

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MARIN COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT BOARD
OF DIRECTORS HELD MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2009 AT 10:00 A.M.**

Roll Call

Present: Director Arnold; Director Brown; Director Kinsey; Director McGlashan;
Director Kellner; Director Moulton-Peters (Alternate)

Absent: Director Adams; Director Heller

Director Brown opened the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

1. *Open time for public expression, limited to three minutes per speaker, on items not on the Transit District's agenda.*

No member of the public spoke at this time.

2. *Approval of Minutes for January 26, 2009.*

Vice President Arnold made a motion to approve the minutes. Director Kellner seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

AYES: Director Arnold, Director Brown, Director Kinsey, Director McGlashan, Director Kellner, Director Moulton-Peters (Alternate)

ABSENT: Director Adams, Director Heller

3. *Board of Directors' Matters.*

Director Kellner welcomed Director Stephanie Moulton-Peters (Vice Mayor of Mill Valley) as an alternate member to the Marin Transit Board. All members offered her a warm welcome.

Director Kinsey thanked Transit staff for their help in preparing him for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's annual legislative trip to Washington DC. He reported that there were two key areas in play in Washington related to transportation. The Stimulus monies have been appropriated for the Bay Area Region, but there remains a substantial amount of funds to issue under this program. Director Kinsey also reported on the reauthorization of the Federal

transportation law. He wanted the Board to know that the scale of Doyle Drive Project was too large to expect funding through the federal Public Lands Highway Program. He noted that this was good news as it relates to the Muir Woods Shuttle Program because this federal program has \$170 million in funding. He mentioned that with staff's assistance, a \$5 million proposal was created for funding for the Muir Woods Shuttle.

Director Arnold asked if the Doyle Drive Project money for the bus enhancements (specifically the Novato Transit Center) would be affected. Director Kinsey reassured the Board that the Doyle Drive Project is alive and well and the state has increased its commitment to \$50 million, which leaves \$50 million more to find from the federal government. There is an additional \$1.5 billion that will be allocated from the Secretary of Transportation.

Director McGlashan announced that he was grateful to Director Kinsey for his help in representing Marin in Washington DC regarding the non-motorized program and other transit issues. McGlashan stated that he will be in Washington DC next week on behalf of SMART to talk about Stimulus and reauthorization. He noted that he attended a conference that featured a discussion with the State Director for Senator Barbara Boxer. There were city council members and supervisors from all over the state. They made it clear that the Climate Change Bill and the reauthorization of the Transportation Bill cannot be limited to capital expenditures only. The Director responded that capital will be king in the next federal transportation law, but there may some way to use the Climate Change Bill for operating relief.

Director Brown reminded the Board that the Golden Gate Bridge District has an \$80 million liability for Doyle Drive and if they find that money very difficult to come by, service may become an issue. He cautioned that may in turn cause our service to become an issue.

4. *General Manager's Oral Report*

General Manager Rzepinski noted the Lifeline Grant Program included four Transit projects through the Transportation Authority of Marin. The Marin City Transit Hub Project will be reduced so that projects 1, 2, and 3 (two-year demonstration shuttle from Marin City to Marin General Hospital) could be fully funded. The transit hub improvements, Project 4, was proposed at \$560,000 and was reduced to \$300,000. Director McGlashan was concerned about the spike in crime and thought the improvements for lighting, landscaping and the bus stop shelter should trump project 3's shuttle funding. Transit staff has readjusted the request for project 3 by \$80,000 and diverted that amount to project 4. The impact will be the loss of the purchase of one shuttle vehicle.

Mr. Rzepinski announced that Marin Transit and Golden Gate Transit launched new registering fare boxes on all vehicles (including shuttles and the Stagecoach) on March 16th. This created a seamless transfer opportunity for anyone riding regionally and locally, improved data collection, and the ability to offer period passes (day, week, month), which has long been a request of riders.

Mr. Rzepinski reported on a meeting with the City Manager of Larkspur regarding bus stop policy. He noted that the agenda was similar to the agreement with the City of San Rafael, and he was optimistic that these meetings would produce a written agreement within the next few months.

