

SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Minutes- Board of Directors

July 13, 2001

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District met on Friday, July 13, 2001 at the District's Administrative Office, 370 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

Vice-Chairperson Reilly called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

SECTION 1: OPEN SESSION

1. ROLL CALL:

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Jan Beautz
Tim Fitzmaurice
Bruce Gabriel
Michelle Hinkle
Mike Keogh
Christopher Krohn
Rafael Lopez
Emily Reilly
Ex-Officio Mike Rotkin

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Sheryl Ainsworth
Jeff Almquist (arrived at 9:05 a.m.)
Dennis Norton

STAFF PRESENT

Bryant Baehr, Operations Manager
Paul Chandley, Human Resource Manager
Kim Chin, Planning & Marketing Manager
Mark Dorfman, Asst. General Manager
Marilyn Fenn, Asst. Finance Manager
Terry Gale, IT Manager
Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel

David Konno, Fac. Maint. Manager
Ian McFadden, Transit Planner
Kathy O'Mara, Schedule Analyst
Elisabeth Ross, Finance Manager
Judy Souza, Base Superintendent
Tom Stickel, Fleet Maintenance Manager
Leslie R. White, General Manager

EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO INDICATED THEY WERE PRESENT

Wally Brondstatter, UTU
Jenny Bragar, Outreach Consultant
Pat Dellin, SCCRTC
Lynn Everett-Leigh, MultiSystems
Jenna Glasky, SEIU
Mark Hartunian, Lift Line
Don Hubbard, Harvey West Assn.
Jeff LeBlanc, Bus Rider

Gillian McGlaze, PSA
John Mellon, VMU
Bonnie Morr, UTU
Cliff Nichols, Cabrillo College
Larry Paegler, UCSC
Michael Schmidt, Goodwill Ind.
Patricia Spence, MASTF
Cliff Tillman, SEIU
Candace Ward, UCSC

2. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Oral Communications:

A young man who had thrown a rock at a bus out of frustration when he was passed up by two previous buses, apologized to the Board and Staff for his actions. He was arrested for what he had done and has paid for the bus windshield.

Michael Schmidt discussed the survey which was conducted by the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce regarding the widening of Highway 1. He stated that the survey was to obtain the community's attitude toward reallocating some of the sales tax revenue. He expressed his hope that METRO would work with the Board of Supervisors to find additional funding for the widening project. He added that there was no intention by himself or the Chamber to initiate a ballot measure for sales tax reallocation.

Don Hubbard of the Harvey West Area Association wanted to ensure that the list of 32 questions submitted by the Harvey West Area Association and Chamber of Commerce would be included in the economic impact study being conducted for MetroBase. Mark Dorfman informed Mr. Hubbard that the staff report on this issue would be available early next week and would be discussed at the July 20th Board meeting.

Written Communications:

- a. Tracy Kellerman RE: MetroBase at Harvey West
- b. Jan Davis-Hadley RE: Bikes on Buses

Les White stated that these letters would be responded to after receiving input, if any, from the Board.

3. LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

No questions or comments.

4. METRO USERS GROUP (MUG) COMMUNICATIONS

No questions or comments.

5. METRO ACCESSIBLE SERVICES TRANSIT FORUM (MASTF) COMMUNICATIONS

No questions or comments.

6. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS

The staff report on Item #10 Service Improvements for Fall 2001 was distributed along with a map of the ADA Paratransit service areas and a map of the area to which Mr. Whiteagle would like transportation each week.

CONSENT AGENDA

7-1. **APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF 6/8/01 & 6/15/01 AND SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF 5/23/01**

No questions or comments.

7-2. **ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED CLAIMS**

No questions or comments.

7-3. **ACCEPT AND FILE PASSENGER LIFT REPORT FOR JUNE 2001**

No questions or comments.

7-4. **CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS: Deny the claims of: Victoria Balsa; Ronald F. Chinitz; Sheri Cooper**

No questions or comments.

7-5. **ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES OF MASTF COMMITTEE MEETING OF 6/14/01**

No questions or comments.

7-6. **ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES OF MUG COMMITTEE MEETING OF 6/13/01**

No questions or comments.

7-7. **ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS REPORT FOR MAY 2001, APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS**

No questions or comments.

7-8. **ACCEPT AND FILE STATUS REPORT ON ADA PARATRANSIT PROGRAM FOR MAY 2001**

No questions or comments.

