

## Committee for Transit Accessibility

Wednesday, January 11, 2012

### MINUTES

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) was called to order at 1:03 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
Cam Acker	Member	Present
Kathy Bonilla	Member	Present
Fred Buzo	Council Asst. Board Ex-Officio Liccardo	Present
Emma Eljas	Vice Chairperson	Present
David Grant	Member	Present
Katie Heatley	Ex-Officio Member	Present
Troy Hernandez	Member	Present
Jeffery Jokinen	Member	Present
Laura Michels	Member	Present
Aaron Morrow	Chairperson	Present
Lechi Nguyen	Member	Present
David Robinson	Member	Present
Larry Saltman	Member	Absent
Dilip Shah	Member	Present
Vicci Smith	Member	Absent
Barbara Stahl	Second Vice Chairperson	Present
Lori Williamson	Member	Present

#### **A quorum was present.**

Chairperson Morrow introduced new CTA Members Cam Acker, Kathy Bonilla, and Lori Williamson. He announced Sam Liccardo was appointed as the new Ex-Officio Board Liaison to CTA, and introduced Fred Buzo, Council Assistant, who will serve as the representative at CTA meetings.

Member Acker addressed the Committee noting she uses VTA and indicated her interest in what the transportation community can do for disabled patrons.

Member Bonilla addressed the Committee and expressed interest in learning how VTA can better serve others and benefit her as well.

Member Williamson addressed the Committee noting she manages several work activity programs for Hope Services.

## **2. INTRODUCTION OF AUDIENCE MEMBERS**

Michael Burns, General Manager; Celeste Fiore, Transportation Planner II; John Sighamony, Senior Transportation Planner; Stephen Flynn, Advisory Committee Coordinator; Keith Roan, Infrastructure Manager; Gary Miskell, Chief Information Officer; Lalitha Konanur, Operations System Supervisor; and Julia Jones, Senior Management Analyst.

## **3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

David Grant, interested citizen, recommended addressing the number of members on the Committee and questioned the status of the issues with the ramps on the hybrid buses. Chairperson Morrow noted the bus ramp issue will be addressed at the February CTA Workshop.

Dilip Shah, interested citizen, expressed concern with the lack of Community bus service in Milpitas.

## **4. Board of Directors Report**

There was no Report from the Board of Directors.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **5. Regular Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2011**

M/S/C (Stahl/Eljas) to approve the regular meeting Minutes of April 13, 2011.

### **6. Regular Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2011**

M/S/C (Stahl/Eljas) to approve the regular meeting Minutes of October 12, 2011.

### **7. Chief Operating Officer's Report**

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

### **7. FY 2012 First Quarter Transit Operations Performance Report**

M/S/C (Stahl/Eljas) to receive FY 2012 First Quarter Transit Operations Performance 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.**

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 9. General Manager's Report

Michael Burns, General Manager, addressed the Committee and welcomed new members. He provided a report on VTA major initiatives, highlighting; 1) Status of BART to San Jose project and the Full Funding Grant Agreement, 2) Outreach contract audit, 3) Efforts and solutions to keep Caltrain running, 4) Solar power panel installation at the yards, 5) January 9, 2012 service changes, 6) Elevator and escalator upgrades at light rail stations, and 7) VTA budget.

Members of the Committee expressed concern with passengers in wheelchairs being passed up at bus stops and usage of the grant funds obtained for the Mobility Options program.

**On order of Chairperson Morrow**, and there being no objection, the Committee received a report from the General Manager.

### 10. Election of Committee Chairperson, First Vice Chairperson and Second Vice Chairperson for 2012.

Steven Flynn, Advisory Committee Coordinator, provided information on the nomination and voting process.

**M/S/C (Grant/Stahl)** to close nominations and elect Aaron Morrow as CTA Chairperson for 2012; Emma Eljas as CTA Vice Chairperson for 2012; and, Barbara Stahl as CTA Second Vice Chairperson for 2012.

### 11. Quarterly Legislative Report

Scott Haywood, Policy and Community Relations Manager, provided a brief update on State and Federal transportation legislation.

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

### 12. ECO Pass Program Evaluation

Lilia Scott, Senior Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the report.

Members of the Committee requested that CTA be kept informed of the final recommendations.

**On order of Chairperson Morrow** and there being no objection, the Committee received a report on the ECO Pass Program evaluation.

### 13. Real Time Transit Information Project

Gary Miskell, Chief Information Officer, and Keith Roan, Infrastructure Manager, provided an overview of the report.

The Committee requested the project be presented at a future workshop to generate ideas

and allow time for discussion.

**On Order of Chairperson Morrow**, and there being no objection, the Committee received a report on the Real Time Transit Information Project.

**14. Valley Transportation Plan, Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy activities**

John Sighamony, Senior Transportation Planner, provided handouts and a brief overview of the information presented.

**On order of Chairperson Morrow** and there being no objection, the Committee received the Valley Transportation Plan, Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy activities report.

**15. OneBayArea Grant (OBAG) Proposal Update**

Marcella Renzi, Transportation Planning Manager, provided an overview of the Staff report.

**On order of Chairperson Morrow** and there being no objection, the Committee received an update on the OneBayArea Grant (OBAG) Proposal.

**16. Outreach Paratransit Cards on VTA Fixed Route Transit**

Jim Unites, Deputy Director Operations, and CTA Staff Liaison, provided overview of the staff report.

Member Stahl left the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Members of the Committee stated the data should be used to ensure buses with lift concerns are not being deployed on routes with high ridership of paratransit card users.

Chairperson Morrow requested Mr. Unites address Member Grant's concerns after the meeting.

**On order of Chairperson Morrow** and there being no objection, the Committee received an update on Outreach Paratransit Cards on VTA Fixed Route Transit.

**17. Workplan Update**

Chairperson Morrow requested each Member provide three issues they would like to see agendaized for 2012.

**On order of Chairperson Morrow** and there being no objection, the Committee received the Workplan update.

## REPORTS

### 18. City Disability Advisory Commissions (DAC) Reports

Chairperson Morrow reported the San Jose DAC is slated for elimination and consolidation and noted additional information will be emailed to the Committee.

Member Eljas reported the DAC viewed a video created by several engineers who traveled on streets and bridges using wheelchairs, to aid them in creating improvements for the mobility impaired. She admonished the Committee and those who do similar work to view the video as well.

### The Agenda was taken out of order.

### 20. Committee Staff Report

Mr. Unites provided a report highlighting: 1) February Orientation for new Committee Members, 2) Board Member Sam Liccardo appointed as CTA Ex-Officio Liaison, and will be represented by Fred Buzo, Council Assistant, 3) Reappointments and Appointments to the Committee, and 4) Closing of light rail elevators for the retrofit project.

### 21. Citizens Advisory Committee/Citizens Watchdog Committee Report

Chairperson Morrow reported CAC elected Clinton Brownley as Chairperson for 2012 and William Hadaya as Vice Chairperson for 2012.

### 22. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Morrow reported Vice Chairperson Eljas has agreed to provide the CTA report at the Transit Planning and Operations (TPO) Committee meeting.

### 19. CTA Member Ridership Reports

Member Grant expressed appreciation for an operator on route 81 that has been very helpful and indicated his supervisors were made aware.

Member Nguyen conveyed a complaint from a passenger who indicated she was attempting to exit the bus when the operator closed the door too soon and hit her in the chest. Mr. Unites indicated he would address the issue after the meeting.

## OTHER

### 20. Announcements

There were no Announcements.

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

**On order of Chairperson Morrow** and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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