

SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Minutes- Board of Directors

January 11, 2002

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District met on Friday, January 11, 2002 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

Tim Fitzmaurice
Michelle Hinkle
Mike Keogh
Dennis Norton
Emily Reilly
Pat Spence
Ex-Officio Mike Rotkin

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Sheryl Ainsworth (arrived at 9:02)
Jeff Almquist (arrived at 9:07)
Jan Beautz (arrived at 9:36)
Christopher Krohn

STAFF PRESENT

Bryant Baehr, Operations Manager
Kim Chin, Planning & Marketing Manager
Mark Dorfman, Asst. General Manager
Marilyn Fenn, Asst. Finance Manager
Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel
Tom Hiltner, Grants/Legis. Analyst
David Konno, Fac. Maint. Manager

Ian McFadden, Transit Planner
Gillian McGlaze, Acting Base Superintendent
Elisabeth Ross, Finance Manager
Robyn Slater, Asst. H.R. Manager
Tom Stickel, Fleet Maint. Manager
Leslie R. White, General Manager

EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO INDICATED THEY WERE PRESENT

Linda Clayton, SEA
Pat Dellin, SCCRTC
Steve Marcus, UTU
Carolyn O'Donnell, TMA

Kathy O'Mara, Schedule Analyst
Steve Paulson, UTU
Will Regan, VMU
Sam Storey, Community Bridges
Will Regan, VMU

2. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

- a. Rafael Lopez
- b. Tom Gestri
- c. Batya Kagan

RE: Resignation as Director
RE: Hwy. 1 Widening
RE: Bikes on Buses

3. LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

None

4. METRO USERS GROUP (MUG) COMMUNICATIONS

None

5. METRO ACCESSIBLE SERVICES TRANSIT FORUM (MASTF) COMMUNICATIONS

Director Spence, on behalf of MASTF, distributed awards to the Directors who voted in favor of the Paratransit Sensitivity Awareness Project and to the Board and Staff members who participated in this project. A binder is available which delineates the specifics of this project, and includes responses from the participants regarding the services provided, and suggestions for improvements to the paratransit program.

6. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

7-1. APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF 11/9/01, 11/16/01 AND 12/14/01

No questions or comments.

7-2. ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED CLAIMS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2001

No questions or comments.

7-3. ACCEPT AND FILE NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2001 RIDERSHIP REPORT

No questions or comments.

7-4. CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS: Deny the Claims of: AmCom Insurance Service; Nina Carlotta; Clairedene Mary K. Smith; Kathleen Smith; Jeff Long - ACTION REQUIRED AT 1/11/02 MEETING

Action is required at today's meeting due to the cancellation of the December 21, 2001 Board Meeting.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR FITZMAURICE SECOND: DIRECTOR ALMQUIST

Approve Staff recommendations.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ex Officio Director Rotkin requested a report of the amount of claims being received and whether they are increasing, decreasing or remaining the same.

7-5. ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES OF MASTF COMMITTEE MEETING OF 11/15/01 AND 12/20/01

No questions or comments.

7-6. ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES OF MUG COMMITTEE MEETING OF 11/14/01 AND 12/19/01

No questions or comments.

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

No questions or comments.

7-8. ACCEPT AND FILE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ SERVICE UPDATES FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2001

Director Reilly confirmed that the meetings between METRO staff and UCSC representatives are still occurring.

7-9. ACCEPT AND FILE STATUS REPORT FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY FOR CALL STOP ISSUE PROGRESS

No questions or comments.

7-10. ACCEPT AND FILE STATUS REPORT ON ADA PARATRANSIT PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2001

No questions or comments.

7-11. ACCEPT AND FILE HIGHWAY 17 STATUS REPORT FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2001

No questions or comments.

7-12. ACCEPT AND FILE STAFF REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATION OF BIO-DIESEL AS AN INTERIM FUEL

No questions or comments.

7-13. CONSIDERATION OF FINAL REPORT ON THE “IBUS” TDA-DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

No questions or comments.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR BRUCE GABRIEL

This resolution will be presented at the January 18, 2002 Board meeting.

9. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR PAUL CHANDLEY

This resolution will be presented at the January 18, 2002 Board meeting.

10. CONSIDERATION OF PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS

Awards will be presented at the January 18, 2002 Board meeting

11. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF REVISED FARE ORDINANCE FOR HIGHWAY 17 EXPRESS SERVICE

Summary:

Mark Dorfman explained that this item was carried over from December due to the December 21st meeting being cancelled. METRO staff continued to receive correspondence regarding the proposed fare increase after the closing period. This correspondence is included with the staff report as Attachment E. Staff is proposing to move the implementation date to February 1, 2002.

