



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY

Agenda for Thursday, September 18, 2008

Meeting: 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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

Information/Recommended Action

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Agenda** Approve
- 3. Minutes of June 19 and July 17, 2008, meetings** Information
(A copy of the draft minutes for the June meeting was distributed with the August meeting notice; a copy of the draft minutes for the July meeting is attached.)
- 4. ACA-related Items** Information
 - a. Appoint representatives to Awards Subcommittee
 - b. Review Fall meeting schedule
 - c. Other items
- 5. GGBHTD-Related Items** Information
 - a. Intercounty Paratransit Services
 - 1) Statistical Report and Operations Summary
 - 2) FY 2009 Intercounty Paratransit Budget and Agreement
 - 3) Update on Delivery and Future Purchase of Paratransit Vehicles
 - 4) Other Paratransit Items
 - b. District Matters – TRPD Transaction Displays at Golden Gate Bridge Toll Booths
 - c. Golden Gate Ferry Service
 - d. Golden Gate Transit Regional Bus Service
- 6. Marin Transit-Related Items** Information
 - a. Marin Paratransit Coordinating Council Report
 - b. Marin County Local Bus and Paratransit Service
 - c. Senior Transportation and Travel Training Project
 - d. Other Items
- 7. New Business** Information

8. ACA Member Announcements/Comments; Public Information
Open Time *(Speakers are limited to three 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.)*

Agenda and meeting materials are available in alternative formats, and a 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) 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 (ACA)

Minutes of Thursday, July 17, 2008



Members Present: Bill Bodine, Russ Bohlke, Herschel Ferguson, Sandra Gordon, Kent Hill, Jean Hunter, Brian Pease, Kevin Siemens

Members Excused: Herb Meyer, Craig Yates

Staff: Cynthia Petersen, Paratransit Coordinator; Glen Woods, Customer Service Representative

Ex-officio Members: Suzanne Chen-Harding, Senior Planner, Marin Transit; Jackie Mulroy, Director of Transportation, Whistlestop Wheels (WSW) Jon Gaffney, Assistant Director of Transportation, WSW

Visitors: Douglas Green (San Rafael), Lou Jordan (Hired Hands), Anthony Luu and Phil Shepard (Marin Center for Independent Living [MCIL]), Nicole Sykes (Novato)

The monthly meeting of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility (ACA) was called to order by Vice-chair Russ Bohlke at 1:35 p.m.

1. **Introductions.** Committee members, staff and visitors introduced themselves.
2. **Agenda.** It was Moved/Seconded/Passed (MSP) to approve the agenda as written.
3. **Minutes:** The draft minutes for the June 19 meeting will be considered at the September 18, 2008, meeting.
4. **ACA-related Items:** The Committee was reminded that no ACA meeting is scheduled for the month of August.
5. **GGBHTD-Related Items**
 - a. **Intercounty Paratransit Services**
 - 1) Statistical Report and Operations Summary. Jon Gaffney distributed copies of WSW's statistical report summarizing Marin local and GGBHTD intercounty Americans with Disabilities (ADA) paratransit services provided by WSW during June 2008, which includes the summary statistics for Fiscal Year end 2008.

For the month of June, intercounty ridership was down 2% (1,074 passengers) compared to the previous month (1,095 passengers in May) and up 9% compared to ridership (988 passengers) in June 2007. Efficiency was up from .99 passengers to 1.01 passengers transported per revenue hour compared to May. Of the 16 intercounty Marin extended trip requests in June, 6 were provided. The intercounty service was within its 30-minute scheduling window (on-time) 90.7% of the time. There continued to be no denials of ADA-mandated paratransit service during the month.

During Fiscal Year 2008, WSW transported a total of 13,048 intercounty passengers, operated 16,911 total hours, covered 389,355 total miles, and

collected \$91,904 in fares. This compares to FY 2007, when WSW transported 12,565 passengers, operated 15,941 hours, covered 343,274 miles, and collected \$80,893 in fares on behalf of the District's intercounty paratransit service.

