

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)  
OF THE MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD (MTDB)  
September 18, 2012

MEETING MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at 2:03p.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               |                | A             |
| D5 – vacant                      |                |               |
| D6 – vacant                      |                |               |
| D7 – W. Burns Taylor             | P              |               |
| D8 – Leah M. Osborne, Vice-Chair | P              |               |
| ALT – Aziz Afravi – seated       | P              |               |
| ALT – vacant                     |                |               |
| ALT – vacant                     |                |               |
2. **Public comment.** Commentary noted and items of interest moved to next agenda.
- A. Lori Vugteveen commented on two items. (1) Fixed Route: Ordinance language posted on buses requiring passengers to give up seats to individuals requiring mobility devices, and mentioned that this is not happening and bus drivers are not enforcing. (2) LIFT: Buses are still running very late causing missed doctor's appointments for passengers, and requested an update from LIFT personnel about how this is being communicated to new service contractor.
  - B. Mark Steele commented on two items. (1) Inquired about route for new trolley cars including Magoffin Street. (2) Inquired about a bus stop in front of Abraham Chavez Theatre by the flag poles.
  - C. John Eger commented on shortage of LIFT bus drivers and inquired about measures Sun Metro is taking to alleviate buses running late.
3. **Approval of minutes of last meeting.** Chair motioned for approval of the minutes for the last meeting on August 21, 2012. Leah Osborne moved to approve minutes as presented. Seconded by Lee Frederick. All in favor, none opposed, and motion passes unanimously.
4. **Discussion on public concerns of CAC meeting on August 21, 2012.** Items listed on the Minutes from the previous meeting were addressed individually by Sun Metro staff assigned to the appropriate division. No action taken on any items.
- A. (1) Laura Cruz-Acosta confirmed that members of the CAC are included in email distribution for all Sun Metro press releases, which will include any public meetings hosted by Sun Metro. (2) Michael Herrera confirmed that training for LIFT bus drivers is ongoing as part of the transition process, and also confirmed that all units are now equipped with AVL (automatic vehicle locators) for mapping trips.

- B. Everett Esparza mentioned that reassessment of Oregon Street was completed and bus stops were placed at every block, for a total of 8 bus stops.
  - C. (1) Laura Cruz-Acosta mentioned that the procedure for drivers to communicate special need for passengers with mobility devices is already included in printed material. Michael Herrera mentioned that drivers will be reminded to announce at each bus stop; also mentioned that Sun Metro will look in to incorporating audible (voice) announcement using newer technology. Items (2), (3) and (4) LIFT staff was not available to address specific concerns, so an update from the LIFT will be included in the next meeting. (5) Confirmed that LIFT fares are regulated for eligible passengers, versus Fixed Route which has regular fares plus discounted fares for transfers as well as eligible passengers, i.e. children, student, senior, etc.
  - D. Everett Esparza mentioned that as of yesterday 4 out of 6 bus stops removed have been placed back on Oregon Street, 4 others in process, and all 8 stops will have shelters for shade; project should be complete within one more week.
5. **Presentation on SISD grant application for Easter Seals Project ACTION.** Leah Osborne provided report on a grant that SISD is applying for to cover \$3K for transportation expenses. Mentioned SISD is one of 6 districts in the nation qualified for the grant. Mentioned that surveys for transportation needs in zip codes 79936, 38, 27 and 28 will be conducted; grant submitted on 9/28 with one year implementation period and roundtable discussion in March 2013; survey results will be published nation-wide. Michael Herrera mentioned that Sun Metro just finished putting together a ridership survey (in English and Spanish) and requested that SISD work with Angelica Bryant to develop their survey to mirror Sun Metro's in order to gather accurate ridership statistics. No action taken.
6. **Director's Report.** Updates for informational purposes only. No action taken.
- A. **Update on Streetcar Project.** Michael Herrera provided presentation that URS Consultants presented to City Council on 9/11. Mentioned City Council eliminated the extensions for North Stanton Street and McKelligon Canyon due to limited funding. Mentioned Phase II proposal will incorporate historic car barn on Cotton Street and UMC as separate project. General discussion about restoration of historical cars unique to El Paso, designation for ADA requirements, station amenities, construction for tracks and maintenance facility, and expected timeline for completion within 48 months.
  - B. **Update on Operations/Maintenance Facility.** Ismael Segovia provided photographs highlighting progress on construction project. Mentioned concrete footing is 90% complete; wall construction has begun; electrical underground conduit installation is well underway; and plumbing excavation has also begun.
  - C. **Update on Sun Metro BRIO.** Ismael Segovia provided update on project. Mentioned request for funding Dyer RTS has been submitted; mock station is 90% complete; Mesa RTS is at 95% final design review; and Alameda RTS is 60% pre-final design review.
  - D. **Update on Far East Park & Ride.** Ismael Segovia provided update on project. Mentioned notice to proceed has been granted; timeline for design is 9/21; listed proposed amenities; and mentioned that Route #51 will be servicing the temporary site.
  - E. **Monthly Customer Service Reports for Fixed Route and Paratransit.** Robert Dominguez provided monthly update on statistics through August 2012. General discussion on categories identified and details provided on specific inquiries.

7. **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. Clarification of Ordinance language for passengers requiring mobility devices
  - B. Update on LIFT transition to MV Transportation
  - C. Update on construction project for 5-Points transfer center
  - D. Update on artwork for RTS stations

Chair asked for motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:25pm. Leah Osborne so moved. Seconded by W. Burns Taylor. All in favor, none opposed, and motion passes unanimously.

Approved by:

  
Department Head/Board Secretary