

**SPECIAL MEETING
East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Policy Steering Committee**



MINUTES

**Friday, September 14, 2012
3:00 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

Alameda County:

Supervisor Nate Miley

Metropolitan Transportation Commission/Caltrans:

District Director Bijan Sartipi

City of Oakland:

Vice Mayor Ignacio De La Fuente
Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan

City of San Leandro:

Vice Mayor Michael Gregory
Councilmember Pauline Cutter

The East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Policy Steering Committee held a meeting on Friday, September 14, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. with Chair Ortiz Presiding.

1. Roll Call

Committee Members Present:

President Elsa Ortiz
Director Greg Harper
Vice Mayor Michael Gregory
Councilmember Pauline Cutter
Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan
Caltrans District Director Bijan Sartipi

Committee Members Absent:

Director Mark Williams
Supervisor Nate Miley
Vice Mayor Ignacio De La Fuente

AC Transit Staff Present:

General Manager David Armijo
General Counsel Vincent Ewing
District Secretary Linda Nemeroff
Director of Capital Projects Dennis Butler

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 Ortiz thanked the committee members from the cities of San Leandro and Oakland for their leadership and perseverance in helping AC Transit obtain unanimous approval of the project. She also thanked AC Transit staff and the consultant team from AC Transit, San Leandro and Oakland for their efforts thus far. Ms. Ortiz then reported on the on the task at hand for the meeting, which was the first step in developing the design of the BRT stations and invited staff to brief the committee on the status of the project and the architectural styles.

4. Approval of the minutes from June 15, 2012.

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

Ayes: Members Cutter, Harper, Kaplan, Gregory, Ortiz - 5

Noes: None – 0

Abstain: Member Sartipi - 1

Absent: Members Miley, De La Fuente, Williams - 3

Prior to the start of the staff presentation, Mr. Butler showed a video advertising bus service in Denmark (Epic Bus Ad).

5. Consideration Items *Presented by AC Transit Staff*

I. Accomplishments

Mr. Butler gave an overview of significant accomplishments, including:

- Project approvals by San Leandro and Oakland;
- Permanent project management/construction management contract with Gannett Fleming;
- Filing of the Small Starts Update showing an increase in costs from \$152 to \$173 million due to an increase in the systems cost, additional paving to replace remaining traffic lanes, and upgrading all ADA ramps at the intersections along the corridor; and
- Selection of a Program Director for the project.

II. Schedule Overview

Mr. Butler provided an overview of the schedule outlined in the presentation for the remaining phases of the project to be completed.

III. Significant Upcoming Activities

Mr. Butler reviewed the various activities that would occur over the next 90 days, including:

- The schedule of community outreach activities regarding the architectural design of the BRT stations and the project design/footprint which would take place in late September and early November, respectively.
- Establish a framework for the Operations and Maintenance Agreements.
- Develop Concept of Operations for systems.
- Refinement of the engineering data, including geotechnical analysis, mapping and communications systems.
- Completion of the branding efforts leading to a cohesive, unifying brand for the BRT service.

IV. Architectural Style Review

➤ *Objective of the Review*

Mr. Butler stated the objective of the architectural style review was to evaluate the appearance of the stations, express a preference, and provide guidance.

➤ *Design Objectives/Architectural Style Review*

Mr. Butler also reviewed the guiding principles, noting that each station had to meet the same basic standards: weather protection, safe, well-lit, ADA compliant, clear station identification throughout the line, minimal operations and maintenance costs, proof of payment areas, and the ability to attract new riders.

Councilmember Kaplan commented on the visibility of the NextBus displays, noting the need to be able to see them from a distance on approach to the station. She added that the displays at the 20th Street transfer station were a good model. President Ortiz added that it would be helpful to see them from the front and the back.

➤ *Design Parameters & Guidelines*

Mr. Butler gave an overview of the design parameters for median station and curbside design. He advised the committee that the platforms would be 12 feet wide and 60 feet long and that the stations, which would be 8 feet wide by 45 feet long, would have to fit within this footprint.

➤ *Committee's Preferred Design Theme*

Mr. Butler turned the meeting over to Ron Finger from FMG Architects to provide an overview of the design themes. He added that the three design themes were based on a 60 foot platform but only a 45 foot canopy and that each station would have the same amenities. He further mentioned that signage, rails and landscaping would be integrated into the design once the style is selected.

Concrete Bookends Design:

Mr. Finger advised that the design was a more contemporary design and great for the display of public art.

Hipped Roof Design

Mr. Finger advised that the design was more simplistic and had the least amount of steel, which would make it cheaper to build.

Industrial Modern

Mr. Finger advised that the design had a simple roof design and would also require less steel to build.

Members of the Committee inquired/commented about the following:

- Who would maintain any landscaping;
- Maintenance cost for each station;
- The use of solar panels to provide electricity;
- Design the stations to be solar-ready;
- Placement of NextBus displays;
- Signage should be lit and at an appropriate height for all passengers;
- Location of lighting throughout the stations;
- Use of stand-alone ticket vending stations;
- Placement of security cameras and safety measures;
- Enable stations with WiFi;
- Installation of fiber optic cable aligned with the bus route;
- Planning for percent for art ordinances;
- The use of an antigrffiti coating;
- The difference in cost between the three designs;
- Placement of promotional banners – make stations banner-ready;
- The need for wind screens to be transparent;
- Sturdiness of the materials used to make the stations;
- Placement of the wind screens;
- The use of audible tones on the bus to differentiate one station from another;
- Minimize the use of concrete; and
- Minimize areas within the station that are hidden from view for public safety.

Councilmember Kaplan inquired about the timeline for selecting a design in order for city staff to weigh in on any aesthetic elements. Mr. Butler advised that city staff had reviewed the designs solely from the perspective of the design and that other specifics elements such as rain spouts, power, and engineering would be dealt with once a design is selected.

President Ortiz asked Committee members to provide feedback on which design was preferable, noting that the Committee's inclination would be forwarded to the AC Transit Board of Directors.

Members of the Committee expressed an overall preference for the Hipped Roof design and, in doing such, stressed the need pre-plan for certain amenities in order to reduce costly workarounds later.

6. Schedule Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 9, at 3:00 p.m.

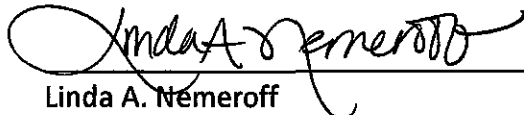
7. Future Agenda Items

There were no new items requested.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda A. Nemeroff
District Secretary