

**SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT
1250 SAN CARLOS AVENUE, SAN CARLOS, CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2010**

Members Present: O. Ahmad, M. Church, J. Deal, A. Lloyd, K. Matsumoto, A. Tissier

Members Absent: R. Guilbault (Chair), S. Harris, Z. Kersteen-Tucker

Staff Present: J. Cassman, G. Harrington, C. Harvey, R. Haskin, R. Lake, M. Lee, M. Martinez, N. McKenna, D. Miller, M. Scanlon, M. Simon

Vice Chair Karyl Matsumoto called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF PARATRANSIT AGENCY
GROUP FARE INCREASES AND MINOR CODIFIED TARIFF LANGUAGE
CHANGES**

District Secretary Martha Martinez said at its July 14, 2010 meeting, the Board of Directors set today's date and time for public hearing to consider paratransit agency group fare increases and changes to the codified tariff. A public hearing notice appeared in *The Daily Journal* on August 20, 2010. To date only one comment has been received. Ms. Martinez said Accessibility Manager Bill Welch called representatives of each of the seven paratransit agencies (Senior Focus, Rosener House, San Carlos Adult Day Care, Community Gatepath, South San Francisco Adult Day Care, Senior Day Program and Coastside Adult Day Care) on June 4, 2010, to inform them of the fare proposal. He also emailed them a written summary of the fare proposal on June 24, 2010.

Director Adrienne Tissier arrived at 2:11 p.m.

Deputy CEO Chuck Harvey said staff is recommending the Board approve the new fares. Mr. Harvey said that over many years, this service was provided by multiple agencies at varying fare rates. He said SamTrans inherited the fare rates and over the years has been adding percentage fare increases annually for the various agencies, creating an extremely complex and inequitable system. Mr. Harvey said during last year's fare increase public hearing, the Board asked staff to work with these agencies to develop a simplified, flat-fare type of system that would be more equitable. He said while higher paratransit fares for the agencies went into effect July 1, 2010 staff has been working diligently with these external agencies to come up with a better system.

Mr. Harvey said staff recommends the flat fare be set at \$ 4.25, effective October 1, 2010 with a second increase to \$4.50 on July 1, 2011. He said staff recommends the Lifeline fare be set at \$2.25, effective October 1, 2010 and remain at the same rate through July 1, 2011. Mr. Harvey said the reason for this proposal is to be consistent with standard ADA customer policies to charge one-half of the base fare for Lifeline fare. He said staff feels this flat fare is reasonable and equitable and results in the majority of the agencies paying less than the fares they are paying today. A small increase in the base fare results for two of the agencies. Mr. Harvey said

all the agencies see a decrease in the Lifeline fare. He said any increase is difficult but SamTrans is faced with its own financial crisis. Mr. Harvey said the paratransit system returns less than 6 percent out of the farebox, the second or third lowest among paratransit operations in the Bay Area. He said the Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC) is very supportive of the recommendation.

Mr. Harvey said there are two changes to be made in the Tariff. There is a small service called Senior Coastsiders, which is a rural, non-exclusive share ride system. He said there is a different section of the Codified Tariff known as 5311 On-Demand Non-ADA Paratransit, and staff feels this service, which was inherited a couple of years ago, appropriately belongs in that section of the Tariff. Mr. Harvey said currently Redi-Coast and Redi-Wheels ADA customers are allowed to ride free on all regular fixed-route bus service, excepting express routes. Mr. Harvey said with the elimination of the express routes in December 2009, Route KX is the only means in the middle of the day to get to and from San Francisco so staff is recommending that eligible paratransit riders ride fixed-route for free on Route KX. He said this has the effect of reducing the need to provide paratransit trips outside of San Mateo County and will save SamTrans money.

Public Comment

Nancy Keegan, Program Director of Catholic Charities San Carlos, said she is in support of the fare increase and appreciates the work staff did.

Legal Counsel David Miller said all the applicable legal requirements have been met and the Board can close the public hearing.

A motion (Tissier/Lloyd) to close the hearing was approved unanimously.

AUTHORIZE APPROVAL OF PARATRANSIT AGENCY GROUP FARE INCREASES AND MINOR CODIFIED TARIFF LANGUAGE CHANGES

A motion (Church/Lloyd) to approve paratransit agency group fare increases and minor codified tariff language changes was approved unanimously.

Adjourned to Committee meetings at 2:16 p.m.

Board reconvened at 3:06 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Board unanimously approved the consent calendar (Church/Lloyd):

- a. Approval of Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting of July 14, 2010
- b. Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenses for July 2010
- c. Acceptance of the Quarterly Investment Report and Fixed Income Market Review and Outlook for the Quarter Ended June 30, 2010

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pat Giorni, Burlingame, said nine months ago the Pico Boulevard bus yard gate was closed and there are ensuing problems for pedestrians and bicyclists trying to cross the Redwood Shores Levee Trail. She is requesting all written emails and telephone logs that have been

communicated to staff or the Board concerning the gate closure between November 2009 and now be made publicly available and either sent electronically or via postal to her.

Jack Baumgarten, San Carlos, said he uses Pico Boulevard for bicycling and is upset the gate is closed.

