

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLANNING & EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY

JUNE 22, 2018

The Board of Directors Planning & External Relations Committee met on June 22, 2018 at 10:31 a.m. in the Board Room on the 6th Floor of the MARTA Headquarters Building, 2424 Piedmont Road, Atlanta, Georgia.

Board Members Present

Robert F. Dallas

Jim Durrett

Roderick E. Edmond

William „Bill“ Floyd

Jerry Griffin, Chair

Russell McMurry, P.E.*

John 'Al' Pond

MARTA officials in attendance were: General Manager/ CEO A. Robert Troup (Acting); C-Suite Team Members Chief of Police & Emergency Management Wanda Dunham, Chief Financial Officer Gordon L. Hutchinson and Chief Counsel Jonathan Hunt (Acting); AGMs LaShanda Dawkins, Diane Hamilton (Acting), Benjamin Limmer, Emil Tzanov and Thomas Young (Interim); Chief Information Security Officer Dean Mallis; Executive Director Shelton Goode; Senior Directors Donna DeJesus (Acting), Stephany Fisher (Acting), Kevin Hurley, Donald Williams and Jennifer Jinadu-Wright; Director Lisa DeGrace; Managers Davis Allen, John Cochran, and Ryland McClendon; Manager Executive Office Administration Tyrene Huff; Sr. Executive Administrators Ashanti Boothe, Kenya Hammond, and Debra Oliver. Others in attendance Adrien Carter, Abebe Girmay, Daniel Goodridge, Forrest Graham, Cedric Griffin, Courtne Middlebrooks, LaTonya Pope and Derrick Terry.

Also in attendance Nilesh Deshpande of WSP and Scott Haggard of ATL/ SRTA.

Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of the May 3, 2018 Planning & External Relations Committee Meeting Minutes

On motion by Mr. Durrett seconded by Mr. Pond, the Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 4 to 0, with 5* members present.

*Russell R. McMurry, P.E. is GDOT Commissioner and is therefore a non-voting member of the MARTA Board of Directors.

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Individual Agenda

Briefing – Results of Public Hearings on Proposed Service Modifications for August 2018

Mr. Williams presented a Briefing of the results of the proposed service modifications for August 2018.

Three Public Hearings were held to give patrons the opportunity to speak about poll service changes.

Public Hearings

- Monday, May 14, 2018
Clayton County Board Room, 112 Smith Street, Jonesboro, GA 30236
- Tuesday, May 15, 2018
Fulton County Government Center, 141 Pryor Street, Atlanta, GA 30303
- Wednesday, May 16, 2018
DeKalb Maloof Auditorium, 1300 Commerce Drive, Decatur, GA 30303

In addition to Public Hearings, MARTA staff held community exchange sessions to receive additional input outside of Public Hearings.

Community Exchange Meetings

- Tuesday, May 8, 2018
Clayton County Police Precinct, 3161 Anvil Block Road, Ellenwood, GA 30294
- Thursday, May 10, 2018
Cedar Grove Elementary School, 2330 River Road, Ellenwood, GA 30294
- Saturday, May 19, 2018
MARTA Headquarters, 2424 Piedmont Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30324

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Additional Community Outreach

- April 12, 2018
Old Fourth Ward Community Association, J.D. Sims Recreation Center
544 Angier Avenue, NE, Atlanta, GA
- April 18, 2018
NPU –W Village Church, 1231 Glenwood Avenue, Atlanta, GA
- May 10, 2018
South Atlantans for Neighborhood Development, Ormewood Church
1071 Delaware Avenue, SE Atlanta, GA

Advertisement and Media Outlets

- Atlanta Journal Constitution
- ACE III/ Champion
- Clayton Daily News
- MARTA Website
- Neighbor Newspapers
- Mundo Hispanico
- Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)

Notice Distribution

- City of Atlanta Neighborhood Planning Units – 26
- Senior Centers – 133
- Outreach Email Database – 400+
- Mailed Notices – 800+ (new service areas)
- Station Outreach – Six (6) stations/ 8000+ flyers distributed
 - Lindbergh
 - Chamblee
 - King Memorial
 - Inman Park
 - Georgia State

