

Committee for Transit Accessibility

Wednesday, April 7, 2010

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairperson Morrow in Conference Room B-104, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Emma Eljas	Member	Present
Christina Fernandez	Staff Aide to Ex-Officio Board Liaison Reed	Present
Sandra Gouveia	Member	Absent
David Grant	Member	Present
Margaret Hardy	Member	Absent
Katie Heatley	Ex-Officio Member	Present
Troy Hernandez	Member	Present
Donald Hunter	Member	Absent
Marjorie Jensen	Member	Present
Dennis Kempel	Member	Present
Connie Langford	Member	Present
Martin Lasich	Member	Present
Laura Michels	Member	Present
Aaron Morrow	Chairperson	Present
Lechi Nguyen	Member	Present
Jeffrey Ovetz	Member	Present
David Robinson	Member	Absent
Larry Saltman	Member	Present
Walter Schinke	Member	Absent
Dilip Shah	Member	Present
Thomas Slack	Member	Present
Vicci Smith	Member	Present
Barbara Stahl	Member	Present

2. INTRODUCTION OF AUDIENCE MEMBERS

Greta Helm, Chief of External Affairs; Michael Hursch, Deputy Director Operations; Andrew Ittigson, Consultant; Gurdev S. Sandhu, Interested Citizen; Dhanwant Dhaliwal, Interested Citizen; Patrick Griffith, Public Affairs and Customer Information Manager; Jolene Bradford, Paratransit Inc.; Dorothy Reyes, Customer Service Supervisor; Joonie Tolosa, Manager Operations Analysis and Reporting; Ann Carey, Executive Assistant to the General Manager; David Ledwitz, Management Analyst; Jason Tyree, Transportation Planner; and, Paul Tatsuda, Outreach.

3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Gurdev S. Sandhu, Interested Citizen, expressed concern regarding bus routes in Milpitas and requested extension of bus routes 41, 46 and 56. He presented a letter from Milpitas Mayor, Bob Livengood supporting the service extension.

Dhanwant Dhaliwal, Interested Citizen, expressed concern regarding bus service in Milpitas and requested an extension into the newly developed area because there is no access to transportation for senior citizens and students.

4. New CTA Members

Chairperson Morrow introduced and welcomed newly appointed CTA Committee Members, Jeffrey Ovetz and Lechi Nguyen.

Member Ovetz indicated he is a student at DeAnza College and is very familiar with the bus system.

Member Nguyen indicated she is a representative of the senior center in the City of Milpitas. The center serves both seniors and the disabled population and she noted their concerns and opinions will be forwarded to the Committee.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee received the Introduction of New CTA Members.

5. Minutes of January

M/S/C (Michels/Grant) to approve the Minutes of January 13, 2010.

6. Chief Operating Officer's Report

Chairperson Morrow indicated the report was contained in the Agenda packet and requested the Committee contact him with any questions and they would be forwarded to staff.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee received the Chief Operating Officer's Report.

7. Board of Directors Report

There was no Board of Directors Report.

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

8. Light Rail System Analysis Improvement Plan.

Andrew Ittigson, Consultant, provided an overview and presentation of the Light Rail System Analysis Improvement plan highlighting; 1) Project Background, 2) Outreach Efforts, 3) Peer Comparisons, 4) Population, Job Growth and Ridership Projections, 5) Transit Competitiveness, 6) Phase I and Phase II Proposals, 7) Independent Improvements, and 8) Next Steps.

Chairperson Morrow made a motion to recommend the Board only adopt phase 1 at this time due to concerns expressed by members of the Committee with regard to ridership projections and the expense it would take to make the proposed improvements.

M/S/C (Morrow/Grant) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt Phase 1 of the Light Rail System Analysis Improvement Plan.

9. CTA Bylaws Amendment

Greta Helm, Chief of External Affairs and Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Staff Liaison, provided background information on the Advisory Committee Enhancement (ACE) process and the recommendation to appoint a member of the CTA to the CAC committee to improve the flow of communication and information sharing between committees. Ms. Helm indicated the CTA bylaws would need to be amended to provide for selecting a member to sit on committee. The selection is conditional until the Board approves the bylaws change, which is scheduled to occur at the June Board meeting.

M/S/C (Michels/Eljas) to approve amending the Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) bylaws to provide for Committee appointment of one individual from its membership to serve as a voting member on VTA's Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), as recommended by the Advisory Committee Enhancement Process.

