

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY

Agenda for Thursday, January 28, 2009

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

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| 1. Introductions | |
| 2. Agenda | Review |
| 3. Minutes of November 19, 2009, meeting
<i>(Copy of November minutes attached)</i> | Approve |
| 4. ACA-Related Items | Information |
| 5. GGBHTD-Related Items | Information |
| a. Intercounty Paratransit Services: Statistical Report
and Operations Summary | |
| b. Golden Gate Transit Regional Bus Service | |
| c. Golden Gate Ferry Service | |
| d. Facilities Update – Status of Larkspur Ferry Terminal Accessible
Restrooms and Ferry Terminal Passenger Boarding System Project | |
| e. General District Matters | |
| 6. Marin Transit-Related Items | Information |
| a. Marin Paratransit Coordinating Council Report | |
| b. Marin County Local Bus and Paratransit Service | |
| c. Update on Mobile Data Terminal Project | |
| 7. New Business | Information |
| 8. ACA Member Announcements/Comments; Public
Open Time | Information |

(Speakers are limited to three minutes. Members or visitors with specific comments or incidents to report are requested to call Harvey Katz, ACA Staff Liaison, at (415) 257-4416 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 Harvey Katz, ACA staff liaison, at (415) 257-4416, or e-mail to hkatz@goldengate.org.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY (ACA)

Draft Minutes of Thursday, November 19, 2009



Members present: Bill Bodine, Herschel Ferguson, Kent Hill, Jean Hunter, Brian Pease, Kevin Siemens, Craig Yates

Members excused: Herb Mayer

Staff: General: Harvey Katz, Access & Compliance Planner; Karyn Paulson, Administrative Assistant; Glen Woods, Customer Service Representative
Specific Matters: Greg Nordin, Transportation Superintendent/Operations

Ex-officio members: Amy Van Doren, Transit Planning Manager, Marin Transit; Kevin Parker, Field Operations Manager, Whistlestop Wheels (WSW)

Visitors: Marian Ball, potential member; Nelson Kimber, aide to Bill Bodine; Myrna Uhalde, Hired Hands

Craig Yates called the monthly meeting of the ACA to order at 1:35 p.m.

1. **Introductions.** Committee members, staff and visitors introduced themselves.
2. **Agenda.** A quorum was present, and members reviewed the agenda. Marin Transit would be making its presentation (Item 6) before Item 5 would be discussed.
3. **Minutes.** It was noted that Greg Nordin from the District was listed as an attendee at the October meeting, when he actually did not attend. The final version will be corrected.
4. **ACA-related items**
ACA Recruitment. Harvey Katz welcomed Marian Ball to her second ACA meeting and announced that she is now considered a member and may vote starting with the January 2010 meeting. Members further discussed the ACA meeting schedule for 2010, and moved, seconded and passed establishing the fourth Thursday of every other month as the ACA meeting schedule, beginning January 28, 2010. The only exception next year will be November 18 because Thanksgiving occurs on the fourth Thursday.
5. **GGBHTD-related Items**
 - a. **Intercounty Paratransit Services.** Statistical Report and Operations Summary. Kevin Parker from WSW distributed the one-page summary of the October 2009 reports of services provided in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. In October, GGBHTD intercounty ridership decreased 31% from October 2008 to 887 passenger trips, but that was an increase from September 2009 of 13%. Efficiency in October increased to 1.18 passengers per revenue hour. Eight of 13

intercounty Marin extended trip requests were provided in October. Intercounty service was on-time (within its 45-minute scheduling window) 88.78% of the time. There continued to be no denials of ADA-mandated paratransit service. There were 4 emergency service calls, and further information will be provided in next month's report. Discussion about no-show service indicated that if a WSW van arrived in an area to find that a customer was a no-show, another qualified person could request a ride from the driver on the spot. Anyone who calls in to reserve a ride and becomes a no-show for 3 times receives a warning and is considered a "repeat offender."