Executive Officer Public Affairs Mark Simon said the gate was closed for safety concerns. He said it is a private street and the sole access to South Base. Mr. Simon said since the time of the complaints the safety and security staff have been undertaking a safety review. He said about six people have contacted him requesting the gate be opened for bicycle traffic. Mr. Simon said for now staff feels it is safer to have the gate closed than to have it open. He said Redwood Shores does have a well marked bike path. Mr. Simon said that everyone who has contacted him has been told a safety study is underway and being reviewed.

CALL FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON OCTOBER 13, 2010, TO ADDRESS ADOPTION OF AN UPDATED PROPERTY CONVEYANCE POLICY AND FEE SCHEDULE

Manager, Real Estate and Property Development Brian Fitzpatrick said staff is asking the Board to call for a public hearing to update a policy that was last updated in 2000.

A motion (Tissier/Lloyd) to call for a public hearing on October 13, 2010 was approved unanimously.

REPORT OF CHAIR

Vice Chair Matsumoto said Chair Rose Guilbault appointed a subcommittee of Directors Shirley Harris, Omar Ahmad and herself to review the District's advertisement policy.

Director Ahmad said the issue stems from some non-commercial advertisements that were put on SamTrans buses. An advertiser had a specific agenda that caused some significant concern from the interfaith communities. Director Ahmad said he and staff had a meeting with a number of clergy members who expressed concern about these types of advertisements and staff agreed to take it under advisement and see what types of things could be addressed to ensure constitutional speech is protected and also make certain that appropriate content is put out and made available.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

General Manager/CEO Michael Scanlon reported:

- Recognized 20-year safe driver Rene Ebro and 25-year safe driver Jeffry Ella.
- Thanked the staff involved in the procurement of the 35 new buses.
- Staff has been busy with the relocation of the new Transbay Terminal bus stop.
- A special marketing campaign was launched for the new school year to get students back on SamTrans with ads in English and Spanish. SamTrans routes serve 26 elementary schools, 20 middle schools and 20 high schools in San Mateo County.
- The Grand Boulevard Initiative has won the 2010 American Planning Association California Distinguished Leadership Award and this qualifies the project to compete at the national level.
- Maintenance Superintendent Elliot Rivas has been selected to participate in the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) Leadership Program.

- Staff will be recruiting for the Mobility Ambassador program.
- Thanked Chair Guilbault for representing SamTrans, as the chair of the board, and participating in an interview with Comcast recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month.
- The reading file contains the latest *Riders Digest* and APTA's petition urging Congress to authorize the Federal Transit Program.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Public Comment

Pat Giorni, Burlingame, asked there be a discussion on the Pico Boulevard yard gate closure at the next meeting.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED

- a. Accessibility Update
- b. Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC) Update
- c. Citizens Advisory Committee Liaison Report
- d. Performance Report - End-of-the Year Performance Report
- e. Multimodal Ridership Report - June 2010
- f. Multimodal Ridership Report - July 2010

FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTIONS

- a. Authorize Filing an Annual Claim with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for Transportation Development Act, State Transit Assistance and Regional Measure 2 Funds for Fiscal Year 2011 in the Amount of \$36,095,882
- b. Authorize the Continuation of the Safe Harbor Transit Ticket Program
- c. Authorize Voting in Favor of an Assessment District for Levee System Improvements in San Mateo County
- d. Authorize Award of Contract to Reliance Standard Insurance Company for Long-term Disability Insurance for an Estimated Cost of \$132,000 for a Three-year Period
- e. Authorize Award of Contract to Kimball Midwest for Furnishing and Servicing Shop Supplies and Related Items for a Total Estimated Cost of \$335,495 for a Five-year Term
- f. Authorize Award of Contract to Scintech Associates for Physical Inventory Services for a Total Not-to-Exceed Cost of \$171,400 for a Three-year Base term
- g. Authorize Award of Contract to National Transit Interiors for Automotive and Bus Upholstery Repair Services for a Total Estimated Cost of \$180,222 for a Three-year Base Term

The motion (Church/Lloyd) to approve the resolutions was approved unanimously by roll call. Director Ahmad abstained from item c.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED

- h. Information of Revenues and Expenses for June 2010
- i. Update on the Execution of the Fuel Hedging Program

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
SUBJECTS DISCUSSED

- a. State and Federal Legislative Update

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

In reading file.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Director Art Lloyd said he will be in France next week riding high-speed trains.

Director Adrienne Tissier thanked staff for participating in the Older Driver Safety Seminars and helping seniors understand how simple it is to ride the bus.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – October 13, 2010, at 2 p.m., San Mateo County Transit District, Administrative Building, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070.

GENERAL COUNSEL PROPOSAL

- a. Closed Session: Conference with Labor Negotiator – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6, Teamsters Union, Local 856 (Bus Transportation Supervisors, Dispatchers and Radio Controllers)
- b. Closed Session: Conference with Labor Negotiator – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6, Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 1574 (Customer Service Center Employees)

Legal Counsel David Miller said the Board will meet in closed session to consider and hear a report on pending labor negotiations.

Board adjourned to closed session at 3:30 p.m.

Board convened to open session at 3:40 p.m.

Mr. Miller said the Board met in closed session to hear an update on pending labor negotiations and this item will be carried on the October agenda.

Adjourned at 3:41 p.m.