10. CTA Appointment to CAC

M/S/C (Stahl/Grant) to appoint Aaron Morrow, Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) voting member to serve as a voting member on VTA's Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), subject to the appointee meeting the established CAC membership requirements and Board of Director ratification. This appointment is conditional on the Board of Directors approving establishment of the CTA position on the CAC.

The Agenda was taken out of order.

12. Outreach Mobility Management Program

Paul Tatsuta, Manager, Outreach Mobility Management Center, provided a report and presentation on Outreach ADA and Non ADA services highlighting; 1) Mobility Management, 2) Employment Transportation Programs, 3) Transportation for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities, 4) Tripnet-Online Ride Request, 5) Mobility Management Center Web Portal, 6) Agency Partners, 7) Fleet Inventory and Data, 8) Emergency GIS and Communications, and 9) Next Steps.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objective, the Committee received the Outreach Mobility Management Program report.

11. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Presentation

Michelle DeRobertis, Senior Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) staff report as contained in the Agenda packet. Ms. DeRobertis indicated as a recommendation of the Advisory Committee Enhancement (ACE) process, the Committees would continue information sharing on common themes.

Chairperson Morrow requested the BPAC report be a standing item on workplan, to focus

on issues and look at other areas where the two committees can collaborate.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee received the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee presentation.

13. Quarterly Legislative Report

Scott Haywood, Policy and Community Relations Manager, provided a report on legislative items highlighting the State's major restructuring of transit funding and another extension of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA-LU) through the end of the year.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee received the Quarterly Legislative Report.

14. Electric Hybrid Bus Procurement

Michael Hursch, Deputy Director Operations, provided an update on the Electric Hybrid Bus Procurement, highlighting the improvements and the focus on making them more accessible, exceeding the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. He indicated a pilot bus is scheduled to be delivered onsite in August and will be available for inspection.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee received an update on the Electric Hybrid Bus Procurement.

15. Mobility Options Travel Training Program

Patrick Griffith, Public Affairs and Customer Information Manager, provided an overview of the staff report contained in the Agenda Packet noting the inclusion of cost and statistical data in the memo as requested by the Committee. Mr. Griffith indicated 24 people have been trained and four additional referrals were just received as a result from outreach efforts at the Evergreen Community Center.

Members of the Committee expressed concern with the low numbers of individuals being trained, marketing of the program, the lack of Mobility Options Task Force meetings, the cost per person, and the lack of survey data.

Jim Unites, CTA Staff Liaison, introduced Jolene Bradford, Paratransit, Inc. who indicated she surveys the clients when training is complete.

The Members of the Committee expressed concern that surveys were not being done by a third party.

Member Eljas expressed concern with the costs noting the travel training is more expensive than it's worth.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee received an update on the Mobility Options Travel Training Program.

The Agenda was taken out of order.

7.X. Ad-Hoc Financial Recovery Committee (AHFRC) Update

Aaron Morrow, CTA Chairperson and Ad-Hoc Financial Recovery Committee (AHFRC) stakeholder, provided an update and background on the AHFRC Task force set up by the Board to recommend solutions for the pending financial crisis.

Chairperson Morrow referenced recommendations made by Don Gage, AHFRC Chairperson and stressed to the Committee that they are not set in stone, but noted he would not support the recommendation to rebid contracted services, including Outreach Paratransit, Caltrain, and Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) and made a motion that the paratransit program stays the same.

Member Grant made a friendly amendment to focus on the rebidding of paratransit services and to make it clear that paratransit services should not be rebid.

Chairperson Morrow accepted the amendment and requested the record indicate his understanding that VTA is a business and has the ultimate decision to choose what they want to do with the paratransit program, but as the information is reviewed, doesn't think it is pertinent to rebid the contract at this time.

Member Stahl stated Outreach has saved VTA millions of dollars over the years and that should be considered.

Jim Unites, CTA Staff Liaison, provided information on the process noting the AHFRC is preparing a set of recommendations which will ultimately go to the VTA Board of Directors for adoption.

M/S/C (Morrow/Grant) to leave the paratransit program as is, rejecting any proposal to rebid the current paratransit contract.

REPORTS

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

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, The City of San Jose Disability Advisory Commission Report was Deferred.

17. Committee Staff Report

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee Staff Report was Deferred.

18. Chairperson's Report

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Chairperson's Report was Deferred.

OTHER

19. Announcements

There were no announcements.

20. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Menominee L. McCarter, Board Assistant
VTA Office of the Board Secretary