- b. **Golden Gate Transit Regional Bus Service.** Mr. Katz explained that staff is determining which 30 of our 1,000+ bus stops will be included in the electronic real-time signage demonstration part of the District's ACIS (Radio Replacement) project. Mr. Yates asked if we were going to duplicate electronic-signed stops in use by Sonoma County Transit and Petaluma Transit, and Mr. Katz said this was not likely. He explained that the District is now sending out information about bus and ferry schedule changes to holders of PDAs and cell phones who register with the District to be so notified. Craig Yates requested that road supervisors get involved when poor radio service prohibits drivers from notifying Dispatch or other buses of traffic jams in San Francisco. Mr. Katz explained that the District has procedures in such cases.
- c. **Golden Gate Ferry Service.** Plans for repairing and renovating District ferries will be discussed at the January meeting.
- d. **Facilities Update.** David Lynch sent notice to the ACA that as the project of Accessible Restrooms and Ramps at LFT proceeds, some wheelchairs may need to be escorted during ramp reconfiguration and construction. While on that topic, Kevin Siemens expressed a desire to have someone escort wheelchairs down the offloading ramps from the vessels.
- e. **General District Matters.** Mr. Katz announced that the District is projecting a five-year shortfall of \$132 million, and the Board of Directors is considering a range of options to address this financial crisis. A "Strategic Plan for Achieving Long-Term Financial Stability" was presented to the Board on October 30, outlining suggestions on increasing income and cutting costs. Thirty-three initiatives will be studied, and each one must be brought before the Board before implementation. Members may view details at goldengate.org by referring to the agenda of the Board of Directors meeting on October 30, 2009.

6. Marin Transit-Related Items

- a. Marin Paratransit Coordinating Council Report. Harvey Katz shared from the recent PCC meeting the fact that Marin Transit will bid out paratransit service in the Marin County area effective July 1, 2010, to include transportation brokerage/mobility management services with a volunteer program of drivers and cars on-call for seniors and people with disabilities.
- b. Marin County Local Bus and Paratransit Service. Amy Van Doren noted that it is good business practice to go out to bid from time to time. As the population ages, an increase in paratransit service demand is anticipated. The volunteer driver program will be phased in over time and is designed to complement bus service.

Ms. Van Doren described the upcoming Marin Transit service reductions effective March 14, 2010, which she said amount to a 7% reduction in service that should impact only 2% of the riders. (Details are available on-line at marintransit.org.) Highlights include the 10:49 p.m. Route 22 northbound bus continuing on to circulate through Mill Valley. Adjusted arrival time at the San Rafael Transit Center will make it easier to extend Route 29 to Fairfax every 30 minutes and enable direct connection to Routes 52 and 101. Kevin Siemens asked if Route 22 was going to wait for connections (as Route 17 does) in Marin City. Ms. Van Doren said yes, noting that evenings and weekends no transfer would even be necessary because Route 22 would continue through Mill Valley. When asked, she assured him further that northbound weekend Route 22 service would wait to connect with Routes 70 or 80 northbound from San Francisco. Marin Transit cutbacks will be further discussed at the January meeting.

- c. Update on Mobile Data Terminal Project. Mr. Parker said he anticipated that by the second week in December, MDT capabilities would be installed in 5 WSW vehicles. By mid-January, all vehicles should be equipped and drivers trained. WSW now holds the two servers needed to run the MDT equipment.
7. **New Business.** Mr. Siemens said he noticed a weight limitation at the entrance to the lift on the *M.S. San Francisco* as 495 lbs. He said ADA regulations are 600 lbs., and Mr. Katz explained that this 600-lb. figure refers to buses, not ferries. Mr. Yates asked Mr. Katz to determine the actual regulations. Mr. Katz explained that the District is starting the project of replacing vessel boarding to main-deck loading, eliminating the need for wheelchairs to ride ferry lifts to change decks for loading/ offloading. He will be sure the designer complies with regulations. In practice, crew on our ferries do not turn away anyone needing the wheelchair lift. Mr. Yates offered a Coast Guard resource, David Sulouff, to contact: (510) 437-3516 or david.h.sulouff@uscg.mil.
8. **ACA Member Announcements/Comments; Public Open Time.** Nothing new was brought up.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.