

Transit Planning & Operations Committee

Thursday, January 15, 2009

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Transit Planning and Operations (TP&O) Committee was called to order at 4:32 p.m. by Chairperson Sellers in Conference Room B-104, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Dominic Caserta	Board Member	Present	
Ash Kalra	Board Member	Present	4:50 p.m.
Dolly Sandoval	Board Member	Present	
Greg Sellers	Chairperson	Present	
Chris Moylan	Alternate Member	Absent	
Nora Campos	Alternate Member	Absent	
Chuck Page	Alternate Member	Absent	
Bob Livengood	Alternate Member	Absent	

***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

M/S/C (Caserta/Sandoval) to accept the Orders of the Day.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Minutes of December 18, 2008

M/S/C (Sandoval/Caserta) to approve the Minutes of December 18, 2008.

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

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Elect Standing Committee Vice Chairperson

M/S/C (Sandoval/Sellers) to elect Member Dominic Caserta as Vice Chairperson for calendar year 2009.

6. Report from the Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) Meeting

Jim Unites, Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) Staff Liaison, provided a brief report of this month's CTA meeting. He reported CTA conducted election of officers for 2009: Aaron Morrow was re-elected Chairperson, David Julian was re-elected first Vice Chairperson and Sandy Gouveia was elected second Vice Chairperson.

The committee reviewed the Annual Transit Service Plan.

On Order of Chairperson Sellers and there being no objection, the report from the Committee for Transit Accessibility Meeting was received.

7. Contract for Armed and Unarmed Security and Protective Services

Michael Hursh, Deputy Director for Maintenance and Security, stated Securitas Security Services USA, Inc. is VTA's current security contractor. The current contract with Securitas will expire on February 28, 2009. VTA issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for security and protective services on September 12, 2008. Ten formal written proposals were received. The proposals were reviewed by a six-member Review Board. Based on the evaluation of the written proposals, four firms were invited for oral interview. After concluding the oral interview, the Review Board recommended the selection of AlliedBarton Security Services. AlliedBarton Security Services in addition to being extremely well qualified also submitted the lowest price proposal. A detailed itemization of AlliedBarton's qualifications is contained in the Board memo.

The term of the contract is three years, in the amount of \$11,065,000, and contains two one-year extensions in the amount of \$7,876,000. The total amount of contract is \$18,941,000.

Mr. Hursh stressed, that due to the recent BART shooting, security is a very serious matter that VTA had to review carefully with the Sheriff's Unit, Securitas and AlliedBarton.

Member Sandoval requested the differences between AlliedBarton and Securitas besides the price difference. Mr. Hursh responded the main difference was AlliedBarton's experience in transit.

Member Sandoval also asked (because of the BART shooting) if the security officers have been receiving any negative feedbacks from our clientele. Captain Robert Schiller

of Protective Services responded there were a few negative comments made to Deputy Sheriffs.

Member Sandoval asked if security will be run by VTA or through the BART system. If it is through BART, what impact can we have on their policies and procedures?

Mr. Michael T. Burns, General Manager, responded that details of the contract will be worked out according to VTA's agreement with BART. He will assure it is consistent with their organizational standards.

M/S/C(Sandoval/Caserta) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with AlliedBarton Security Services to provide armed and unarmed security and protective services for all VTA facilities, selected transit centers, light rail station platforms, and bus and light rail vehicles. The term of the contract is three years with two one-year options in the amount of \$11,065,000 for the first three years of the contract, which includes a one-time cost of \$85,000 for orientation and transitional expenses, 3% of direct labor cost for overtime and holidays per year, and \$30,000 per year for expenses due to unanticipated events requiring additional security services. Further, authorize the General Manager, at his discretion, to exercise the two one-year options for an amount of \$7,876,000 for the optional fourth and fifth years of the contract, which also includes 3% of direct labor for overtime and holidays per year, and \$30,000 per year for unanticipated events. If the option years are executed, the total amount of this contract is \$18,941,000.

8. Highway-Based BRT Alternatives Analysis Contract Award

Kevin Connolly, Transportation Planning Manager, stated the contract is for consulting services to complete the Express Bus Study. The official name is the Highway-Based Bus Rapid Transit Alternatives Analysis and the shorthand name is the Express Bus Business Plan. The term of the contract is for two years for a total value not to exceed \$750,000.

Three proposals were received on September 2008 from the following: 1) Jacobs Engineering Group Inc.; 2) Transportation Management & Design, Inc.; and 3) Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc.

