

DRAFT MINUTES
External Affairs Committee Meeting
Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District
2nd Floor Board Room
1600 Franklin Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Wednesday, September 9, 2009
3:30 p.m.

External Affairs Committee Members:

Director Elsa Ortiz, Chair
Director Joe Wallace
Director Jeff Davis

The meeting was called to order at 3:36 p.m. with Committee Chair Ortiz presiding.

Committee Members Present: Director Wallace, Director Davis, and Director Ortiz, Committee Chair.

Committee Members Absent: None.

Also Present: General Manager Rick Fernandez, General Counsel Ken Scheidig, Deputy General Manager Jim Gleich and District Secretary Linda Nemeroff.

Public Comment

There was no public comment offered.

INFORMATION ITEM(S) (Consent Calendar):

Items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion/one vote. If discussion is desired, an item may be removed from the Consent Calendar and will be considered individually.

1. Consider approving External Affairs Committee minutes of July 29, 2009.

MOTION: WALLACE/DAVIS to approve the minutes and forward to the Board of Directors recommending receipt (3).

BRIEFING ITEM(S)/ACTION ITEM(S)

2. Consider monthly updates on legislation and related actions:

✓ Federal

Deputy General Manager Jim Gleich reported that the climate action legislation was temporarily on hold and the issue of federal authorization of new transportation programs remains unresolved.

With regard to the climate action legislation, Director Davis requested that Mr.

Gleich comment on Senator Boxer's support of a 10% set aside for transit and whether this element was likely to remain a part of the legislation. Mr. Gleich advised that it was likely to stay, noting that the transit industry had been consistently advocating for a substantially larger percentage.

✓ State

- Legislative Report (GM Memo No. 09-202) *[to include a Bill analysis of AB 744 (Torrigo)]*.

Mr. Gleich further reported on the lawsuit headed to the State Supreme Court regarding State Transit Assistance. In addition, he commented on the formation of a study committee in the state senate to look for new ways to fund public transit.

MOTION: WALLACE/DAVIS to forward to the Board of Directors recommending receipt (3).

✓ Regional/Local

There was nothing to report on regional/local matters.

3. Consider receiving update on the audio streaming of Board of Directors meetings via the District's website and the costs associated with webcasting meetings (Requested by Director Davis – 4/29/09; Director Harper and Vice President Peeples – 7/29/09) (GM Memo No. 09-218).

Chief Technology Officer Blake Pelletier presented the staff report.

Director Davis inquired how we would know how many users were listening to the broadcasts. Mr. Pelletier advised that a matrix would be used to establish a criteria, for example: a sign-in mechanism that would allow the capture of usage information. Director Davis commented that the audio streaming appeared to be the right thing to do.

Director Ortiz inquired what other transit agencies were using and requested that this information be included when the report is presented to the Board. She further commented that a measurement of the usage would be necessary in order to take the project to the next level (video).

MOTION: WALLACE/DAVIS to forward to the Board of Directors as an A-memo recommending approval of audio streaming via the web. The report is to include information on what other transit entities are using (3).

Agenda Planning

Deputy General Manager Jim Gleich advised that the District's federal lobbyist, Steve Palmer, would be in attendance at the October 28th Board of Directors meeting.

Monthly

- State/Federal Program Updates.
 - Update on APTA Reauthorization process for T-4.
- Regional/Local Issues.

Pending – Not Scheduled

- Status report on the Oral History Project (Continued from 2/15/06) [Continue efforts to locate funds; hire a person utilizing grant funds; contact local museums to see if there is interest in taking on the project].
- Supplemental report on the Line 19 Marketing Plan detailing how the effectiveness of the plan will be evaluated (Requested by President Harper – 3/7/07; Requested by Vice President Kaplan – 8/29/07).
- Report on the extent the District needs to modify its' website given the improvements to the 511.org website, and the implementation of new 511.org features (i.e. ability to search specifically on AC Transit) (Requested by Director Harper – 10/15/08).
- Report back on staff's work with the City of Oakland for the development of an EasyPass Program (Requested by Vice President Kaplan – 12/5/08).
- Discussion as to what protocol should be used when members of the Board are approached by advocacy groups to participate in meetings with MTC Commissioners (Requested by Vice President Peeples – 2/11/09).
- Report on how to facilitate public involvement with regard to the District's lobbying plans for existing and potential funds (Requested by Vice President Peeples – 3/11/09).
- Report on the re-writing of the CEQA regulations (checklist) by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and implications on transit (Requested by Vice President Peeples – 5/27/09).

Board/Staff Comments (Government Code Section 54943.2(a))

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m. The next meeting of the External Affairs Committee is scheduled for October 14, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Nemeroff
District Secretary