

DRAFT MINUTES
Special Planning Committee Meeting
Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District
2nd Floor Board Room
1600 Franklin Street
Oakland, California 94612

Wednesday, June 24, 2009
12:00 p.m.

Planning Committee Members:

Director Greg Harper, Chair
Director Joe Wallace
Director H. E. Christian Peeples, Vice President

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. with Chairman Harper presiding.

Committee Members Present: Director Wallace, Vice President Peeples and Director Harper, Committee Chair.

Committee Members Absent: None.

Also Present: General Manager Rick Fernandez, General Counsel Ken Scheidig, Deputy General Manager for Service Development Nancy Skowbo 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 Planning Committee minutes of May 13, 2009.

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

BRIEFING/ACTION ITEM(S)

2. Consider receiving report on the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project and recommend approval of a change in the composition of the Policy Steering Committee (PSC) (GM Memo No. 09-158).

Deputy General Manager for Service Development Nancy Skowbo presented the staff report.

Vice President Peeples inquired about the representative for the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. Staff indicated that while the county representative was comfortable with participating, they were less comfortable with being a voting member because the project was no longer going to be built in a portion of unincorporated Alameda County.

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

3. Consider receiving quarterly report on the development of the Line 51 Service and Operations Reliability Report (GM Memo No. 09-116).

There was no discussion of this item.

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

4. Consider receiving the Line 1R Service and Reliability Study (GM Memo No. 09-172).

Service and Operations Planning Manager Cory LaVigne presented the staff report.

Director Harper inquired as to why the report did not include any thoughts about what staff hopes to accomplish with the project. Mr. LaVigne indicated that Task 4, as provided in the staff report, outlined the preliminary thought process. Director Wallace inquired as to why 1R service runs on the weekends in Alameda County, but not in Contra Costa County. Staff advised that it was a matter of costs and that the 1R operates a truncated version on the weekend.

Vice President Peeples inquired about public access to the report and whether it was going to be available on the website under the Planning Focus tab. Staff advised that there would be a couple of focused community workshops around this line and that the report was preliminary at this point. Director Harper inquired as to what the three worst problems of the line were. Mr. LaVigne responded that in addition to running time, delays at signals and delays in dwells/boarding were problems. Director Harper also asked about splitting the route and the issue of baby strollers on buses. Staff advised that the issue of splitting the route was part of ongoing discussions and that most of the lines growth was in the northern portion of the line.

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

5. Consider receiving report on the Transbay Transit Center Project (GM Memo No. 09-117).

Appearing in person:

Bob Beck, Program Manager, Transbay Joint Powers Authority.

Senior Transportation Planner Robert Del Rosario presented the staff report and advised the committee of a major set back in the project which would result in AC Transit operating from the temporary terminal for 6-6.5 years rather than the mandated 5 years. He then called upon Bob Beck to provide an update on the construction of the Transbay Transit Center and the Train Box. Mr. Beck first addressed the following issues:

- AC Transit's move to the temporary terminal;
- Construction activities;
- Design of the transit center; and
- Funding for the project and timeline.

Mr. Beck reported that the inclusion of the rail levels in the construction of Phase 1 of the project would extend the overall construction schedule and that the TJPA would continue to work with the contractor to bring the schedule back within the mandated 5 year time frame.

Vice President Peeples inquired as to when we would move into the temporary terminal and whether February was the new move-in date. Mr. Del Rosario advised that the TJPA's goal was for AC Transit to move in December; however, issues concerning the implementation of service reductions and proper notice to the public of the move may make February 1, 2010 a better target date.

Vice President Peeples further inquired about headway discussions with the High Speed Rail Authority, alternative funding sources other than stimulus money, whether the High Speed Rail Authority supported the use of stimulus money for the project, and the design of the bus bays.

Mr. Beck advised that the High Speed Rail Authority had a first preference to bring all trains to Transbay, but if they needed to stop some trains at 4th and King they would do so, which would be preferable to the \$1 billion cost impact to add the second level of rail platforms. With regard to funding, Mr. Beck advised that the TJPA is still working on a back-up plan if the \$400 million in stimulus funding does not materialize. He further noted that the High Speed Rail Authority had taken a no stance position with regard to support of the use of stimulus money.

Mr. Del Rosario addressed the issue of the bus bays noting that there will be more bus bays than previously planned and that staff is working with the TJPA to make the bus bays more modular to accommodate articulated buses if necessary.

Director Harper inquired about the District's payments on the new terminal and whether the District would receive any type of credit for having to operate in the temporary terminal for an additional 1.5 years. The General Manager advised that the District would not make any payments until it occupied the new terminal.

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

6. Consider receiving the AC Transit Bicycle Parking Plan Study Report (GM Memo No. 09-159).

Senior Transportation Planner Nathan Landau presented the staff report.

Director Wallace inquired whether the study involved both Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, to which staff responded that the goal was to have a district-wide effort. Director Harper expressed the desire to be more proactive with the program and suggested that the Board consider adding it to the District's capital program, rather than place the report on a shelf for future reference. He further noted the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency's recent support of similar projects. The General Manager expressed concern over the issue of competing with other projects of greater interest to the District.