All three firms were very competitive in terms of price. Jacobs Engineering was the highest bidder, but since that time, VTA had negotiated with them in terms of scope and had brought the cost down to \$700,000. VTA is seeking \$750,000 which includes contingency.

Member Caserta asked if there is a particular reason why we went with Jacobs Engineering versus the other two firms. Mr. Connolly responded they are the most qualified and in discussions, negotiated to reduce the cost.

Chairperson Sellers asked if we are looking at fare structures (the fare structures are different on the express buses). Mr. Connolly responded our express bus service is priced differently. VTA will be looking at fare structures which are a concern by some existing express riders as well as VTA's potential market.

Mr. Burns commented the study will also address how VTA can help and work with private employers that are providing express bus and shuttle services.

M/S/C (Caserta/Sandoval) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., for consulting services to complete an Express Bus Study (Highway-Based Bus Rapid Transit Alternatives Analysis). The contract shall be for a two-year period for a total contract value not to exceed \$750,000.

9. Measure B Rail Projects – Joint Use and Maintenance Agreements with California Department of Transportation

Mark Robinson, Chief Engineering and Construction Officer, stated in 1996, the Measure B Rail Projects included the Tasman East, Capitol and Vasona Light Rail extensions. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) shared with VTA their rights-of-way where they don't anticipate any future improvements. This allowed VTA to build certain infrastructure for the rail projects within their right-of-way. We have reached agreement with Caltrans that will establish the long-term maintenance responsibilities and use of shared properties and facilities. There's no cost exchange. The facilities located in the state right-of-way.

M/S/C (Sandoval/Caserta) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to authorize the General Manager to execute Joint Use and Maintenance Agreements with the California Department of Transportation establishing maintenance responsibilities and use of properties and facilities related to the 1996 Measure B Rail Projects.

10. Caltrain South County Improvements - Contract Award for Construction of UPRR Grading and Crossing Improvements

Mark Robinson, Chief Engineering and Construction Officer, stated the contract is for construction of Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) grading and crossing improvements. Construction is scheduled to begin in March 2009. The UPRR tracking and signaling work will begin after the completion of the grading and drainage construction. All activities are scheduled to be completed in August 2011.

There are six contractors who submitted bids. Pavex Construction submitted a low bid amount of \$13,167,925. Staff recommends award of this contract to Pavex Construction, the lowest responsible bidder.

Member Ash Kalra arrived at 4:50 p.m.

Member Sandoval asked why bidders' estimates are lower than the Engineer's estimate. Mr. Robinson responded the Engineer's estimates are not catching up with the current environment. There are also limited construction projects available in the market because of the economy.

Member Sandoval also asked when the estimates for this project were completed. Mr. Robinson responded the project was advertised in early 2008. There were a number of changes from UPRR during the advertisement period that modified the design that is why VTA pushed out the bid opening date.

Chairperson Sellers noted there are challenges in the last minute changes with UPRR. He queried on VTA's working relationship with UPRR. Mr. Robinson responded VTA has a positive working relationship with UPRR field operations. There are challenges when working with the design group.

Chairperson Sellers also asked how the High Speed Rail Project (HSRP) plans will affect the double track improvements. Mr. Robinson responded the HSRP plans were not in conflict with the improvements.

M/S/C(Caserta/Sandoval) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Pavex Construction, the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$13,167,925 for the construction of grading and track crossing improvements along the Union Pacific Railroad corridor between San Jose and Gilroy.

OTHER ITEMS

11. 1996 Measure B Transportation Improvement Program Progress Report-December 2008

Mark Robinson, Chief Engineering and Construction Officer, provided a report on the 1996 Measure B Transportation Improvement Program for December 2008. He stated we have completed the projects and what are remaining are closeout items, litigation issues with contractors and right-of-way transfers with third party interest. He referred to page 1-5 of the report which lists the close out challenges as follows:

- § Hamilton Overcrossing MSE (Mechanically Stabilized Earth) Wall Stabilization
- § Right-of-Way Transfers/Exchanges on Vasona Project - the San Jose City Council had authorized their staff to execute the exchanges we have remaining on the Vasona project. We will be able to close this in March 2009.
- § Route 85/101 (N) Interchange Right-of-Way Retrial - new trial is expected to begin in late summer 2009.
- § Route 87 HOV (N) Contractor Lawsuit - reached settlement yesterday, January 14th.
- § Route 87 HOV (S) Contractor Claim - resolution of the contractor's claim and final closeout remain.
- § Maintain Combined Biological Mitigation Site

On Order of Chairperson Sellers and there being no objection, the 1996 Measure B Transportation Improvement Program Progress Report for December 2008 was received.