5. *Central Southern Marin Transit Study Presentation*

David Rzepinski reported that the consulting team HDR, serving as a Project Manager for TAM, has finished its preliminary findings regarding transit improvement projects in Central Southern Marin. This effort began last Fall and was headed up by Jean Hart. The study is jointly funded by TAM and the Marin Transit District and Transit staff wished to express their appreciation for the close working relationship and cooperation of the consulting team. Ms. Hart introduced the study to the Board by stating that its purpose was to identify and rank transit improvement projects should new funding be secured. She also stated that she was grateful for the work that Transit staff had contributed to the success and thoroughness of the study.

David McCrossan summarized the findings of the study within the categories of existing projects and future projects. He focused on existing transportation conditions for the 101 corridor and the major east/west corridors over the next five to ten years. The recommendations for improvements include:

1. Multi-Modal Green Hubs
2. Highway 101 Key Pads & Ramps Transit Program
3. Arterial Speed and Reliability Program
4. Local Stop Quality Enhancement Program
5. Key Reverse Corridor Enhancements

Mr. McCrossan indicated that the next step in this process is a workshop (scheduled for March 26th) where this long list of improvements would be shared with stakeholders to develop a refined list that includes capital costs. He expects to deliver the final project by the beginning of May 2009. Mr. McCrossan stated that the cooperation of Transit staff on this project had been key to identifying recommendations that make sense County-wide.

Director Kinsey appreciated the presentation, inquired about the safety of existing bus stops and asked that the study pay close attention to the Drake High School area. Mr. McCrossan indicated that bus stop safety, as well as ADA

accessibility, security and the orientation of bus shelters had been included and represented a significant investment. He noted that a brief list of modest improvements will also be presented for consideration. Director Kinsey wondered in this plan included a real-time information technology component. Mr. McCrossan stated that it was viewed as an important improvement and the implementation would have to be studied concerning system-wide vs. transit hub concepts. He agreed that real-time capability should be written more prominently into the document.

Director Kinsey noted that the study did not support a major southern Marin hub. Mr. McCrossan concurred that was a correct assumption. He stated that future demand support the idea of distributed, rather than concentrated investment, which has a better chance of customer conversion or transit success. Director Kinsey stated that Marin County has built a vision plan on the idea of three hubs and the report should acknowledge that the County is choosing to move away from the three super hub concept.

Director McGlashan praised the study and the authors. He emphasized that it would be a transit worse-case scenario to have a mega hub in southern Marin. He enquired what was behind the number listed for average capital cost per location (Sausalito/Mill Valley @ \$1.4 million). Mr. McCrossan responded that it did not include operating or maintenance costs, but the purchase of dedicated fleet. He noted that cost could be significantly reduced should the Board choose to integrate those services with the Muir Woods Service or existing Marin Transit vehicles. Director McGlashan asked Transit staff to keep an eye out for stimulus monies that may help with vehicle acquisition, improving parking lots, and enhancements to the Blue & Gold facility.

Director McGlashan wanted to know if the ramp transit signal priority (TSP) and stop relocation concept would be a good solution for the Tiburon Wye. He requested a meeting with Director Moulton-Peters, General Manager Rzepinski, Alice Fredericks from TAM and Mr. McCrossan to refine these ideas before distribution of the final report. He mentioned that moving the bus stops off the existing ramp location across the on-ramps into the center was very intriguing and well might work. Director McGlashan would like to go through the details of TSP bus trip technology and fixing the Blithedale and Bridgeway through points at a later date. Mr. McCrossan added that elongating the curb stops at bus pads along 101 would allow more than one vehicle access at the same moment and facilitate better time transfers.

Director Brown enquired if the \$720,000 listed under the Local Stop Enhancement Program included ADA access improvements. Mr. McCrossan confirmed that it did not. Director Brown asked if the study considered running buses on shoulders. Mr. McCrossan indicated that was not actively looked at operationally because of increased merge and weave issues and pushback from Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol. Director Brown questioned if the

drivers were consulted. Mr. McCrossan said that staff met with the dispatchers who identified key congestion points along Sir Francis Drake, Blithedale, Bridgeway, and Strawberry.

Director Moulton-Peters wanted to comment that the timing of this study could not be better for Mill Valley. She will be heading up a design effort for reworking Miller and Blithedale Avenues this year. The Town project will be going out to bid, and she would like to work closely with Transit and Supervisor McGlashan to factor in recommendations for transit in the planning phase.

6. *Cooperative Agreement with the National Park Service for Muir Woods Shuttle*

Director McGlashan thanked General Manager Rzepinski for Transit's great work in scoping this project. He also thanked the National Park Service for its continuing partnership in covering the costs for this service.

