



## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY**

***Agenda for Thursday, November 16, 2006  
1:30 p.m.***

**Conference Room (Room 109), Administration Building  
Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District  
1011 Andersen Dr., San Rafael, CA 94901**

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| <b>1. Introductions</b>  | 2 minutes  |
| <b>2. Approve Agenda</b>   | 2 minutes  |
| <b>3. Minutes of September 21 and October 19, 2006 meetings<br/><i>(copies attached)</i></b>                               | 4 minutes  |
| <b>4. Paratransit Services Status Report</b>   | 20 minutes |
| a. Provision of Inter-county Service   |            |
| b. Overflow Taxi Service and Marin County Taxi Study   |            |
| c. Tips for Riding WSW Brochure  |            |
| d. Other Paratransit Items   |            |
| <b>5. District-Related Items</b>   | 5 minutes  |
| <b>6. Old Business <i>(follow-up and status reports)</i></b>   | 60 minutes |
| a. Marin County Local Bus Service  |            |
| b. MCTD and GGT bus stops  |            |
| c. Department of Justice Code of Regulations Booklet –<br>Rules Implementing Title III of the ADA <i>(Jan Hummingbird)</i> |            |
| d. Ferry Division Items – Follow-up from September 2006<br>Larkspur Ferry Terminal ACA meeting                             |            |
| e. First Aid Training of GGT Bus Operators/GG Ferry Staff  |            |
| f. TransLink   |            |
| g. Update on Toll Rate Program for Persons with Disabilities (TRPD)<br>Transition to Proximity Cards                       |            |
| <b>7. New Business</b>   | 10 minutes |
| a. District Advisory Committee Schedules   |            |
| b. 2007 Golden Gate Bridge Holiday Ornament  |            |

- 8. Marin Paratransit Coordinating Council Report** 5 minutes
- 9. Staff Report and Information Items** 5 minutes
- 10. ACA Member Announcements/Comments; Public Open Time** 5 minutes  
*(Members or visitors with specific comments or incidents to report are requested to call Cynthia Petersen, ACA Staff Liaison, at (415)257-4415 at least two days prior to the meeting)*

Summary of Continued Items *(Follow-up on these items remains pending. Committee members may ask for a specific item to be brought up for discussion at any time.):*

- Caltrans Right-of-Way and Facilities Access Projects
- Addendum to Long Beach Transit Bus Order – Articulated Buses

Agenda and meeting materials are available in alternative formats, and phonic-ear amplification system is available upon request. Sign-language interpreters may be requested by the deaf or hearing impaired by calling (415) 257-4415 or TDD **711** at least one week prior to the meeting. District Administration Building is served by GGT-accessible Bus Routes 29 and 36. Consult District's web site ([goldengate.org](http://goldengate.org)) or call **511** for further GGT bus and ferry schedule information. Information on accessible services is also available on the web site. To schedule paratransit transportation to the meeting, call Whistlestop Wheels at (415) 454-0964 or (800) 454-0964. For further information regarding ACA, call Cynthia Petersen, ACA staff liaison, at (415) 257-4415.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY



### *Minutes of Thursday, October 19, 2006*

- Members Present: Bill Bodine, Russ Bohlke, Herschel Ferguson, Sandra Gordon, Kent Hill, Jan Hummingbird, Jean Hunter, Herb Meyer, Kevin Siemens, Craig Yates
- Members Excused: Rocky Birdsey
- Staff Present: Helen Haas, Customer Relations Supervisor; Cynthia Petersen, Paratransit Coordinator; Glen Woods, Customer Service Representative
- Ex-officio Members: Jackie Mulroy, Director of Transportation, Whistlestop Wheels (WSW); Jon Gaffney, Assistant Director of Transportation, WSW; Suzanne Bourguignon, Senior Planner, Marin County Transit District (MCTD)
- Visitors: Leslie Gould (Hired Hands), Don Dietz, Sally Helberg, Robert Hernandez

*The monthly meeting of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility (ACA) was called to order by Chairperson Craig Yates at 1:32 p.m.*