12. December 2008 Monthly Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance Report

Joonie Tolosa, Manager, Operations Analysis and Reporting, provided a report on the December 2008 Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance which highlighted the following: System ridership: increased by 8% compared to same period in 2007, FYTD average weekday ridership increased by 8.7%; Bus ridership: FYTD average weekday ridership increased by 8.9% (highest for December since 2002); Light Rail ridership: FYTD average weekday ridership increased by 8.1%; and Fare revenue: increased by 1.9% for December, FYTD increased by 3.6%.

Mr. Tolosa noted there were 2 more weekdays in December 2008 than in December 2007.

On Order of Chairperson Sellers and there being no objection, the December 2008 Monthly Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance Report was received.

13. Items of Concern and Referral to Administration

There were no Items of Concern and Referral to Administration.

14. Committee Work Plan

On Order of Chairperson Sellers and there being no objection, the Committee Work Plan was reviewed.

15. Committee Staff Report

Dan Smith, Chief Operating Officer provided a report on the Green Program noting the complete installation of weather based irrigation controllers on Almaden, Oakridge, Santa Teresa, Cottle and Snell Light Rail Stations. They are currently working to install new controllers at Blossom Hill and Ohlone-Chynoweth; the installation of new sprinkler heads at all Park & Ride locations is on schedule; anticipate that installations will save 12 million gallons of water each year; and the reduced water usage will save approximately \$37,000 per year.

At VTA's request, Captain Robert Schiller is arranging self defense training for fare inspectors. Mr. Smith reported on the results of the two fare inspections details they had conducted. 1) Between Japan town Ayer Light Rail Station and Civic Center Light Rail Station - the results included: a) the inspectors had issued 24 citations for fare evasion; b) they found one run away juvenile who was turned over to authorities; 3) ten people run without paying fare; and 4) one evicted from the train. 2) Between Fruitdale Station Light Rail Station and Diridon Light Rail Station - the results included: a) the inspectors found 36 passengers without fare: b) they had issued 32 citations and 6 warnings: c) three passengers were evicted from trains; d) one arrest made for outstanding warrant; e) they confiscated some 2009 false ECO passes.

The Annual Transit Service Plan information is on the VTA website; brochures are being distributed on buses which describe the plan and schedule of community meeting. Mr. Unites completed briefing with all advisory committees on the plan. The Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) requested a listing of proposals by cities and will be sent to PAC members via email.

16. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Sellers thanked Member Sandoval for appointing him Chairperson of the Transit Planning and Operations Committee. He stated he had met with VTA staff to discuss various issues and it was very helpful and very informative. He recommended Member Kalra meet with VTA staff as well and make sure all his questions are answered.

17. Consent Agenda for the February 5, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting

Consent:

Item #8, Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., for consulting services to complete an Express Bus Study (Highway-Based Bus Rapid Transit Alternatives Analysis). The contract shall be for a two-year period for a total contract value not to exceed \$750,000.

Item #9, Authorize the General Manager to execute Joint Use and Maintenance Agreements with the California Department of Transportation establishing maintenance responsibilities and use of properties and facilities related to the 1996 Measure B Rail Projects.

Item #10, Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Pavex Construction, the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$13,167,925 for the construction of grading and track crossing improvements along the Union Pacific Railroad corridor between San Jose and Gilroy.

Regular:

Item #7, Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with AlliedBarton Security Services to provide armed and unarmed security and protective services for all VTA facilities, selected transit centers, light rail station platforms, and bus and light rail vehicles. The term of the contract is three years with two one-year options in the amount of \$11,065,000 for the first three years of the contract, which includes a one-time cost of \$85,000 for orientation and transitional expenses, 3% of direct labor cost for overtime and holidays per year, and \$30,000 per year for expenses due to unanticipated events requiring additional security services. Further, authorize the General Manager, at his discretion, to exercise the two one-year options for an amount of \$7,876,000 for the optional fourth and fifth years of the contract, which also includes 3% of direct labor for overtime and holidays per year, and \$30,000 per year for unanticipated events. If the option years are executed, the total amount of this contract is \$18,941,000.

18. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

19. ADJOURNMENT

On Order of Chairperson Sellers and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yolanda L. Cruz, Assistant Board Secretary
VTA Board of Directors