

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MARIN COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2006, AT 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: DIRECTORS Barbara Heller, Harold C. Brown, Jr., Dick Swanson, Cynthia L. Murray, Steve Kinsey, President Pro-Tem

ABSENT: DIRECTORS Charles McGlashan, Susan L. Adams

a. OPEN TIME

No member of the public addressed the Board at this time.

b. BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MATTERS

Director Brown advised that he has another Regional Board meeting to attend in 30 minutes.

c. TRANSIT PLANNING MANAGER'S ORAL REPORT

Bus Stop Responsibility

Public Works Director Farhad Mansourian reported on a recent meeting held with city managers to discuss responsibilities of the cities and the County regarding the ownership, operation and maintenance of bus stops, including ensuring compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act ("ADA"). Mr. Mansourian advised that a subcommittee, comprised of the City Managers of San Rafael and Novato and the County Administrator, was formed to address these issues, in discussion with the local public works directors.

Mr. Mansourian also briefly reported on outreach meetings held to address community concerns regarding various bus routes. Mr. Mansourian concluded his remarks emphasizing that the District will continue discussions with the community partners regarding bus stop installation and maintenance responsibility issues.

Transit Planning Manager Amy Van Doren and Mr. Mansourian responded to questions from the Board regarding changes in specific routes and issues related to determining responsibility for the installation and maintenance of bus stops.

Discussion continued among Directors and staff regarding addressing infrastructure and funding issues related to ensuring ADA compliance with the bus stops, and continuing discussions with local Public Works Directors, city and town managers and the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway, and Transportation District ("GGBHTD") to address issues regarding bus stop installation and maintenance responsibilities.

Transit Manager Recruitment

Mr. Mansourian responded to questions from the Board regarding timeframes related to the current recruitment for the Transit Manager position.

d. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE REVISED 2006 LOCAL BUS SERVICE PLAN.

The hearing was opened for public comment.

By letter dated May 30, 2006, Transit Planning Manager Amy Van Doren submitted her report and recommendations regarding the above-captioned matter.

A resident of Los Robles addressed the Board to express concern regarding the representation of the location of a proposed Southern Novato bus transit station. In response to the speaker's comments, Director Murray and Ms. Van Doren emphasized that no bus transit station is proposed for the Los Robles community. Director Murray commented on the misinformation that has been disseminated regarding the proposed Southern Novato bus transit station. Director Murray further advised that meetings with the City of Novato will be held and community meetings scheduled to identify the location of a bus transfer station in southern Novato.

Three residents of the Nova Albion neighborhood addressed the Board. The speakers generally thanked the Board for their commitment to keeping Routes 45 and 49 off lower Nova Albion Way, encouraged the Board to explore alternative fuels for the bus fleet, requested the Board to modify language in the Service Plan to make it clear that no new bus routes would travel on lower Nova Albion Way, briefly commented on California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") requirements related to the Plan and expressed support for staff's community outreach efforts.

Tiburon Councilwoman Alice Fredericks addressed the Board regarding the interests of commuter bus riders expressing appreciation for the District's efforts to continue services with limited funding. Ms. Fredericks also requested the District to coordinate with the Blue and Gold ferry service to assist local bus riders and tourists in making transit connections.

Seeing no one else present who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Van Doren responded to comments from President Pro Tem Kinsey regarding adding clarifying language to address the concerns expressed by the Nova Albion residents. Ms. Van Doren noted language can be added to the Service Plan to state that routes 45 and 49 would not travel on lower Nova Albion, as well as to add clarifying language to address concerns expressed regarding the Golden Hinde neighborhood.

M/s Director Murray - Director Brown to approve Revised 2006 Local Bus Service Plan, including adding language pertaining to lower Nova Albion and Golden Hinde as discussed.

Mr. Mansourian stated his understanding of the motion, that the Service Plan approval is contingent upon working with the cities regarding improvement or relocation of the new bus stops.

Discussion ensued among Directors regarding making the approval of the Plan contingent upon approval of the City of San Rafael. Director Kinsey expressed his understanding that the Board is adopting the Service Plan, stating his expectation that if issues arise with the various jurisdictions related to the implementation of the Plan, that those issues would be presented to the Transit District for consideration. Director Murray briefly commented on the legal issues that need to be resolved related to the implementation of the bus stops.

A representative from the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District ("GGBHTD") noted that when the GGBHTD adopted major service changes in November 2003, it was requested that staff be given the latitude to make the type of implementation decisions that are being discussed.

In response to a previous speaker's comment, Mr. Mansourian referred to an Attachment in the Plan regarding the Plan's exemption from CEQA requirements.

President Pro-Tem Kinsey called for the vote on the pending motion for approval of the Revised 2006 Local Bus Service Plan.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

AYES: Director Heller; Director Kinsey; Director Swanson; Director Murray; Director Brown

ABSENT: Director McGlashan; Director Adams

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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SECRETARY

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