

## Transit Planning & Operations Committee

Thursday, September 18, 2008

### MINUTES

#### 1. CALLED TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Transit Planning and Operations (TP&O) Committee was called to order at 3:10 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Sellers in Conference Room B-104, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

#### ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
David Cortese	Alternate Member	Absent	
Dolly Sandoval	Chairperson	Present	3:30 PM
Nancy Pyle	Member	Present	
Dominic Caserta	Member	Absent	
Chris Moylan	Alternate Member	Absent	
Bob Livengood	Alternate Member	Absent	
Greg Sellers	Vice Chairperson	Present	
Chuck Page	Alternate Member	Absent	

\*Alternates do not serve unless participating as a Member.

**A quorum was not present and a Committee of a Whole was declared.**

#### 2. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no Public Presentations.

#### 3. ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no Orders of the Day.

**The Agenda was taken out of order.**

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 5. Report from the August 13, 2008 and September 10, 2008 Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) Meetings

Aaron Morrow, CTA Chairperson, reported that the CTA received a presentation from Jennie Loft, Public Information Officer, regarding the Advisory Committee Enhancement. He noted that a Subcommittee was created to revisit the mission statement and the goals and objectives of the CTA. The Subcommittee would then present their findings at the October, November and December CTA meetings to receive further comment and input.

Mr. Morrow commented that he looks forward working with Ms. Loft to develop key areas that would make CTA a more effective advisory committee.

**On Order of Vice Chairperson Sellers**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received a report from the August 13, 2008 and September 10, 2008 Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) Meetings.

### 6. FY 2008 Preliminary Annual Transit Operations Performance Report (July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008)

Joonie Tolosa, Operations Analysis, Reporting & Systems Manager, reported on the following key items from the FY 2008 Preliminary Annual Transit Operations Performance Report: 1) Ridership; 2) Key Performance Indicators; and 3) Route Performance.

Mr. Tolosa reported on the following highlights on Ridership:

- Bus ridership totaled 33.1 million, a 4.6 percent increase compared to the previous fiscal year. Average weekday ridership was 106,673, a 4.5 percent increase.
- Light rail ridership recorded 10.5 million boardings, an increase of 1.7 percent compared to the same period last year. Average weekday ridership was 33,043, an increase of 1.5 percent.
- Overall system ridership, bus and rail, increased by 3.9 percent. Average weekday ridership was 139, 716, an increase of 3.7 percent.

Mr. Tolosa reported on the following highlights regarding Key Performance Indicators:

- Bus percent of service provided was 99.61 percent.
- Bus miles between major mechanical failures with loss of service (7,520).
- Absenteeism levels are at its lowest.
- Miles between chargeable accidents, on-time performance, and passenger concerns per 100,000 boardings did not meet the goals for FY 2008.

Mr. Tolosa reported on the following highlights regarding Route Performance:

- First two quarters of FY 2008, bus average weekday ridership was 105,480, an increase of 3.5 percent.

- Third and fourth quarters of FY 2008, when the new bus service was implemented, bus average weekday ridership was 107,861, an increase of 5.4 percent.

Vice Chairperson Sellers inquired on the key performance indicators that did not meet the goal. Mr. Tolosa stated that due to the implementation of the new bus service, the passenger concerns per 100,000 boardings increased. He explained that passengers inquired and complained about the changes made to the routes.

Mr. Tolosa noted that on-time performance remained constant. He commented that the method of collecting data for the on-time performance was improved and every trip is being recorded.

**On Order of Vice Chairperson Sellers**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received the FY 2008 Preliminary Annual Transit Operations Performance Report (July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008).

## **7. October 2008 Service Changes**

Jim Unites, Deputy Director for Operations, reported on the schedule and service changes that would go into effect on October 6, 2008.

Mr. Unites reported on the process of adopting the Annual Transit Service Plan. He stated that the draft Plan would be presented at the December 2008 TP&O Committee meeting. He announced that public meetings and outreach would be conducted on January and February 2009. He added that the final Plan would be presented to the TP&O at their April 2009 meeting and forwarded to the Board of Directors in May 2009.

Vice Chairperson Sellers inquired about the passenger surveys. Mr. Unites responded that the information collected from surveys are used to develop and improve the service schedule.

Member Pyle inquired about the downtown San Jose reroute. Mr. Unites explained that the Friday and Saturday night reroute in downtown San Jose would be discontinued. He noted that the reroute was implemented due to the slow flow of traffic along Santa Clara Street. He stated that the San Jose Police have better control of the traffic, thus eliminating the need to reroute buses.

Vice Chairperson Sellers commented that he has been receiving positive feedbacks regarding the adjustments made on Express Lines 121 and 168. Michael T. Burns, General Manager, commented that the success of Express Line 168 is the result of a good marketing campaign.

**On Order of Vice Chairperson Sellers**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received the October 2008 Service Changes.

## OTHER ITEMS

### 8. 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program Semi-Annual Report - June 2008

Mark Robinson, Acting Chief Engineering & Construction Officer, stated that the report contains the status of the projects included in the Program and their progress within the last six months.

Mr. Robinson provided a report that highlighted the following: 1) Independent reporting on the Freight Rail Relocation project; 2) Received bids for the first major civil contract that were 30 percent below the estimated budget; 3) Will be opening bids to double track eight miles of railroad to Gilroy; and 4) Release of the environmental report on the Santa Clara/Alum Rock Bus Rapid Transit project.