Discussion:

There was discussion regarding the cost of the day pass and lowering the proposed cost so it would be less expensive than a round-trip bus fare. Mr. Dorfman stated that the day pass is for the convenience of eliminating the need for exact fare and also so that the holder has access to both the METRO and VTA's systems. The issue of San Jose State University's (SJSU) eco pass was addressed. It is unknown if the eco pass was extended to the Highway 17 service. However, this issue is between SJSU and VTA. METRO is reimbursed \$2.25 for each eco pass that is accepted on its system.

Staff is waiting for direction from the Board as to responding to the correspondence received regarding the proposed fare increase. A fact sheet will be provided to the ridership on the Highway 17 Express. Mr. White added that adjustments to the local fares would be on the schedule of events to present to the Board this year.

Director Fitzmaurice asked for a report on how much the ridership would need to decrease to break even as the fare increases. Mr. Dorfman will provide a calculation to address this. There was discussion of proposing a lesser increase at this time then to increase fares on an incremental basis going forward. However, the budget has been calculated for an increase of \$28,000 in revenues based on the current proposed fares.

Ex Officio Director Rotkin requested a staff recommendation on the following: a) what would the subsidy be for the rest of the system, b) calculations to incrementally increase the fare over time. Director Ainsworth requested a breakdown outlining the percentage of the Highway 17 ridership that are SJSU students. There was a discussion regarding the need for a semester pass for SJSU students. Mr. Dorfman will provide historical ridership numbers to the Board.

There was discussion regarding Scotts Valley companies subsidizing passes for their employees who use the Highway 17 Express service. It was determined that a separate meeting should be held to discuss company subsidies for their employees.

12. CONSIDERATION OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS TO SERVE AS BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR 2002, TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION AND METRO USERS GROUP CHAIRPERSON ASSIGNMENTS

Summary:

Director Almquist nominated Directors Ainsworth and Reilly to continue as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, respectively, for the Year 2002. Nomination of Directors Keogh, Reilly, and Spence as Transportation Commission assignees were made. Nominations for Transportation Commission alternates will be made at the 1/18/02 Board Meeting.

Discussion:

Director Keogh nominated Director Hinkle as the Metro Users Group (MUG) Chairperson.

13. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF 2002 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Summary:

Les White reviewed the six goals of the Federal Legislative program. He added that he continues to reiterate to the Federal Government that the complimentary paratransit service is still unfunded. Mr. White asked if the Board would like Staff to request earmark funding from Congressman Sam Farr for either the first phase of the radio system upgrade and vehicle monitoring system, or to step aside and allow the Transportation Commission to request funding for the right-of-way acquisition, or to allow Monterey to request funds for their Ft. Ord operating facility.

Ex-Officio Director Rotkin inquired as to the status of the MetroBase project and whether Congressman Farr could help with this funding. Mr. White responded that the draft report on the financial feasibility impact report would be brought to the Board shortly. Staff from Congressman Farr's office gave the impression that they didn't want to look at this project until it is more defined. Mr. White added that he has opened discussions with Congressman Eschu's

office. Mr. White confirmed that Staff would need to talk with Congressman Farr prior to April when he submits his list of funded projects. Director Fitzmaurice asked to see the verbiage on how we would communicate our needs to Congressman Farr. Director Ainsworth added that Staff might look at Federal funding for the project to install piping under the road to the District's proposed CNG facility and was informed that Congressman Farr's office thought this should be funded at the State level. However, Mr. White will discuss this again with Congressman Farr's office.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ALMQUIST SECOND: DIRECTOR SPENCE

Move Items 15 – 18 to the Consent Agenda. Approve Item #17

Motion passed with Director Keogh voting “no”.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR FITZMAURICE SECOND: DIRECTOR NORTON

Move Item #13 to the Consent Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously.

Les White stated that Josh Shaw, Executive Director of California Transit Association, would be at the Board meeting on January 18, 2002 to present the State Legislative goals.

14. CONSIDERATION OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ELIGIBILITY SOFTWARE FOR PARATRANSIT RIDES

This staff report will be included in the Add-On Packet. There were no questions or comments.

15. MOVED TO CONSENT AGENDA AS ITEM #7-15

16. MOVED TO CONSENT AGENDA AS ITEM #7-16

17. CONSIDERATION OF MODIFICATION TO THE PROPOSED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ FOR PLANNING AND DESIGN OF THE PROJECT TO REHABILITATE AND REDESIGN THE SANTA CRUZ METRO CENTER (TO INCLUDE MUTUAL INDEMNIFICATION CLAUSES)

This Item was approved as stated above.

18. MOVED TO CONSENT AGENDA AS ITEM #7-18

19. REVIEW OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

Margaret Gallagher outlined the cases of Existing Litigation and Anticipated Litigation to be discussed along with the General Manager's Performance Evaluation.

SECTION II: CLOSED SESSION

Vice Chairperson Reilly adjourned to Closed Session at 10:25 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session at 12:00 noon.

SECTION III: RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

20. REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION

Margaret Gallagher stated that there was nothing to report from Closed Session.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Vice-Chairperson Reilly adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted.

DALE CARR
Administrative Services Coordinator