1. **Introductions.** Committee members, staff and visitors introduced themselves. It was Moved/Seconded/Passed (M/S/P) to accept Bill Bodine as a voting member of ACA.
2. **Agenda.** It was M/S/P to approve the agenda as written.
3. **Minutes:** The preliminary draft minutes of the September 21, 2006, meeting were distributed. Further action was tabled until the November meeting to give members and staff an opportunity to review and correct the minutes prior to their approval.
4. **Paratransit Services Status Report**
  - a. Provision of Intercounty Service. Jon Gaffney distributed copies of the September 2006 WSW statistical report. During the month of September, WSW returned to a normal level of intercounty ridership (1,071 passengers) when compared to the previous month. The 1,233 passenger count for August was the highest monthly ridership in the history of the District's intercounty paratransit service. This compares with 1,156 passengers transported in September 2005. WSW provided 13 of the 18 Marin extended intercounty trip requests, while there continued to be no denials of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandated paratransit service. Efficiency was down from 2005, with passengers-per-revenue-hour at 1.03 compared to 1.18 in September 2005. The intercounty service was within the 30-minute scheduling window (on-time) 91.84% of the time. The service was also within the limits set to avoid excessive trip lengths 97.98% of the time (on-board ride time).
  - b. Other Paratransit Items

- MCTD provided another supply of door hangers that a WSW driver may leave when unable to locate a scheduled passenger. The hangers are printed with a phone number and WSW's no-show/late cancellation policy.
  - Jackie Mulroy distributed copies of a draft tri-fold "Tips for Riding WSW." ACA members are invited to review the draft document and provide comments or additional suggestions.
  - WSW continues to work on finalizing arrangements with Northbay Taxi Cooperative to assign a limited number of overflow Marin local paratransit trips to Northbay's taxi service. Craig Yates reported that Ellen Lieber had ridden the accessible cab to San Francisco, and her driver was fully certified to meet ADA requirements.
  - Cynthia Petersen is part of the evaluation team that will be reviewing consultant responses to MCTD's proposal for a Marin County-wide Taxi Study. Results of the consultant selection process will be available at the November ACA meeting.
  - Jackie Mulroy reported on WSW's meeting with Bill Bodine at his home where WSW was able to confirm that none of the WSW vans is appropriate to meet his needs. WSW will be working with MCTD to investigate other options to transport Mr. Bodine. Discussion ensued regarding spending time and money to study a problem rather than funding the actual operation of public transit services. A member mentioned that some WSW passengers do not need an accessible vehicle, and sedans should be considered to supplement the WSW vans in the fleet. It was also noted that the 3/4-mile rule established two tiers of paratransit service, when every ADA-eligible passenger should have equal access to transportation. Ms. Petersen suggested that the Marin Paratransit Coordinating Council (MPCC) rather than the ACA would be the more appropriate forum for input into Marin local public paratransit service issues.
5. **Exemplary GGT/GGT Employee Service Awards for 2006:** Terri Fields (now Terri Johnson), Customer Relations Representative, was present to receive her award. Chairperson Yates read the summary of service Ms. Johnson had provided that earned her the nomination for the award. Bus Operator Robert Salese was also selected to receive an award, but he was unable to attend the meeting, so his award will be mailed to his home.
6. **District-Related Items – Transportation Committee/Committee of the Whole, October 12, 2006: Status Report on Marin County Transit District/Golden Gate Transit Local Bus Service Changes:** ACA members were referred to the staff report on this item included in the agenda packet. Suzanne Bourguignon reported that riders' comments on service changes implemented September 10 had prompted MCTD to restore some evening service to Mill Valley and Fairfax, effective with December 10, 2006, service changes. Other small changes are proposed, including starting Route 233 thirty minutes earlier in the afternoon to reduce the gap in service on North San Pedro Rd. Herschel Ferguson stated Route 233 is really commute service since the morning schedule stops running by 9:00 a.m. Ms. Hummingbird expressed concern that Measure A funds had not led to providing more local transit service. It was suggested that MCTD consider combining the Marinwood and Santa Venetia shuttles; cost savings might enable provision of more service. Since these are local issues, Craig Yates suggested ACA members comment directly to their Marin County Board of Supervisors representative. Kevin Siemens will speak directly with Ms. Bourguignon about the West Marin Stage contract and tie-down equipment used on the Stage vehicles. Robert Hernandez is interested in greater frequency of the Route 29. Individual members had varying opinions regarding the use of

Strawberry Shopping Center as the hub for Route 22.