MOTION: HARPER/PEEPLS to forward to the Board of Directors with a recommendation that bicycle parking projects be added to the District's capital grants funding program (3).

7. Consider receiving report regarding the Buchanan Park and Ride Lot, proposed as part of the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (ACCMA) Interstate-80 Integrated Corridor Mobility Project (GM Memo No. 09-160).

Transportation Planning Manager Jon Twichell presented the staff report.

Director Harper inquired about the inclusion of bicycle racks in the design of the lot. Staff advised that the preliminary design did not yet include access points, bus stops or bike racks.

The General Manager raised the issue to staff as to why there was no recommendation for Board approval to proceed with the project. Staff advised that the final funding for the project was not complete. The General Manager expressed that there should be some agreement from the Board that staff should pursue it.

MOTION: WALLACE/HARPER to forward to the Board of Directors with the recommendation that staff proceed with the project; Vice President Peoples - abstained (2-0-1).

Agenda Planning

Vice President Peoples requested a report on the feasibility of the District to advocate on behalf of the cities for stimulus money to improve bus stops throughout the District [Note: small projects with minimum bonding]

Director Harper reviewed the pending list and the following changes outlined in **bold** were made:

1-3 Months (April – June)

- Report on how often ridership data, reported to the National Transit Database, can be provided to the Board (Requested by Committee – 7/9/08). **May be removed pending report on the Strategic Priorities later in the day.**
- Report on AC Transit’s possible participation in Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Training and Assistance Program Class and possible ISO 14001 Certification (Requested by Vice President Peeples – 9/24/08). **Sue Chaewsky or Gene Johnson to provide a report.**
- SATCOM report on line 72R ~~and 1R~~ (Requested by Director Kaplan – 10/15/08) **May be removed pending report on the Strategic Priorities later in the day. Staff to provide a status report on the performance of the signal priority system. July.**
- Report on the implications of the RTPs Proposed Transit Performance Initiative and Transit Productivity Reports would be on AC Transit (Requested by Vice President Peeples – 1/28/09).
- Amendments to Board Policy 550 – Service Standards and Design (Requested by the Board – 12/17/08). **Move to the June – November heading.**
- Report on transit implications in “Access to Parkland: Environmental Justice at East Bay Parks” (Requested by Director Peeples – 12/13/07). **Remove from the list.**
- Report concerning Board prioritization and approval of capital projects (Requested by Director Harper – 9/5/07) [Note: report to include an outline of eligible fund sources and funding target amounts for capital projects in order to provide the Board with a clear understanding of the projects being funded and what may be funded in the future (Requested by Committee – 6/11/08)]. **August**

3-6 Months (June – November)

- Review Board Policy 163 specifically with respect to environmental issues (Board Policy 512) [Staff will draft a work plan to deal with policies and metrics] [Will be done over several meetings] (Requested by Vice President Peeples).
- Report on the Marina Village development in Richmond (memo in general terms) (Requested by Vice President Peeples).
- Revise bus stop policy to include communication with policy agencies.
- Report on truncated lines and frequency issues with respect to implementation of the 1 Rapid (Telegraph/International/E. 14th Street) (Continued by Committee – 10/4/06) [*Referred from Operations 7/30/08*].
- Report on General Purpose Demand Rapid Transit (Requested by Director Davis – 1/28/09).
- Report on planning efforts in Special District 2 (Requested by Director Davis – 12/6/08).
- Update on the status of the customer satisfaction survey (Requested by Vice President Peeples – 5/28/08). [Retained in committee on July 9, 2008 pending receipt of proposed survey.] (GM Memo No. 08-155a).
- Updates to the Fleet Composition Plan (Requested by Director Davis – 11/12/2008). *September*
- Report on a proposal to make Line 19 fare free (with four times the farebox) (Requested by Director Harper – 5/27/09)

6-12 Months (November – April 2010)

Parked Items

- Report on Oak to 9th Street project [Report to detail what commitments have been made by and to Signature Properties]. (Requested by Director Peeples – 3/25/06).
- Update on the use of freeway shoulders as bus lanes [Staff to monitor the San Diego study and identify potential areas for use locally] (Requested by Committee – 7/25/07).

Quarterly Reports (Nov, Feb, May, August)

Bus Rapid Transit
Line 51 Task Force
Transbay Terminal

Semi-Annual Reports

Update on CARB

Policy Review Schedule*

Board Policy 163: Public Hearing Process for Board of Directors
Board Policy 512: Environmental Evaluations of Transit Projects
Board Policy 530: Private Enterprise Participation
Board Policy 540: Service Adjustments
Board Policy 550: Service Effectiveness Standards
Board Policy 551: Title VI Service Review & Compliance
Board Policy 560: Standards for Operations of Supplementary Service
** Alignment of Policies with national standards expressed in the Transit Capacity and Quality of Service Manual*

Board/Staff Comments (Government Code Section 54954.2)

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m. The next meeting of the Planning Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, July 29, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Nemeroff
District Secretary