



MINUTES

Friday, January 20, 2012
4:00 pm

2nd Floor Board Room
1600 Franklin Street
Oakland, CA 94612

PSC Members:

AC Transit Board:

President Elsa Ortiz
Director Greg Harper
Director Mark Williams

City of Oakland:

Vice Mayor Ignacio De La Fuente
Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan

Alameda County:

Supervisor Nate Miley

City of San Leandro:

Vice Mayor Michael Gregory
Councilmember Pauline Cutter

Metropolitan Transportation Commission/Caltrans:

District Director Bijan Sartipi

The East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Policy Steering Committee held a meeting on Friday, January 20, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. with Chair Ortiz Presiding.

1. Roll Call

Committee Members Present:

President Elsa Ortiz
Director Greg Harper
Director Mark Williams
Vice Mayor Michael Gregory
Councilmember Pauline Cutter
Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan

Committee Members Absent:

Supervisor Nate Miley
Caltrans District Director Bijan Sartipi
Vice Mayor Ignacio De La Fuente

AC Transit Staff Present:

General Counsel Vincent C. Ewing
District Secretary Linda Nemeroff
Assistant General Manager Beverly Greene
Director of BRT Arul Edwin
Director of Capital Projects Dennis Butler
Director of Planning and Service Development Tina Spencer
Transportation Planner Jim Cunradi

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment offered.

3. Chair's Report & Pertinent Actions of the AC Transit Board *Presented by Elsa Ortiz*

President Elsa Ortiz welcomed San Leandro City Councilmember Pauline Cutter to the committee and reported on the following:

- The hiring of a new District General Counsel;
- The environmental document for the project and the review process;

- The selection of Parsons Transportation Group as the prime contractor for the preliminary engineering phase;
- Representation of small, local businesses among subcontractors;
- Letter from the FTA citing specific areas of concern that required attention and correction, including increased technical capacity within the District in order to meet milestones;
- Introduction of Arul Edwin, Director of BRT;
- Institution of project management procedures;
- Authorization to hire new staff to help with the management and oversight of the project;
- Upcoming public meetings regarding the Environmental Impact Statement; City Council actions on the project, and preliminary engineering activities.

4. Approval of the minutes from September 16, 2011.

MOTION: WILLIAMS/GREGORY to approve the minutes as presented (5-0-1-3).

Ayes: Director Williams, Councilmember Gregory, Director Harper, Councilmember Kaplan, President Ortiz – 5
Noes: None – 0
Abstain: Councilmember Cutter – 1
Absent: Supervisor Miley, Vice Mayor De La Fuente, District Director Sartipi – 3

5. Briefing/Information Items Presented by AC Transit Staff

All items were presented for information only. No actions were taken.

[A presentation outlining the following agenda items was provided at the meeting for information and discussion. The document is incorporated into the file and by reference hereto is made part of these minutes.]

A. Project Status Review and Schedule

i. Recent Accomplishments

Director of BRT Arul Edwin introduced Transportation Planner Jim Cunradi who presented an overview of the following:

- Final Draft EIS Submitted to FTA
- Completion of Preliminary Engineering Consultant Services Procurement
- Solicitation for a branding consultant
- Additional staffing needs

Councilmember Kaplan commented on the excellent work that had been done with community based organizations with regard to mitigations. She added that it was important that the agreed upon mitigations be clearly explained and/or depicted in the presentations at the community meetings.

Mr. Cunradi reported that meetings would have an open house format and include neighborhood focused information stations so that people could see where parking would be removed, where the BRT station would be, changes to streets, etc. He added the meetings would provide a forum for people to meet with staff, learn about the project and make informed comments. There would also be drawings available to illustrate changes.

Director Harper commented that several years ago a firm from Los Angeles had been hired to do the branding for the Rapid Bus on San Pablo Avenue, noting the importance of using a firm that was familiar with the Bay Area and the uniqueness of it.

Discussion ensued regarding the ability exercise a preference for a branding consultant. Ultimately, Chief Financial Officer Lewis Clinton advised that because of Federal Procurement Laws, preference could not be given to a local firm over other firms out of the area.

ii. **Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) Schedule**

Transportation Planner Jim Cunradi presented an overview of the FEIS schedule, public meetings, and select dates in the approval process.

B. FEIS Review: Community Outreach

Assistant General Manager Beverly Greene provided additional information on the community meetings and gave an overview of the meeting schedule. She added that the meetings would take place in each of the council districts affected by the project and will be concluded by March 14th. In addition, she advised that branding materials would not be available in time for the meetings.

Councilmember Kaplan notified staff of one more community mitigation request for a parking lot at 1249 23rd Avenue. She wanted to make sure staff was prepared to address the issue if it came up.

Councilmember Cutter requested that each council person receive information on the project for their area so that it could be posted to city websites before the community meetings.

C. Project Approval Process

This item was covered under Item 5A.

D. Project Next Steps

i. **Engineering/Design**

Project Leader Arul Edwin provided an overview of forthcoming project activities, including final design, construction, and project delivery in the first quarter of 2016.

Councilmember Kaplan inquired whether the downtown Oakland to San Leandro route would be depicted at the community meetings. Mr. Cunradi advised that the schedule is for whatever project is finally approved. He added that at the community meetings there would be discussion of both design alternatives included in the environmental document and that the project could change based on the decisions that are made by the city councils.

Director of Planning and Service Development Tina Spencer reported that the environmental document would identify the most environmentally superior alternative, which is the DOSL (Downtown Oakland San Leandro) at this point. She added that because this is a federal process the entire corridor must be taken into consideration.

With regard to the community meetings, Councilmember Gregory expressed the importance of a clear message with regard to the branding and funding for the project.

Councilmember Kaplan advised staff to be prepared to answer questions at the community meeting regarding local hiring (impact area hiring) if the subject came up. Mr. Cunradi advised that the AC Transit Board of Directors had voted to create a Project Labor Agreement (PLA), but it has not been done yet. With regard to Impact Area Hiring, staff agreed to research the issue and report back.

Director Williams inquired about the number of jobs that will be created by the project. Staff advised that approximately 300 could be created.

ii. Bus Procurement

Mr. Edwin reported that staff was in the process of writing the specifications for bus procurements and expect to complete them by June. He added that the buses will be hybrid diesel with doors on both sides and that the buses will be made in the United States.

6. Schedule Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 16, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

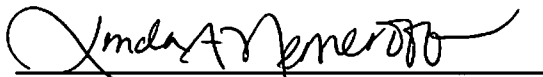
7. Future Agenda Items

- Councilmember Kaplan requested update on local hiring, impact area hiring, and hiring from a local job training program. She further requested new publicity materials which reflect the concept of dual-door buses.
- Councilmember Gregory commented that he was looking forward to the report on branding.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda A. Nemeroff
District Secretary