



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY

Agenda for Thursday, November 20, 2008
1:00 – 3:30 p.m. (Note earlier start time)

~ Special Location ~
Golden Gate Ferry – Larkspur Ferry Terminal
101 East Sir Francis Drake Blvd.
Larkspur, CA 94939

Give your name to the ticket booth agent and mention you are there for the ACA meeting, and you will be admitted. The meeting will convene in the covered section of the Larkspur Ferry Passenger Terminal (LFT). Due to the extensive number of items on the agenda, there will be no organized ferry ride this year, but members will be invited to take a ferry ride at their convenience at another time.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Wednesday, November 19, 2008, to Cynthia Petersen, (415) 257-4415, or cpetersen@goldengate.org. Provide the name of each person who will be participating in the meeting so the ticket agent may check the list and allow you to enter. The parking lot is under construction, so please **allow extra time to enter and leave the facility**. You may refer to the transit information on the back side of this agenda.

	<u>Information/Recommended Action</u>
1. Introductions	
2. Agenda	Approve
3. Minutes of October 16, 2008, meeting <i>(copy of draft minutes attached)</i>	Approve
4. ACA-related Items	Information
a. Staffing transition for ACA	
b. Exemplary Employee Service Awards	
c. Other items	
5. Marin Transit-Related Items	Information
a. Marin Paratransit Coordinating Council Report	
b. Marin Local Bus and Paratransit Service	
1) Scheduled Local Service Improvements (Routes 233, 17, 29)	
2) New Replacement Shuttle Vehicles	
3) Status Report on Mobile Data Terminal Project	
4) Other items	
c. Senior Transportation and Travel Training Project	
d. Taxi Program and Vehicle Procurement Update	
e. Other Items	

- 6. GGBHTD-Related Items** Information/Potential Action
- a. Intercounty Paratransit Services
 - 1) Statistical Report and Operations Summary
 - 2) Update on Delivery of Paratransit Vehicles
 - 3) Other Paratransit Items
 - b. District Matters
 - 1) November 21, 2008, Public Hearing on Proposed GGT Regional Bus Service Changes
 - 2) Recommendations Regarding Award of Contract for District Communications Improvement Project (ACIS)
 - 3) Recommendations Regarding Procurement of Two New High-Speed Passenger Ferries [*see item d,1) below*]
 - 4) Status Report on District ADA Transition Plan
 - 5) Other Items
 - c. Golden Gate Transit (GGT) Regional Bus Service (*see item 6,b,1)*)
 - d. Golden Gate Ferry Service
 - 1) New Fast Vessel Procurement
 - 2) Request for Proposals, Design Engineer for Gangway and Terminal Access Improvement Project
 - 3) Outstanding *M.S. Marin*, *M.V. Del Norte*, and *M.V. Mendocino* Vessel Access Issues
 - 4) LFT Access and Parking Lot Improvement Project
 - e. Staff Report and Information
- 7. New Business** – Golden Gate Bridge Toll Plaza, East Parking Lot Pavement and Access Improvement Project Information
- 8. ACA Member Announcements/Comments; Public 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.*) Information

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. The nearest GGT bus service to LFT is hourly accessible Route 29 service on East Sir Francis Drake Blvd. Consult the 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 the meeting or ACA, call Cynthia Petersen, ACA staff liaison, at (415) 257-4415.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY (ACA)

Draft Minutes of Thursday, October 16, 2008



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

Members Excused: Herb Meyer

Staff: General: Cynthia Petersen, Paratransit Coordinator/Planner; Glen Woods, Customer Service Representative
Specific Items: Ron Downing, Principal Planner

Ex-officio Members: David Rzepinski, General Manager, Marin Transit; Jackie Mulroy, Director of Transportation, Whistlestop Wheels (WSW); Jon Gaffney, Assistant Director of Transportation, WSW

Visitors: Jessica Rodriguez (Hired Hands)

The monthly meeting of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility (ACA) was called to order by Chairperson Craig Yates at 1:40 p.m.