7-9. **ACCEPT AND FILE HIGHWAY 17 STATUS REPORT FOR MAY 2001**

Director Fitzmaurice met with the Mayor and City Manager of Los Gatos both of whom expressed interest in express bus service into Los Gatos. Mr. White informed the Board that METRO and VTA, through a Joint Powers Agreement, work collectively to make decisions about service configurations, fares and operation of the Highway 17 Express service.

7-10. ACCEPT AND FILE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ SERVICE STATUS REPORT

Director Fitzmaurice reported that UCSC opened the road to two-way traffic next to the bookstore. Les White was informed that the work on campus is ahead of schedule and he added that the Transportation Commission is helping to fund this project through the STPC grant in the amount of approximately \$550,000.

7-11. ACCEPT AND FILE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SECRETARY/GENERAL MANAGER AND/OR FINANCE MANAGER TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY NOVA INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INC., FOR MERCHANT BANK CARD SERVICES

No questions or comments.

7-12. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF DISPOSITION OF PARATRANSIT VEHICLES AND VEHICLE #902

These vehicles exceeded their useful life and will be available for sale. Mr. White anticipates that the cab companies may be interested in purchasing them.

7-13. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL DBE PARTICIPATION RATE OF 15% FOR FEDERALLY-FUNDED PROCUREMENTS IN FY 2002

Ex Officio Director Rotkin asked staff if the DBE goal of 15% is reachable and was informed that it is, due to the security firm being a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise. Mark Dorfman will send Ex Officio Director Rotkin a copy of the newly configured DBE plan which outlines the penalties for districts not meeting their goals.

7-14. CONSIDERATION OF CHANGE OF USE FOR FLORA BELLA FROM CHILDREN'S CLOTHING STORE TO EXPRESSO/GOURMET COFFEE OUTLET

Margaret Gallagher distributed to the Board a letter of opposition to this venture. The party who is opposed to this also sells coffee at his venue located at the Watsonville Transit Center.

7-15. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR PARATRANSIT SERVICE BETWEEN SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT AND FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES INC. TO PROVIDE FOR A NAME CHANGE FOR FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES, INC. TO "COMMUNITY BRIDGES" AS A RESULT OF A CORPORATE NAME CHANGE

No questions or comments.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS

No questions or comments.

9. PRESENTATION OF THE URBANIZED AREA FORMULA PROGRAM AND THE NEEDS OF SMALL TRANSIT INTENSIVE CITIES STUDY AND APPROVAL OF A LEGISLATIVE POSITION IN SUPPORT OF ITS FINDINGS

Summary:

Mark Dorfman gave a Power Point presentation on this program. He stated that a clause was added to the Reauthorization Bill in 1997 which required a study of the Urbanized Area Formula Program to see if the method of distribution meets the needs of the transit agencies of small transit intensive cities. This is a \$3B program which funds both operating and capital expenditures. For funding purposes, Watsonville and Santa Cruz are two separate areas. Staff is requesting approval from the Board to incorporate this issue into the lobbying program at the Federal level.

Discussion:

Les White will attend a meeting of the small systems within APTA in two weeks to begin to craft a position on this issue. He explained that no money would be taken out of the program as this would affect other systems. Any additional funding would be new capital. Ex Officio Director Rotkin suggested that lobbying efforts in this regard be made by staff and Board members. He requested that staff inform the Board of times and locations when they should participate in this effort. Director Keogh requested that staff create a report of where METRO stands nationwide in terms of service. Director Lopez suggested that staff obtain support from local jurisdictions in the form of Resolutions of Support and that this information be included in the report requested by Director Keogh.

10. CONSIDERATION OF SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE FALL BIDS PUBLIC HEARING AT THE 7/20/01 BOARD MEETING

Summary:

Kim Chin and Ian McFadden reviewed the various service changes to be implemented in the Fall of 2001, with Board approval. These changes were the result of nine months of work by the Service Planning & Review Committee. Changes included: bi-directional service on the UCSC campus, service to the Holiday Inn for UCSC students, the Watsonville-Santa Cruz corridor, cross-county and local service, ridership and trip demand for the day after Thanksgiving. The total cost of these changes/improvements is \$330,000. In the next 24 months, existing routes will be reviewed and service will be redistributed, as opposed to adding more funds into the system. Unmet service needs will be presented at the July 20th Board meeting.

