



TRANSIT PLANNING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 17, 2005

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Transit Planning and Operations (TP&O) Committee was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Chairperson Cortese in Room 106-E, San Jose City Hall, 801 North First Street, San Jose, California.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

David Cortese, Chairperson
Ron Gonzales
Joe Pirzynski, Vice Chairperson

Members Absent

Bob Livengood

Alternates Present

Dennis Kennedy

Alternates Absent

Dolores Sandoval
Ken Yeager

*Alternates do not serve unless participating as a Member.

A quorum was present.

2. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no Public Presentations.

3. ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no Orders of the Day.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Minutes of February 17, 2005

M/S/C (Gonzales/Pirzynski) to approve the Minutes of February 17, 2005.

5. **Community Oriented Design Enhancements (CODE) Program Update – February through March 2005**

M/S/C (Gonzales/Pirzynski) to receive and file the Community Oriented Design Enhancements (CODE) Program Update - February through March 2005.

6. **Report on the Vasona Light Rail Project for the Month of February 2005**

M/S/C (Gonzales/Pirzynski) to receive and file the Report on the Vasona Light Rail Project for the Month of February 2005.

7. **Joint Powers Board Monthly Status Report**

M/S/C (Gonzales/Pirzynski) to receive and file the Joint Powers Board Monthly Status Report.

8. **Committee for Transit Accessibility Report**

M/S/C (Gonzales/Pirzynski) to receive and file the Committee for Transit Accessibility Report.

9. **Monthly Legislative Reports**

M/S/C (Gonzales/Pirzynski) to receive and file the Monthly Legislative Reports.

REGULAR AGENDA

10. **AC Transit Provision of the Dumbarton Express Service**

Alternate Member Kennedy referred to VTA's operating subsidy of 36.45 percent and queried about the formula used to reach the percentage. Mike Aro, Bus and Rail Operations Deputy Director, noted that it is based on total boardings. He indicated that 50 percent of the boardings occur on the East Bay and 50 percent on the West Bay, noting that the 50 percent on the West Bay is divided between VTA and SamTrans.

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

M/S/C (Gonzales/Pirzynski) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to authorize the General Manager to enter into a new Cooperative Agreement with the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District, San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit

District, City of Union City, and the San Mateo County Transit District to provide the Dumbarton (DB) Express Service.

11. Procurement of Community Buses

M/S/C (**Gonzales/Pirzynski**) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to authorize the General Manager to purchase up to 25 gasoline-powered, small capacity buses and support equipment in the amount of \$4,000,000, using a contract awarded by the State of California pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 20301 which requires all expenditures over \$25,000 to be let to the lowest responsible bidder, and Section 10298(b) which authorizes local agencies to contract with suppliers awarded contracts by the State without further competitive bidding.

OTHER ITEMS

12. Status of Development of New Bus Mobility Device Securement Policy

Mr. Tucker reported that VTA's current mobility device securement policy on its fixed route buses does not require passengers to be secured. Under the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), VTA can establish a policy that requires mobility devices such as wheelchairs and scooters to be secured when passengers travel on a bus while seated in their mobility device.

Mr. Tucker reported that VTA has set-up a Mobility Device Securement Task Force, which consists of Members from the Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) and VTA staff. He indicated that the Task Force is recommending a two-phased approach to implement changes to the policy. Mr. Tucker noted that for the first phase, the Task Force is recommending the implementation of a public awareness campaign that encourages customers to use VTA's existing mobility device securement equipment. Mr. Tucker noted that a brochure has been created to educate the public about securement.

Mr. Tucker reported that additional discussions have been held regarding looking at new technologies. Under ADA law, if VTA is unable to secure a customer's device, VTA is still required to have the customer utilize its vehicles. He noted that as a result of preliminary testing with CTA, technology was found on VTA's 1000 Series buses that works for all scooters and wheelchairs. VTA will consider implementing the technology on the remainder of its fleet.

Mr. Tucker reported that for the upcoming months, VTA will finalize the details on the policy. The policy will go through public review, comment process, and would be ultimately taken to the Board of Directors for final approval.

Upon query of Chairperson Cortese, the final approval would probably be in July 2005 or later, depending on how well the information is disseminated through the public and how comfortable VTA is with the feedback received from the public.

On order of Chairperson Cortese, there being no objection, the Status of Development of New Bus Mobility Device Securement Policy was discussed.

13. Committee Work Plan

Denise Daly, Chief of Staff, noted that the Committee Work Plan has been updated and reflects the addition of the following items: 1) Community Bus Procurement, 2) Amend Dumbarton Bridge Service Cooperative Agreement, and 3) Long-Term Transit Capital Investment Program.

On order of Chairperson Cortese, there being no objection, the Committee Work Plan was reviewed and accepted.

14. Committee Staff Report

There was no Committee Staff Report.

15. Chairperson's Report

There was no Chairperson's Report.

16. Determine the Consent Agenda for the March 30, 2005 Board Meeting

CONSENT: Item #10. Authorize the General Manager to enter into a new Cooperative Agreement with the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District, San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District, City of Union City, and the San Mateo County Transit District to provide the Dumbarton (DB) Express Service and **Item #11.** Authorize the General Manager to purchase up to 25 gasoline-powered, small capacity buses and support equipment in the amount of \$4,000,000, using a contract awarded by the State of California pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 20301 which requires all expenditures over \$25,000 to be let to the lowest responsible bidder, and Section 10298(b) which authorizes local agencies to contract with suppliers awarded contracts by the State without further competitive bidding.

REGULAR: None

17. Announcements

There were no Announcements.

18. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Cortese, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracene Y. Crenshaw, Board Assistant
VTA Board of Directors