

Advisory Committee on Accessibility Minutes of October 20, 2022



Members Present: Patti Mangles, Marcela Vargas, Terry Scussel

Staff: Jon Gaffney, ACA Compliance and Program Manager
Emily DelRoss, Senior Planner
Roberta Regan, Administrative Assistant

Visitors: Director James Mastin

Chair Patti Mangles started the meeting at 1:33 pm. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

1. Introductions

2. **Minutes / Agenda** – The April 2020 minutes were unanimously approved.

3. ACA-Related Items

- a) ACA Recruitment - Jon Gaffney stated that current outreach activities had not led to any new members. He also stated that advertisements for the committee would be posted at the San Rafael Transit Center and the Larkspur Ferry Terminal. Marcella Vargas suggested trying Next Door for recruitment.

4. Marin Transit-Related Items / Paratransit Report

- a) Marin County Local Bus and Mobility Management – No member of Marin Transit staff was available to attend. No report was given.
- b) Paratransit Service (Regional and Local) - Mr. Gaffney presented ridership and on-time performance statistics for the paratransit service. The group then discussed the ongoing driver shortage that Transdev, the paratransit service provider, was experiencing.

5. GGBHTD Related Items

- a) COVID-19 Continued Response – Mr. Gaffney discussed ridership statistics compared to pre-pandemic levels. He stated that traffic on the Golden Gate Bridge is approximately 85% of what it was prior to the pandemic, whereas Bus and Ferry ridership remain low at roughly 40% of pre-pandemic levels.
- b) Alternative Ferry Service – Mr. Gaffney described an ongoing situation involving the Larkspur Ferry service. He explained that, due to mechanical issues outside of the District's control, the District has been forced to move operation of the Larkspur Ferry service in San Francisco to Gate B. He stated that this change would be in effect until repairs can be made to Gate C. However, Gate B in San Francisco does not allow for

riders using mobility devices to board the Larkspur Ferry service when the high-speed catamarans are being used, as riders must board on one deck and disembark on another at the alternate gate. The catamarans do not have elevators, so individuals unable to traverse stairs cannot disembark once arriving at their destination.

To ensure that individuals who need to travel from the Larkspur Ferry Terminal to San Francisco can continue to do so, the District contracted with Vivalon to provide emergency backup service for individuals who cannot traverse the stairs. That service consists of vehicles that will transport these individuals between the ferry terminals without need for advance reservation. This service is in effect seven days a week during the hours of operation of the Larkspur Ferry service. It was explained that this service is temporary and will only remain in place until repairs can be made to Gate C in San Francisco.

- c) Mr. Gaffney gave a presentation on Autism in Public Transit that was prepared by the Bus Division's Training Department and is actively part of fixed route driver training at the District.

The next meeting was scheduled for January 19, 2023. That meeting was later canceled due to lack of a quorum. The next ACA meeting was scheduled for April 20, 2023.



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Consult the District's website at <http://www.goldengate.org/>, or call **511** for further GGT bus and ferry schedule information. Information on accessible services is also available on the District's website. To schedule paratransit transportation to the meeting (for paratransit eligible riders), call Marin Access Paratransit at (415) 454-0964 or (800) 454-0964.

For further information regarding the ACA, call Jon Gaffney, ADA Compliance and Program Manager, at (415) 257-4416 or email jgaffney@goldengate.org.