- 2) Fiscal Year 2009 Intercounty Paratransit Budget and Agreement: Ms. Petersen reported that Marin Transit was scheduled to consider the FY 2009 Intercounty Paratransit Agreement at its meeting July 28, 2008. Approval of the same Agreement is anticipated at the GGBHTD Transportation Committee meeting August 8.
 - 3) Update on Delivery and Future Purchase of Paratransit Vehicles: Ms. Mulroy reported that a purchase order has been submitted to Bus West for the next order of 16 replacement vehicles. There was discussion regarding the ability of the computer scheduling system to assign vehicles to locations or individuals that have special needs.
 - 4) Other Paratransit Items: Ms. Mulroy announced that Don Morgan has resigned as Executive Director of Marin Senior Coordinating Council (MSCC). MSCC is in the process of recruiting a replacement to fill Mr. Morgan's position.
- b. **District Matters**
- 1) Finance-Auditing Committee/Committee of the Whole, July 10, 2008: Authorize Filing of an Application for Clean Air Grant Funds to Support Larkspur Ferry Shuttle Operations: The shuttle is proposed as a demonstration project, and ACA members were referred to the staff report included in the agenda packet for further information.
 - 2) Board of Directors, July 11, 2008: Action on Proposed Base Toll Increase for the Golden Gate Bridge: Ms. Petersen advised the Committee that the Board of Directors approved the proposed base toll increase effective September 2, 2008. The proposed variable toll increase remains on hold. Mr. Bohlke asked for a report at the September meeting to explain why the \$1.50 transaction information is no longer displayed on the toll booth screen when a Toll Rate for Persons with Disabilities transaction occurs.
 - 3) Golden Gate Bridge Physical Suicide Deterrent Project Notice of Availability of Draft EIR/EA and Public Meeting: Ms. Petersen referred members to the notice included in the meeting agenda packet. Public input into options for a suicide barrier is being sought. Mr. Ferguson suggested that telephones be installed at regular intervals to connect individuals directly to suicide prevention services. Mr. Bohlke recounted some of his experience as a suicide prevention volunteer
- c. **Golden Gate Ferry Service**: Discussion regarding the use of Segways on GG ferries led to the suggestion that parking Segways be limited in the open wheelchair seating areas unless the user of the Segway is a person with a disability.
- d. **Golden Gate Transit Regional Bus Service**: Ron Downing, Principal Planner, is expected to attend ACA's September meeting to provide a status report on GGT regional bus service.
- e. **Staff Report and Information**: Ms. Petersen reported that the recent death of her mother might result in her occasional absence from the office during the next month. Helen Haas also lost her mother in early July.

6. **Marin Transit-Related Items:** Suzanne Chen-Harding reported on the following:
 - a. **Marin Paratransit Coordinating Council (MPCC):** The MPCC will meet July 21 to discuss local paratransit issues. The new Marin Transit General Manager, David Rzepinski, will also be at the meeting. No MPCC meeting is scheduled for the month of August.
 - b. **Marin Transit Local Bus and Paratransit Service:** Ms. Chen-Harding reported on the following:
 - Four accessible minivans have been ordered that Marin Transit plans to lease to local taxi company "On the Move." The two side-loading vehicles are expected in late August, and the two rear-loading vehicles are expected in late September. ACA members will be invited to the official ribbon-cutting ceremony.
 - Bill Bodine requested that local bus service be provided to the Marin Civic Center for concerts and other special events to parallel comparable service in the East Bay to the Concord Pavilion. Ms. Chen-Harding responded that costs have increased; if special events could help subsidize such service, then perhaps it could be considered. Otherwise, demand for late-night service is limited, and current evening Marin local bus service ends before concerts get out. It was suggested that Mr. Bodine contact the events coordinator at the Marin Center to pursue the matter further. Kevin Siemens suggested rerouting the Route 80 through the Marin Civic Center late at night to address the need for service there. Ms. Petersen noted this was a Marin local transit service connection problem that would need to be addressed by Marin local transit service resources.
 - c. **Senior Transportation and Travel Training Program:** Marin Transit will participate in a general travel training session in Sausalito on July 31 as part of "Way-to-Go Sausalito" and the County's non-motorized travel planning outreach efforts.
 - d. **Other Items:** None.
7. **New Business:** None.
8. **ACA Member Announcements/Comments, Public Open Time:** A number of ACA members and visitors spoke about problems they were having using GGT buses. Mr. Shepard reported that a visually impaired MCIL client had not been given enough time to deposit his/her coins in the farebox on a Route 27 bus. Douglas Green, who often travels with Nicole Sykes, reported that a bus operator did not listen to his instructions for securing Ms. Sykes' unique-style wheelchair. A second bus operator, who had been present at the earlier incident, continues to give Mr. Green problems when using GGT services. Mr. Luu reported he had been passed up twice by GGT buses while waiting at a bus stop. Mr. Siemens requested that the bus number be posted in Braille near the front door for passengers entering and exiting the bus. Also, Marin Transit should know that wheelchair boarding overloads continue on Route 17 buses. Better monitoring is needed to document this problem. Mr. Pease said ACA provides a forum for discussing problems he has on GGT when bus drivers do not listen. Mr. Bohlke asked the District to consider equipping GGT buses with comment forms. Ms. Chen-Harding noted Marin Transit has comment forms on its shuttles.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.