update on the ACE Subcommittee meeting, noting the committee drafted a mission statement, which was distributed to the CTA Members.

On Order Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objection, the ACE subcommittee report was received.

10. **Provisional CTA Mission Statement**

The ACE Subcommittee presented the CTA with the provisional mission statement which reads, "The Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) advises the Board of Directors on equal access to public transportation and performs the functions of a paratransit coordinating council."

M/S/C (Montague/Slack) to consider adoption of the provisional Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) Mission Statement developed by the CTA Advisory Committee Enhancement Subcommittee.

11. **First Quarter Transit Operations Report**

Joonie Tolosa, Manager Transportation Analysis and Reporting, provided a report on the FY2009 first quarter transit operations performance results which highlighted:

- 8.8 percent increase in bus ridership, which is the highest bus average weekday ridership recorded in five years.
- 2.1 percent increase in light rail ridership.
- Absenteeism continues to improve and meets established goals.
- Service reliability was recorded at 99.69 percent, which is the highest in VTA history.
- 4.4 percent increase in Paratransit Ridership and meet cost per passenger trip met the established goal.

Member Slack questioned if the report included on board bus systems such as the number of time the enunciator is disabled or the driver fails to use it. Member Slack indicated he has received several complaints regarding the enunciators not being used, and requested the item be agendized.

Member Grant suggested the status of new enunciators be indicated in the report as well.

Member Nourzaie questioned how lift ramp boardings are calculated and indicated the numbers seem inaccurate.

Mr. Tolosa indicated they rely on drivers to push a button which indicates when the lift is needed.

Member Grant expressed concern regarding the table in the Transit Planning Operations Report. He noted it was difficult to find the information and requested it be received as a separate sheet in the agenda packet or the pages referenced in the memo for easier access.

On order of Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objection, the Fiscal Year to Date 2009 First Quarter Transit Operations Performance report was received.

12. Committee Work Plan

Jim Unites, Staff Liaison, provided an update on the Committee Workplan noting the elections of officers in January, and the addition of the enunciation system update.

Member Stahl indicated several committee members expressed interest in the CTA Officer positions and asked any other members who are interested to contact the nominating committee.

On order of Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objection, the Committee Workplan was received.

13. Motion Tracking Report

Jim Unites, CTA Liaison, noted the addition of the development of the fixed route improvement plan.

On order of Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objection, the Committee Motion Tracking Report was received.

REPORTS

14. City of San Jose Disability Advisory Commission (DAC) Report

Second Vice Chairperson Eljas provided a report on the DAC meeting noting the main topic was inclusionary housing for vulnerable populations.

On order of Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objection, the committee received the City of San Jose Disability Advisory Commission (DAC) report.

15. Board of Directors Report

Member Grant questioned if a new Board Liaison would be appointed to the CTA.

Jim Unites, CTA Liaison, indicated Dolly Sandoval has been appointed as the New Chairperson for the Board and will appoint a new CTA Board Liaison.

On order of Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objection, the Board of Directors Report was received.

16. Committee Staff Report

Jim Unites, CTA Liaison, noted a full Agenda for the January meeting. He indicated a report on Uplift program, Advisory Committee Enhancement, Officer Elections, Mobility Options and Travel Training update, and the Transit Services Plan will be presented. He indicated feedback on the services plan will be solicited to see what's working and what needs to be changed. Mr. Unites indicated complaints are received at meetings, emailed, and calls from the public are received.

On Order of Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objection, the committee received the Committee Staff Report.

17. Chairperson's Report

There was no Chairperson's Report.

OTHER

18. Announcements

Dan Smith, Chief Operating Officer, wished everyone a healthy, happy and safe holiday.

19. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Second Vice Chairperson Eljas and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Menominee L. McCarter, Board Assistant
VTA Board of Directors