

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY (ACA)

Meeting Minutes for Thursday, February 15, 2024



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

Committee Members Present: Patti Mangels, Terry Scussel, Marcela Vargas, Craig Yates, Jamie Faurot

Committee Members Absent: None

District Staff Present: Jon Gaffney, ADA Compliance and Program Manager; Roberta Regan, Administrative Assistant, Planning Department

Visitors Present: Jhashe Holloway, General Manager, Transdev; Teressa Jones, Operations Manager, Transdev, Jason Farot, Member of the Public

1. **Roll Call and Introductions.** Patty Mangels called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Members, staff and visitors introduced themselves.
2. **Approval of Minutes.** Meeting minutes were approved as written.
3. **Ongoing Business.**
 - A. **Marin County Local Bus and Mobility Management.** Marin Transit was unable to attend the meeting.
 - B. **Marin Access/Paratransit Service (Regional and Local).** Jon Gaffney provided Paratransit statistics for the month of January 2024. He stated that on-time performance for the service had remained at a level of above 90%. He also stated that rides per hour (RPH) was just under the contract thresholds at 1.8 RPH on the Local service and 0.9 RPH on the Regional.
 - C. **District's Draft ADA Transition Plan.** Mr. Gaffney gave the committee an update on the status of the District's Draft ADA Transition Plan. He explained that the Bridge, Bus and Ferry Divisions had reviewed the public-facing items identified in the plan and had provided him with proposed completion dates for bringing those items in line with current regulations. Mr. Gaffney stated that the next step was to request a public hearing from the District's Board of Directors at their April meeting. Once set, the draft plan would be released to the public for comment then brought back to the Board of Directors in May for their approval.
4. **New Business.**
 - A. **Presentation / Discussion – Regional Transportation – Overview and Future Initiatives.** Mr. Gaffney updated the group on four regional efforts that will have an impact on accessibility.

- Update to Clipper Program. He explained that the new version of Clipper (known as Clipper 2.0) would have several back-office enhancements that will make loading funds onto Clipper cards easier for riders. This new version also would not require riders to tag on and off when riding locally on Marin Transit Service. (Regional travel on the District's fixed route routes would still require tag on and tag off, due to those routes being zone based). Clipper 2.0 is slated to launch in late 2024. Clipper 2.0 will be the first version of Clipper to incorporate payment for paratransit service. He described the work that is being done to integrate the Clipper system with the existing paratransit software's currently in use by operators in the nine Bay Area Counties. He stated that Clipper's launch on paratransit would first be tested in San Francisco on SF Paratransit Service before being rolled out to other agencies in 2025.
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Blue Ribbon Task Force. This task force was assembled by MTC to encourage greater cooperation among the transit operators in the nine Bay Area Counties. He explained that the group had approved 27 action items to focus on in the region. He then discussed Action Items 22 and 25, as they relate to accessibility. Action 22 was described as a project that will reduce the number of transfers a paratransit rider would need to take when traveling long distances within the Bay Area. Action 25 was described as a project to standardize eligibility practices by the paratransit operators in the Bay Area.
- MTC's Regional Network Management Department. Mr. Gaffney explained that MTC plans to set up Mobility Managers in each Bay Area County. Mobility Managers would work with the local transit agencies and other providers to disseminate information on paratransit programs that currently exist and work with agencies to develop future programs. Mr. Gaffney stated that the local Mobility Manager program was still being developed and said he would update the group as more information became available.
- A Request for Information (RFI) was recently released by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), which focused on guidelines for transit facilities. He stated that information about elevators and ramps was sought by the FTA along with information on various wayfinding technologies that are emerging.

5. ACA Member Announcements.

A. Marcela Vargas asked about the progress being made on the design of the new ferry. Mr. Gaffney stated that the team that presented to the committee in the past had taken their comments into consideration and is planning to bring more detailed plans to the committee at a future meeting. Ms. Vargas stated that she did not feel heard by the presenters and brought up a concern over information not being included in meeting minutes for the group. Mr. Gaffney asked that members of the group review the minutes and bring any omissions to his attention. He stated that any omitted information would be noted on the minutes of the next meeting. As a reminder, meeting minutes are not a verbatim transcript of what was said at the meeting.

B. Jon Gaffney announced that Paul Branson, retired Mobility Manager for Marin Transit, had passed away in December of 2023.

6. **Public Comment.** None.

7. **Adjournment.** Patti Mangles adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m.

Members were advised that the next meeting would take place on April 11, 2024.