1. **Introductions.** Committee members, staff and visitors introduced themselves.
2. **Agenda.** It was Moved/Seconded/Passed (MSP) that the agenda be approved as written.
3. **Minutes:** It was M/S/P that the draft minutes of the September 18, 2008, ACA meeting be approved as written.
4. **ACA-related Items:**
 - a. **Recommendations of Awards Subcommittee:** Russ Bohlke reported on the recommendations of the Awards Subcommittee (Mr. Bohlke, Jean Hunter, and Brian Pease). The Committee M/S/P'd approving two GGT bus operators as recipients for the Fiscal Year 2007 and Fiscal Year 2008 ACA Exemplary Employee Service Awards: David Childress and Robert Valdez. The presentations will be made at ACA's November 20th meeting if Mr. Childress and Mr. Valdez are available.
 - b. **Other:**
 - The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Annual Service Award ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, October 22, 2008. ACA Chairperson Russ Bohlke was nominated for MTC's 2008 Miriam Gholikely Service Award. Representatives of the District will attend on behalf of the Muir Woods Shuttle service, to accept an MTC award in a different category.
 - Ms. Petersen reviewed the anticipated schedule and agenda for the November 20, 2008, ACA meeting at the Larkspur Ferry Terminal (LFT). This will be the last ACA meeting for 2008.
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 September 2008. Intercounty ridership was up 8% (1,111 passengers) compared to the previous month (1,024) and up 7% (1,035) compared to ridership in September 2007. Efficiency was down from .99 passengers to .93 passengers transported per revenue hour compared to August. Of the 11 inter-county Marin extended trip requests in September, nine (82%) were provided. The intercounty service was within its 30-minute scheduling window 90.1% of the time. There continued to be no denials of ADA-mandated paratransit service in August.

Mr. Gaffney also distributed a copy of the 1stth Quarter FY 2009 (July - September) WSW Comment Card report. Two of the 34 comments received (6.25%) were complaints; the remainder complimented the intercounty service.

- 2) Update on Delivery and Future Purchase of Paratransit Vehicles: Ms. Mulroy reported that 8 of the 16 new paratransit vehicles on order have been completed at the factory in Indiana. However, the wrong lift was inadvertently installed on these first 8 vehicles, so they will need to be retrofitted when they arrive at the dealer's location in California. The remaining 8 vehicles will have the correct lift installed before they leave the plant.

The paratransit vehicle replacement capital program includes procuring up to four mini-vans in FY 2010 for use in Marin local and District intercounty ADA paratransit services. Craig Yates noted the Standard Taxi has been developed as an alternative to the accessible minivan. A prototype of this vehicle will be touring the Bay Area in the next few months. Mr. Yates suggested it be inspected as a potential alternative for use in the paratransit program.

- 3) Update on Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) Project: Ms. Mulroy reported that the consultant hired by Marin Transit to assist in preparation of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the MDT project completed a site visit and inspection of WSW earlier this month. The District is in the process of selecting a vendor for its Advanced Communications and Information Services (ACIS) project, and there may be an opportunity to coordinate the MDT project with ACIS.
- 4) Other Items: Over the course of the past year, the region's transit and paratransit operators have been working together to identify paratransit emergency planning needs and issues. An MTC consultant prepared a preliminary report on this effort, and a November workshop has been scheduled in Oakland to discuss the report. Mr. Yates noted the importance of providers being able to communicate with each other from county to county so paratransit passengers who have travelled into another service area can be accommodated in an emergency. Mr. Rzepinski commented that Marin Transit plays a significant role with emergency planning efforts in Marin County.

b. District Matters

- 1) Update of "Welcome Aboard" Pamphlet: The District's Marketing Department is working to update of the District's "Welcome Aboard" pamphlet and is awaiting operating procedures for GGT's new magnetic stripe ticket program (see Section d below) to be defined before finalizing the update. ACA will be included in review of the draft "Welcome Aboard" update when it becomes available.
- 2) October Board of Directors Schedule: Some meetings of the District Board and committees have been rescheduled this month. ACA members are invited to consult the District's website (www.goldengate.org) for specific dates and times.
- 3) Discontinuing Ferry Tickets in favor of TransLink: Because of a 99% success rate in the implementation of TransLink on the GG ferry service, the District Board of Directors has approved eliminating GG frequent ferry rider ticket books, effective December 31, 2008. Frequent rider discounts will continue to be available on GG ferry service through TransLink.

c. Golden Gate Ferry Service:

- 1) Status Report on New Fast Ferry Procurement (Jim Swindler): This item was carried over to the November ACA meeting.
- 2) Other Items: No report.

