

Committee for Transit Accessibility

Wednesday, October 13, 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 Building A, Auditorium, 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	Absent
Sandra Gouveia	Member	Present
David Grant	Member	Present
Katie Heatley	Ex-Officio Member	Present
Troy Hernandez	Member	Present
Dennis Kempel	Member	Present
Martin Lasich	Member	Absent
Laura Michels	Member	Absent
Aaron Morrow	Chairperson	Present
Lechi Nguyen	Member	Absent
Jeffrey Ovetz	Member	Present
David Robinson	Member	Absent
Larry Saltman	Member	Present
Dilip Shah	Member	Present
Vicci Smith	Member	Present
Barbara Stahl	Member	Present

2. INTRODUCTION OF AUDIENCE MEMBERS

Elaine Baltao, Assistant Board Secretary; Patrick Griffin, Manager Public Affairs and Customer Information; Gary Miskell; Chief Information Officer; Ali Hudda; Deputy Director of Accounting; Jing Quan, Associate Architect; and, Joonie Tolosa, Manager Operations Analysis and Reporting.

3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

David Grant, Interested Citizen, expressed concern with the reduction of bus shelters.

4. Board of Directors Report

There was no Board of Directors report.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Minutes of July 7, 2010

M/S/C (Grant/Gouveia) to approve the Minutes of July 7, 2010.

6. Chief Operating Officer's Report

M/S/C (Grant/Gouveia) to receive the Chief Operating Officer's Report.

7. Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Operations Performance Report

M/S/C (Grant/Gouveia) to receive the Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Transit Operations Performance Report.

8. October 4, 2010 Service Changes

M/S/C (Grant/Gouveia) to receive a report on Service Changes effective October 4, 2010.

REGULAR AGENDA

9. Nomination Subcommittee for Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2011

Chairperson Morrow asked for volunteers to propose a slate of nominees for CTA officers for 2011. Members Grant and Stahl volunteered and will serve as the nominating subcommittee.

M/S/C (Eljas/Gouveia) to appoint a nomination subcommittee to identify Committee members interested in serving as the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2011.

10. Santa Clara County Local Review Committee (LRC) for the 5310

Jim Unites, Staff Liaison, provided a brief overview of the 5310 program and duties of the members who serve on the LRC.

Chairperson Morrow asked for volunteers to serve on the LRC 5310 for Fiscal Year 2010. Member Ovetz, Member Saltman, and Chairperson Morrow volunteered and will serve on the committee.

M/S/C (Eljas/Stahl) to appoint three members from the Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) to serve as the Santa Clara County Local Review Committee (LRC) to evaluate and rank Fiscal Year 2010 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Program project applications.

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

11. Outreach and Escort, Inc.

Jim Unites, Staff Liaison, announced the Board of Directors approved a two-year contract extension through June 30, 2013, with three one-year options, with Outreach and Escort, Inc., and will be submitting a letter to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to support their request to be the Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA) for Santa Clara County.

M/S/C (Saltman/Gouveia) to support Outreach and Escort, Inc's request to the San Francisco Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission to be designated the Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA) for Santa Clara County, dependent on Outreach's agreement to waive all claims to Transportation Development Act (TDA) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funding.

The Agenda was taken out of order.

14. Advanced Farebox System Procurement

David Sausjord, Revenue Services Manager, provided a brief overview and update of the new farebox procurement process. He addressed the Committee's concern with the height of farebox on hybrid buses and indicated engineers confirmed it is the same as the current farebox but the coin slot was slightly lowered to allow easier access for passengers.

Member Grant expressed concern with the new farebox's inability to read Outreach cards or accept an additional type of token designated for senior and disabled riders.

Mr. Sausjord stated the farebox contains a smartcard reader and VTA is researching the development of a new card. Ali Hudda, Deputy Director of Accounting, added after the new farebox and the Clipper system are installed, VTA staff will look at additional capabilities of both systems and pursue add-ons.

Chairperson Morrow indicated the need to obtain accurate senior and disabled ridership information and recommended a motion for staff to be forward thinking when looking at different technology.

Member Grant commented the importance of protecting the privacy of riders and stressed the need to collect data on groups and not track individuals.