Discussion:

Kim Chin, Candace Ward and Larry Paegler will work on a campaign to ensure that the UCSC ridership is aware of the changes to their service, i.e. bi-directional service. Larry Paegler informed the Board that UCSC has expanded their shuttle service in the past year with higher capacity vehicles. He anticipates that revenues to the METRO from UCSC will be \$230,000 - \$300,000 in one year due to the changes being made.

It will cost approximately \$49,000/year to provide service to the UCSC students being housed at the Holiday Inn. Ex Officio Director Rotkin asked Larry Paegler for a report on parking requirements at the Holiday Inn. Mr. Paegler will provide this report to the Board. Mr. Paegler thanked METRO staff for their responsiveness to the UCSC's service needs. Bryant Baehr informed Director Lopez of routes leading from Watsonville to the UCSC campus. Mr. Paegler reported that there are currently five van pools from South County to the university.

THE BOARD MOVED INTO CLOSED SESSION AT THIS TIME. ITEM #24 WILL BE TAKEN OUT OF ORDER DIRECTLY FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION.

21. REVIEW OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION: District Counsel

22. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION

Diane Dunn of SEIU informed the Board that the SEIU labor contract was ratified by the union yesterday, thereby ending the labor negotiations from their end.

SECTION II: CLOSED SESSION

Vice Chairperson Reilly adjourned to Closed Session at 10:14 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session at 10:34 a.m.

SECTION III: RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

23. REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION

Margaret Gallagher reported that no action had taken place in Closed Session.

24. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF SERVICE EMPLOYEES' INTERNATIONAL UNION (SEIU) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) ACTION REQUIRED AT JULY 13TH BOARD MEETING

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ALMQUIST SECOND: DIRECTOR GABRIEL

Move approval of the SEIU labor contract with thanks to the negotiating team.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Ainsworth, Beautz and Norton absent.

THE BOARD RETURNED TO ITEM #10 CONSIDERATION OF SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE FALL BIDS AT THIS TIME.

Discussion: (Continued)

Ian McFadden discussed routes which are not meeting performance standards, namely, Routes 51, 60 and 6, and service the day after Thanksgiving.

DIRECTORS FITZMAURICE AND KROHN LEFT THE MEETING.

Director Lopez requested a meeting with Staff, the Watsonville City Manager, Public Works and Redevelopment in order to open the lines of communication regarding road improvements for transit service. Les White clarified that this conversation would take place in the Service Planning and Review Committee meeting. Director Lopez will coordinate with the Watsonville participants to attend one of these meetings. Vice Chairperson Reilly directed anyone with suggestions for this meeting to e-mail either Les White or Director Lopez.

Patricia Spence confirmed with Staff that the bus to the Stroke Center would remain the same.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE TAKEN OUT OF ORDER:

19. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO CONSTRUCT ONE KIOSK AT THE WATSONVILLE TRANSIT CENTER

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR LOPEZ SECOND: DIRECTOR ALMQUIST

Move Item #19 to the Consent Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Ainsworth, Beautz, Fitzmaurice, Krohn and Norton absent.

18. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SHUTTLE SERVICE FROM THE RUDOLPH F. MONTE FOUNDATION FOR FIREWORK FUNDRAISER

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ALMQUIST SECOND: DIRECTOR LOPEZ

Move Item #18 to the Consent Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Ainsworth, Beautz, Fitzmaurice, Krohn and Norton absent.

20. CONSIDERATION OF STATUS REPORT ON METRO SECURITY CONTRACT

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR LOPEZ SECOND: DIRECTOR GABRIEL

Move Item #20 to the Consent Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Ainsworth, Beautz, Fitzmaurice, Krohn and Norton absent.

13. **CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF CABRILLO COLLEGE TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN AND AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A BUS PASS PROGRAM AGREEMENT**
14. **CONSIDERATION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH WATERLEAF INTERIORS, INC. TO PROVIDE FOR A FINANCIAL IMPACT REVIEW AND REPORT FOR THE METROBASE PROJECT**
16. **CONSIDERATION OF PARTICIPATION IN THE AMERICAN PUBLIC TRANSIT ASSOCIATION'S (APTA) PARTNERSHIP FOR TOMORROW**

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR KEOGH SECOND: DIRECTOR ALMQUIST

Move Items 13, 14 and 16 to Consent Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Ainsworth, Beautz, Fitzmaurice, Krohn and Norton absent.

DIRECTORS ALMQUIST AND LOPEZ LEFT THE MEETING.

ADJOURN

Due to a lack of quorum, Vice-Chair Reilly adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DALE CARR
Administrative Services Coordinator