7. **Old Business** (follow-up and status reports)

- a. **MCTD and GGT Bus Stops:** District and MCTD staff are working with City of San Rafael to identify and recommended bus stop improvements for the West 4<sup>th</sup> Street Improvement project. Jean Hunter restated her recommendation that Kaiser remove the wheelchair symbol wayfinding sign at the bus stop on Montecillo Rd. The sidewalk grade is steep at this location and the sidewalk does not provide an accessible path of travel to the hospital entrance. Kevin Siemens reported that weeds block the sidewalk in Mill Valley at the bus stop immediately following Tam Junction, heading downtown. The City needs to be advised that these weeds should be cut down so pedestrians (particularly wheelchair users) have access to the sidewalk. Bill Bodine noted that passengers need to step up to enter the shelter at the eastbound bus stop on Tamalpais Ave. across from the Community Center in Corte Madera.
- b. **GG Ferry-Related items:** The Ferry Division is working on a response to the problems Mr. Hill reported at the September 2006 ACA meeting. Mr. Bodine suggested a simple dock be used at Larkspur, similar to the dock in Sausalito. Ms. Petersen related that the Ferry Division continues to seek capital funds for land-side improvements to address access, security, parking and other issues at Larkspur Ferry Terminal and other facilities.
- c. **First Aid Training of GGT Bus Operators/GG Ferry Crews:** This item was tabled until the November meeting.
- d. **TransLink:** Helen Haas reported that December 1, 2006, has been announced as the latest “revenue ready” date. Once that date has officially occurred, the TransLink program will undergo a test period for a few months to make sure everything is working well. Once the test period is concluded (tentatively March 2007), the TransLink program will be officially launched. Ms. Petersen reviewed the steps involved in transitioning the Regional Transit Discount Card (RTC) program to RTC TransLink. It is hoped that Whistlestop will become a formal RTC and TransLink Customer Service Location. Using TransLink, GGT customers will be able to transfer from route to route and between adjoining transit operators, such as AC Transit. On GGT, passengers must be sure to “tag” their card, when they get both on and off the bus, to prevent being charged the maximum fare for that card type and zone. ACA members will continue to be updated monthly on this project.
- e. **Committee Calendar – December 21, 2006, ACA meeting:** Members discussed whether to vote or wait until November to consider rescheduling or canceling the December 21, 2006, ACA meeting. It was M/S/P [4 in favor, 3 opposed] to cancel ACA’s December 21, 2006 meeting.
- f. **Luggage Compartment (Underfloor) Bike Racks now on GGT 45-ft. MCI Buses:** Ms. Petersen referred ACA members to the announcement regarding the new bus racks enclosed in the agenda packet. These buses are assigned primarily to commute routes, and a list of preferred boarding locations has been posted on the District’s web site [[goldengate.org](http://goldengate.org)]. Ms. Haas explained how the racks would work, and Mr. Siemens requested that ACA see a demonstration of the racks in use. Since these demonstrations take time and do not pertain directly to accessibility, Ms. Petersen suggested this request be reconsidered after the first of the year.

8. **New Business – Department of Justice Code of Regulations Booklet – Rules**

**Implementing Title III of the ADA:** Due to the lateness of the hour, Ms. Hummingbird requested that this matter be carried over to the November meeting.

9. **Marin Paratransit Coordinating Council.** The October MPCC meeting has been cancelled.

10. **Staff Report and Information Items.** Ms. Petersen distributed copies of a notice from MCTD inviting the public to participate in a "Name Your Own Transit District" competition.

11. **ACA Member Announcements/Comments, Public Open Time.** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.