**M/s Director Kinsey – Director McGlashan. Recommended Action:
Authorize General Manager to sign cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service for Operation of the Muir Woods Shuttle through December 30, 2011.**

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

**AYES: Director Adams, Director Arnold, Director Brown, Director Kinsey,
Director McGlashan, Director Kellner (Alternate)**

ABSENT: Director Adams, Director Heller

7. *Service Agreement with Golden Gate Transit to Operate Muir Woods Shuttle*

**M/s Director McGlashan – Director Kinsey. Recommended Action:
Authorize President to execute agreement with Golden Gate Transit to operate the Muir Woods Shuttle for the 2009 summer season.**

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

**AYES: Director Adams, Director Arnold, Director Brown, Director Kinsey,
Director McGlashan, Director Kellner (Alternate)**

ABSENT: Director Adams, Director Heller

8. *Set Public Hearing to Receive Comment on Draft Short Range Transit Plan Update*

M/s Director McGlashan – Director Arnold. Recommended Action: Set public hearing for Monday, April 20, 2009 at 10 am.

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

AYES: Director Adams, Director Arnold, Director Brown, Director Kinsey, Director McGlashan, Director Kellner (Alternate)

ABSENT: Director Adams, Director Heller

9. *Proposal for Caltrans Planning Grant Funds*

M/s Director Arnold – Director Kellner. Recommended Action: Authorize staff to submit grant application for transit needs assessment for Novato.

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

AYES: Director Adams, Director Arnold, Director Brown, Director Kinsey, Director McGlashan, Director Kellner (Alternate)

ABSENT: Director Adams, Director Heller

10. *Agreement with Maher Accountancy to Conduct Audit of Marin County Transit District for Fiscal Year 2007-2008*

M/s Director Kellner – Director Arnold. Recommended Action: Approve agreement

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

AYES: Director Adams, Director Arnold, Director Brown, Director Kinsey, Director McGlashan, Director Kellner (Alternate)

ABSENT: Director Adams, Director Heller

11. *Set Public Hearing for Federal Transit Administration 5311 ARRA Funding to Purchase Additional Vehicles for the West Marin Stagecoach*

M/s Director Kinsey – Director Arnold. Recommended Action: Set public hearing for Monday, April 20, 2009 at 10 am.

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

AYES: Director Adams, Director Arnold, Director Brown, Director Kinsey, Director McGlashan, Director Kellner (Alternate)

ABSENT: Director Adams, Director Heller

12. *Set Public Hearing and Authorize President to Adopt Resolution of Local Support for Federal Transit Administration ARRA Funding to Purchase Mobile Data Terminals for Paratransit Fleet.*

M/s Director Kellner – Director McGlashan. Recommended Action: Set public hearing and authorize President to sign resolution of local support for Monday, April 20, 2009 at 10 am.

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

AYES: Director Adams, Director Arnold, Director Brown, Director Kinsey, Director McGlashan, Director Kellner (Alternate)

ABSENT: Director Adams, Director Heller

13. *Set Public Hearing and Authorize President to Adopt Resolution of Local Support for Federal Transit Administration ARRA Funding to Purchase an Automated Vehicle Location System.*

M/s Director Arnold – Director McGlashan. Recommended Action: Set public hearing and authorize President to sign resolution of local support for Monday, April 20, 2009 at 10 am.

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

AYES: Director Adams, Director Arnold, Director Brown, Director Kinsey, Director McGlashan, Director Kellner (Alternate)

ABSENT: Director Adams, Director Heller

14. *Set Public Hearing and Authorize President to Adopt Resolution of Local Support for Federal Transit Administration ARRA Funding to Purchase a Data Management System.*

Director Kinsey asked for clarification that each of these resolutions were part of the Stimulus package and that these resolutions are the mechanism the County can use to gain access to those federal monies set aside for regional funds. General Manager Rzepinski confirmed this process as stated.

M/s Director Arnold – Director Kinsey. Recommended Action: Set public hearing and authorize President to sign resolution of local support for Monday, April 20, 2009 at 10 am.

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

AYES: Director Adams, Director Arnold, Director Brown, Director Kinsey, Director McGlashan, Director Kellner (Alternate)

ABSENT: Director Adams, Director Heller

Director Brown adjourned the meeting at 10:56 a.m. The next regular Transit District meeting is scheduled on April 20, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

SINE DIE

PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

BOARD SECRETARY