- d. Golden Gate Transit Regional Bus Service:** Ron Downing joined the meeting to provide the Committee with a summary of proposed regional bus service changes and improvements scheduled to be presented to the District Board of Directors Transportation Committee on October 23. Due to increased fuel prices and other factors, local and regional ridership on GGT has increased systemwide over the past year. As a result, some GGT routes are overloaded (Routes 4, 24, 27, 54, 56 and 80), while others have experienced little change or declined in ridership (Geary Ave. portion of Route 10 and Routes 8, 9, 60 and 75). In addition, excessive travel time between San Francisco and Santa Rosa and the number of stops on the Route 80 discourage regional riders from using the service.

The goal of the proposed changes is to eliminate the areas of poorly performing service and redeploy those resources to areas where additional transit service is needed. The proposed changes plan to reduce travel time on the Route 80 and take advantage of local Marin service improvements that were implemented in September or are scheduled to be implemented in December 2008.

The proposed improvements to basic service include creating an express route through Marin designated "Route 101" that would operate on weekdays in lieu of the Route 80. Route 80 would continue to operate as currently configured from evening through early morning on weekdays. Weekend service would also continue to be operated by Route 80. Route 101 would involve no change in service within Sonoma County, but Marin stops would be limited to Novato and San Rafael. Route 70 (regional) and Route 71 (local) would serve local bus pad stops in Marin. Route 71 local trips between Novato and Marin City would connect with Route 101 service at Redwood and Grant in Novato. In addition, Route 10 service would be moved from Geary Blvd to the Lombard St./Van Ness corridor and would be extended from Marin City to serve the Manzanita Park-and-Ride Lot and the Strawberry Shopping Center. No additional operating costs are expected

to be associated with the proposed changes.

Next steps will include holding a number of informational public workshops in key areas November 5 through 13, followed by a public hearing on the proposed changes November 21. The final decision by the Board of Directors is currently scheduled for December 19. If approved, implementation will occur March 8, 2009.

Ms. Hunter expressed concern that passengers from the Mill Valley area would not be able to get to destinations on the Geary corridor. Mr. Downing responded that several SF Muni cross-town and Geary routes already serve this corridor, and GGT is discussing bus-to-bus transfers between GGT and Muni. Muni is also in the process of implementing TransLink throughout its system.

Finally, Mr. Downing summarized the new magnetic stripe ticket program that will be made possible under GGT's new farebox program. These "mag stripe" tickets are similar to BART in that money can be stored and drawn down from the card. Unlike BART, a mag stripe ticket can be issued to make change or to refund a balance due to a passenger. A bus operator can use the farebox to issue a transfer or give a receipt. The new fareboxes are being installed and are scheduled to be activated mid-January 2009.

6. **Marin Transit-Related Items:**

- a. **Marin Paratransit Coordinating Council** is scheduled to meet on Monday, October 20, 2008.
- b. **Marin Transit Local Bus and Paratransit Service:** Considering all the regional proposed service changes, Bill Bodine asked about possible additional service for Route 22. Mr. Rzepinski reported that Marin Transit's budget was recently impacted by a \$420,000 reduction in revenue from the State of California, so Marin Transit is trying to protect the services it already provides. Fortunately, Marin Transit was able to secure one year of funding from a federal grant program administered by MTC for a Mobility Manager. This position will help Marin Transit implement the recommendations of the Marin Taxi Study and other projects. Two of the four accessible taxis purchased by Marin Transit have arrived and will soon be leased to "On the Move" for use as public taxi vehicles.
- c. **Senior Transportation and Travel Training Program:** No report.
- d. **Other Items:** None.

7. **New Business:** None.

8. **ACA Member Announcements/Comments, Public Open Time:** Members expressed concern regarding the transition of responsibilities currently handled by Cynthia Petersen once she retires from the District effective at the end of December 2008. Craig Yates volunteered to write a letter, and it was M/S/P to request that Planning Director Alan Zahradnik attend ACA's November 20, 2008, meeting to discuss anticipated plans to accommodate Ms. Petersen's responsibilities following her departure from the District.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.