

BUS PASSENGERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)



Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, December 17, 2025

Location: Vivalon – Caboose Room #1, 930 Tamalpais Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94901

Committee Members Present: Patty Rodgers, Scott Kempf, Dave Troup

Committee Members Absent: Mike Combs, Dan Bell

District Staff Present: David Davenport, Principal Planner; Jessica Sandoval, Senior Planner; Mario Jacquez, Director of Transportation

Guest Present: Abby Smith, Marin Transit

- 1. Roll Call and Introductions:** Jessica Sandoval opened the meeting at 6:03 p.m. Three members were present, representing a quorum.
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:** BPAC members approved the October 15, 2025, meeting minutes.
- 3. Bus Stoppers:** None.
- 4. Ongoing Business:**
 - a. MASCOTS Plan – Final Service Change Package: David Davenport presented the final changes to Golden Gate Transit (GGT) bus routes under the Marin-Sonoma Coordinated Transit Service (MASCOTS) Plan. Group discussion afterward included the following:
 - i. Patty Rodgers raised several questions and concerns. She first asked whether Route 101 would serve Marin City, and Mr. Davenport indicated that it would not. Ms. Rodgers also asked about the Board’s response to BPAC’s letter emphasizing the importance of Routes 130 and 150. Mr. Davenport confirmed that the letter was shared with the Board and was taken into consideration. Ms. Rodgers expressed concern that the MASCOTS Plan’s changes require transfers that may be difficult for some riders. She also raised concerns about signage, security, and real-time information at major hubs, as well as the fact that Route 130 connects Canal workers to Sausalito. Mr. Davenport responded that restructuring was necessary to improve service levels, and Marin Transit will provide frequent service to Southern Marin. Mario Jacquez added that staff continue to refine schedules to prevent early departures and address delays. Abby Smith noted that Marin Transit is planning focused engagement with the Canal community in the spring. She added that Route 17 will continue to serve Larkspur in the evenings and that Route 71 will undergo operational changes to improve reliability.

- ii. Dave Troup asked whether westbound Route 580 will connect with westbound Route 23. Mr. Davenport explained that additional trips are being added and that schedules will be retimed to pulse with the San Rafael Transit Center. Mr. Troup also echoed concerns about increased transfers under the MASCOTS Plan. In addition, he expressed frustration that GGT scaled back Route 130, initially presenting Route 71 as an alternative, and subsequently reduced Route 71 service without first getting BPAC's feedback. In response, Mr. Davenport reiterated that significant restructuring of Route 130 was required to achieve improved headways and overall system efficiency.
 - iii. Scott Kempf asked about the timing of the last SMART trains, and Mr. Davenport provided the final northbound and southbound evening departure times, noting the ten-minute connection buffer to GGT. Mr. Kempf also inquired about progress on the bus-on-shoulder project, and Mr. Davenport stated that the effort remains in the planning stages. Mr. Kempf then asked whether GGT can continue to make adjustments to the schedule after they take effect, and Mr. Davenport explained that, while the Plan will move forward as scheduled, the District will remain responsive after implementation and can make adjustments if significant issues arise.
 - iv. Mr. Jacquez offered additional operational context in response to member concerns, explaining that staff continually review schedules to ensure operators do not leave early and to reduce delays. He also provided an update on operator recruitment, sharing that six new operators are graduating—bringing staffing to 168—and that another class will begin in January 2026.
- b. Clipper 2.0 Launch Update: Mr. Davenport presented an update on the Next Generation Clipper launch, including launch-day statistics, the status of ongoing issue resolution, and how related fare policy changes will affect GGT and Golden Gate Ferry (GGF) customers.
- i. Ms. Rodgers noted that the new interagency transfer discount will directly benefit her on regular trips into San Francisco. Mr. Troup asked whether it matters if customers continue tapping off when riding Marin Transit. Ms. Smith and Mr. Davenport explained that it is okay to still tap off if done by accident, and that once customers' cards migrate to the new system, tapping off will simply generate a free transfer rather than an additional charge. Mr. Troup also commented that he will miss the conversations between tourists and operators who are often confused by not being able to use credit cards directly on the bus. He then asked whether transit change cards will continue to exist, and Mr. Davenport confirmed that they will for now.

5. New Business:

- a. Three-Year Membership Term Renewal: Ms. Sandoval announced that Mr. Kempf, Mr. Troup and Dan Bell are renewed to serve a three-year term as BPAC committee members.
- b. BPAC Chairperson/Vice Chairperson Election:
 - i. Members nominated Mr. Bell as Chairperson for the 2026 term. Ms. Sandoval will confirm via email that Mr. Bell accepts the position.
 - ii. Members elected Mr. Troup as Vice Chairperson for the 2026 term.

- c. 2026 Meeting Schedule: The committee agreed to continue meeting on the third Wednesday of every other month, with a summer hiatus, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Vivalon – Caboose Room #1 at 930 Tamalpais Avenue in San Rafael. Ms. Sandoval indicated that if Mr. Bell accepts to be elected chair, the first meeting of the year will likely be March 18th, 2026.

6. Announcements:

- a. Transit Guide Map Style Survey: Ms. Sandoval announced the District is exploring the addition of individual route maps to the Transit Guide. The District’s Marketing Department is conducting a brief survey to learn which map styles are most effective. BPAC members were encouraged to participate in the survey.

7. Members’ Forum:

- a. Mr. Kempf announced that due to his work schedule, he is no longer taking GGT into the city on a regular basis. Mr. Davenport invited Scott to continue serving on the committee for the near-term since his knowledge of the system and customer experience is invaluable.

8. Public Comment: None.

9. Adjournment: Ms. Sandoval adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Members were advised that the next meeting will take place on March 18, 2026.