M/S/C (Morrow/Eljas) to request VTA staff to utilize every possible option to incorporate system utilization data for the senior and disabled fare medium.

12. The County Expressway Pedestrian Improvement Program

Dawn Cameron, Santa Clara County Consulting Transportation Planner, provided a brief report on planned pedestrian improvements on expressways and an overview of the Comprehensive County Expressway Planning Study.

Member Grant expressed concern with the safety of pedestrians on expressways.

Member Stahl expressed concern with roadway surfaces not being smooth which makes it difficult for people in wheelchairs.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee

received a presentation on The County Expressway Pedestrian Improvement Program.

13. Quarterly Legislative Report

Scott Haywood, Policy and Community Relations Manager, provided a brief report highlighting the approval of the State budget, noting there was little impact to the transportation budget.

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

15. VTA Ticket Vending Machine (TVM)

Gary Miskell, Chief Information Officer, provided an update on the ticket vending machine upgrade noting changes to its design and functionality. He highlighted the protection features against vandalism and credit card information retrieval scams and stated cameras are being added to light rail platforms as well to serve as a deterrent.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee received the report on the VTA Ticket Vending Machine (TVM) Upgrade and Refurbish project.

16. Bus Stop Improvement Program

Jing Quan, Associate Architect, provided an update on the Bus Stop Improvement Program, highlighting the focus on bus stops in East San Jose along King Road and Story Road that have been slated for improvements.

Member Ovetz forwarded a concern from a visually impaired rider who requested the bus stop along line 25, located on Peppertree Lane going towards DeAnza College, be moved for accessibility reasons.

Member Stahl expressed concern with the location of bus stop signs noting some are too close to the curb and do not allow enough space for wheelchairs to pass.

Member Shah expressed concern with glass being used for the frame on bus shelters and noted one in Milpitas needs to be repaired.

Member Grant requested an update on the status of bus shelters he requested at previous CTA meetings. He recommended a motion to include bus shelters in the Bus Stop Improvement program.

Mr. Unites addressed Member Grant's concern with the shelter request and noted staff is working with the property owners to find a solution and he will send an update to the Committee.

Member Ovetz expressed concern about the amount of time it takes to make changes to bus stops.

Chairperson Morrow commented on the addition of solar lights, noting the need to install them at stops system-wide for safety reasons.

M/S/C (Grant/Stahl) to include Bus Shelters in the VTA Bus Stop Improvement

Program, with a priority being given to groups that are willing to adopt and maintain these shelters without a cost to VTA.

17. Workplan Update

Jim Unites, Staff Liaison, announced the advisory committee joint workshop will be held on December 8, 2010. He noted the next regular CTA meeting will be on January 12, 2011. He also indicated an update on the Clipper Program will be added to the Workplan for April.

Member Saltman requested information brought to Committee about express trains.

Member Grant requested the addition of coordination of VTA farebox upgrade and Outreach cards be added to the Workplan.

Chairperson Morrow requested an informational piece on the Silicon Valley BART project be brought to the Committee.

REPORTS

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

Chairperson Morrow indicated the next meeting will be held November 8, 2010, and a report will be provided at the January 12, 2011 meeting.

19. Committee Staff Report

There was no Committee Staff Report.

20. Citizens Advisory Committee/Citizens Watchdog Committee (CAC/CWC) Report

Chairperson Morrow provided information from the August 11, 2010 CAC/CWC meeting highlighting: 1) Contract renewal of the Macias, Gini & O'Connell, LLP (MGO) Audit team; 2) Grand Boulevard Intermodal Transportation Corridor Project; and 3) An Update on the Silicon Valley BART project.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee received the Citizens Advisory Committee/Citizens Watchdog Committee Report.

21. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Morrow expressed appreciation to VTA Customer Service Staff for their willingness to respond to driver issues, and thanked the public and community organizations for their support of the extension of the Outreach contract.

OTHER

22. Announcements

Member Stahl announced the Santa Clara Disability Advisory Commission will meet before the next CTA meeting and requested time be given to provide a report. Chairperson Morrow indicated it will be added to the Agenda.

23. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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