Vice Chairperson Sellers inquired about the delay of the bid opening date for the double tracking work. Mr. Robinson responded that the following influenced the revised bid opening date for the double tracking work: 1) Gap between bid openings were designed for contractors to concentrate on each contract independently; and 2) Design adjustments were conducted on bid documents to eliminate the need for change orders.

Mr. Robinson stated that the revised bid opening date does not affect the construction date. He explained that construction work relies on the relocation of utilities by its respective companies.

**On Order of Vice Chairperson Sellers**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received the 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program Semi-Annual Report-June 2008.

### 1.X. **ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION at 3:29 p.m.**

Chairperson Sandoval took her seat at 3:30 p.m. and the quorum was declared.

Conference with Labor Negotiators  
[Government Code Section 54957.6]

VTA Designated Representatives:  
Joseph Smith, Chief Financial Officer  
Bill Lopez, Chief Administrative Officer  
Robert Escobar, Manager, Office of Employee Relations

Employee Organization:  
Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU)

**RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION at 3:50 p.m.**

### 1.X.X. **CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

There was no reportable action taken during Closed Session.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### 4. Minutes of August 21, 2008

M/S/C (Pyle/Sandoval) to approve the Minutes of August 21, 2008.

## OTHER ITEMS

### 9. August 2008 Monthly Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance

Joonie Tolosa, Operations Analysis, Reporting & Systems Manager, provided a handout entitled, "Transit Operations Ridership and Revenue Performance" and reported on the following: 1) System ridership; 2) Bus ridership; 3) Light Rail ridership; 4) Fare revenues; and 5) Fare revenue per boarding. He noted that in reviewing the figures, it should be taken into consideration that there were two less average weekdays for the month of August 2008.

Chairperson Sandoval expressed appreciation and commented that the fare revenues for FYTD (July thru August) exceeded the budgeted goal by more the half a million dollars.

**On Order of Vice Chairperson Sellers**, there being no objection, the Committee received the August 2008 Monthly Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance.

### 10. Items of Concern and Referral to Administration

There were no Items of Concern or Referral to Administration.

### 11. Committee Work Plan

Dan Smith, Chief Operating Officer and Staff Liaison, noted that changes were made to the existing workplan. He stated that the following Information and Action Items would be agendized for the October 16, 2008 TP&O meeting: 1) Light Rail Systems Analysis; 2) Bus Rapid Transit Strategic Plan; 3) Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) Fare Increase; 4) Bus Wash Replacement (Chaboya); 5) Freight Rail Relocation; and 6) Amend URS Construction Management Services Contract. He stated that the remaining items on the workplan would be deferred.

**On Order of Vice Chairperson Sellers**, there being no objection, the Committee received the Committee Workplan.

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

**12. Committee Staff Report**

Dan Smith, Chief Operating Officer and Staff Liaison, reported that Blossom Hill and Cottle Light Rail stations would reopen for service on September 26, 2008, and that the Snell station would be closed starting September 29, 2008. He noted that passengers using the Snell station would be directed to use the Blossom Hill, Cottle, Ohlone/Chynoweth and Santa Teresa stations. He stated that an alternative platform was constructed eliminating service interruption at the Santa Teresa station. He noted that the Snell and Santa Teresa stations would be operational by Thanksgiving weekend.

Mr. Smith provided the following update on Light Rail Shuttle ridership for July 2008: 1) DASH shuttle ridership increased by 106 percent; 2) Great America shuttle ridership increased by 15 percent; 3) River Oaks shuttle ridership increased by 41 percent; 4) ACE shuttle ridership increased by 42 percent; and 5) Dumbarton Express shuttle ridership increased by 22 percent.

Mr. Smith reported on the success of the sting operation that was conducted at the Ohlone/Chynoweth station on August 26, 2008 by the collaborative effort of the Fare Inspectors, the Sheriff's Department and Securitas. He stated that the schedule of Fare Inspectors was rearranged to provide maximum coverage.

Mr. Smith reported that El Paseo Limousine would be operating the Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) shuttle bus services starting September 22, 2008. This is the result of a mutual agreement between VTA and New Century Transportation to terminate its contract.

Chairperson Sandoval inquired about the termination of contract between VTA and New Century Transportation. Mr. Smith responded that the following led to the termination of the contract: 1) Poor performance; 2) Poor maintenance; and 3) Payroll issues.

**On order of Vice Chairperson Sellers**, there being no objection, the Committee received the Committee Staff Report.

**13. Chairperson's Report**

Chairperson Sandoval provided a PowerPoint presentation that illustrated the progress of the Mary Avenue bridge project.

**On order of Vice Chairperson Sellers**, there being no objection, the Committee received the Chairperson's Report.

**14. Consent Agenda for the October 2, 2008 Board Meeting**

**CONSENT: Agenda Item #7.,** Receive the October 2008 Service Changes; **Agenda Item #8.,** Review the 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program Semi-Annual Report - June 2008.

**REGULAR: None**

**15. Announcements**

There were no Announcements.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

**On Order of Vice Chairperson Sellers**, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Diaresco  
VTA Board of Directors