

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)  
OF THE MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD (MTDB)  
AUGUST 21, 2012

MEETING MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at 2:05p.m. The following Committee Members answered to roll call:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
MO – Lawrence Harley, Chair	P	
D1 – Donald G. Pearson	P	
D2 – Lee Frederick	P	
D3 – Everardo Sanchez	P	
D4 – Daniel Crumby	P	
D5 – vacant		
D6 – vacant		
D7 – W. Burns Taylor	P	
D8 – Leah M. Osborne, Vice-Chair	P	
ALT – Aziz Afravi		A
ALT – vacant		
ALT – vacant		

2. **Public comment.**

- A. John Eger commented on two items
- 1) Public was not well-informed about the meeting held at VOLAR site
  - 2) New LIFT drivers seem to require additional training for learning routes so they are not getting lost
- B. Matt Carroll commented on the distance between bus stops and mentioned that shortening distances will encourage and possibly increase ridership.
- C. Brandon LeMaster commented on several items:
- 1) Drivers are refusing passengers in wheelchairs
  - 2) LIFT passengers are waiting out in the sun too long, causing seizures in some cases, and would like to see something done about eliminating long wait times
  - 3) Inquired if LIFT drivers are CPR certified for handling emergency situations in the event passengers experience seizures and/or heart attacks
  - 4) LIFT drivers are very rude to passengers in general
  - 5) Inquired why there's a price difference in LIFT fare vs. regular bus fare
- D. Mark Steele commented on bus shelters on the corner of Mesa & University and Oregon & Arizona, along with others that moved to Oregon Street. Inquired about timeline for completing the bus shelters.

3. **Approval of minutes of last meeting.** Chair motioned for approval of the minutes for the last meeting on July 17, 2012. W. Burns Taylor moved to approve minutes as presented. Seconded by Leah Osborne. All in favor, none opposed, and motion passes unanimously.
4. **Mandatory "City of El Paso Ethics in City Government" training pursuant to Council directive on June 14, 2012.** Presentation provided by Jay Banasiak. Mentioned that the City Manager mandated this training for all board members and City staff involved in board

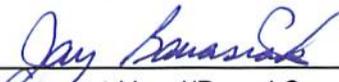
meetings. Mentioned that those present today will be in compliance with training requirement. Motion made to move training to end of the agenda as some board members have previously completed the training. Lee Frederick so moved. Seconded by Leah Osborne. All in favor, none opposed, and motion passes unanimously.

5. **Discussion and Update on signage language posted in bus units about “banning passengers” and corrected translation into Spanish.** Laura Cruz-Acosta confirmed that all the signs with incorrect Spanish translation have been removed from all buses and that new ones with the corrected translation will be posted soon. No action taken.
6. **Presentation and Discussion on the proposed Streetcar Project.** Jay Banasiak provided presentation on preliminary concept for proposed Streetcar project. Mentioned item going before City Council in September. General discussion about how this project will integrate with existing bus services. Mentioned working with various city stakeholders including Chamber of Commerce (EPGCC), Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB), and Downtown Management District (DMD) for finalizing logistics. Mentioned additional details will be provided in next month’s meeting. No action taken.
7. **Presentation on proposed new Fort Bliss East Route.** Everett Esparza provided update on Route #31 Fort Bliss/Eastside Connector. Mentioned service starts on 9/9/12. Mentioned working closely with Garrison Command to finalize bus stops along the route, and will continue monitoring and tweaking to meet ridership demands, as needed. Also mentioned that new hospital construction completion will dictate when that area is added into the existing route. No action taken.
8. **Update on construction of new Operations/Maintenance Facility.** Jay Banasiak provided update on construction project for new facility on Montana. Mentioned ground breaking has taken place and is on schedule for completion in July/August 2013, followed by RTS starting in 2014. No action taken.
9. **Director’s Report**
  - A. **Monthly Customer Service Reports for Fixed Route and Paratransit.** Robert Dominguez provided monthly update on statistics through July 2012. General discussion on categories identified and details provided on specific inquiries.
10. **Performance Indicators for period ending June 30, 2012.** Jay Banasiak provided presentation for statistics through end of June. Mentioned LIFT will remain fully staff during MV transition, and City will continue monitoring services for seamless transfer. Mentioned will continue providing quarterly updates.
11. **Opportunity for committee members to request a staff report on items of interest over which the Board has authority. Discussion of items announced at this meeting will take place during the next regularly scheduled meeting.** The Committee members requested that the following items for next meeting’s agenda:
  - A. Schedule for public meetings regarding LIFT transition
  - B. Review and update of public comment items
  - C. Update on Streetcar Project presentation to City Council
  - D. Update on Easter Seals grant application by SISD

Chair asked for motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:26pm. Leah Osborne so moved. Seconded by W. Burns Taylor. All in favor, none opposed, and motion passes unanimously.

City Ethics Training presentation followed the meeting adjournment.

Approved by:

  
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Department Head/Board Secretary