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Public Hearing Attendance

- Clayton County Board Room – 4 Attendees, 2 Speakers, 0 Media
- Fulton County Assembly Hall – 21 Attendees, 19 Speakers, 0 Media
- DeKalb Maloof Auditorium – 11 Attendees, 6 Speakers, 0 Media

Additional Public Hearing Comments

- Emails (3)
- Letters (10)
- Petitions (1)
- Public Comments (20)

Based on feedback from Public Hearings, changes were made to Route 6, Route 16 and Route 36

- Route 6 – Alternating trips to Woodland Avenue.
- Route 16 – Convert to circulator service from Five Points.
- Route 36 – Change back to its original alignment

Mr. Pond asked which Public Hearing received the most comments from the public.

Mr. Williams said Route 36 had the most feedback based on proposed eliminations.

Briefing - Connect 400: GA 400 Transit Initiative Locally Preferred Alternative

Mr. Limmer presented a briefing on Connect 400.

Where We've Been

- Planning Alternatives Analysis and Scoping (2011-2014)
- Environmental Environmental Impact Statement (2015-2018)
- Engineering Project Development (2019-2021)
- Construction Construction (2022-2024)
- Operation Operation (2025)

Current Project Overview

- Planning 2014 Studies recommended Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA)
- 12-mile Heavy Rail extension
- North Springs to Windward Parkway
- Board approved in May 2015
- 5 stations
 - Northridge Rd
 - Holcomb Bridge Rd
 - North Point Mall/Encore Parkway
 - Old Milton Pkwy
 - Windward Pkwy
- 12-mile Heavy Rail Project was evaluated as part of the Environment Review
- In additional to the Environment Review, additional options were evaluated
 - BRT in exclusive guideway
 - BRT in express lanes

Coordination: Fulton County

- In 2017 Atlanta Regional Commission partnership with cities in Fulton County conducted Fulton County Transit Master Plan.
 - Developed comprehensive transit plan for Fulton County outside of Atlanta
 - Intent was to secure local buy-in for potential referendum
- Three rounds of Public Outreach
- Plan approved in February by Commissioners and Mayors in Fulton County
- HB 930 – 0.2 cent sales tax

Coordination: GDOT

- Add a managed lane system between 285 and McFarland
- Operation in 2025
- Began environmental assessment
- Coordination with MARTA for:
 - Cost savings
 - Reduced construction time
 - Station locations

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Revision to LPA

Mode

- Modify from heavy rail transit to Bus Rapid Transit in express lanes

Alignment

- North Springs to Windward Parkway
- BRT operates in express lanes on GA 400

Potential Funding

- Capital Costs = TBD
 - Pending the on-going coordination with GDOT
 - FTA Capital Investment Grant Program (Small Starts)
 - Fulton County Transit Sales Tax 0.2 – cent local funding option (2019)
- Operations & Maintenance = \$5.2 – 7.8 million per year
 - Includes Fulton County Transit Master Plan operating plan
 - Covered by the existing MARTA penny in Fulton County

Next Steps

- Continue close coordination with GDOT
- Finalize station locations
- Perform ridership and traffic modeling
- Advance revised environmental review document
- Develop implementation schedule
- Finalize funding options and implementation strategy
- Modify project in the Regional Transportation Plan

Mr. Dallas expressed his excitement with the State, Commissioner, Governor, and legislative bodies grant of \$1M to improve the intersection along GA 400 and asked to hear more.

Mr. Limmer said the \$1M would contribute to help prepare the Corridor to be transit ready.

Commissioner McMurry said a portion of the \$1M would go towards the GA-400 Express Lanes to accommodate for a BRT interchange which would add a median and widen GA-400. The other portion of the \$1M would be used to build four locations for transit use known as “starter set” locations.

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Mr. Dallas asked if the four new stations will facilitate the development of Transit Oriented Development (TOD).

Mr. Limmer said yes. The new station will facilitate substantial BRT system operation with frequent service. TOD activities will be anticipated adjacent to MARTA's station areas.

Mr. Griffin asked if TOD partner with local governments to maximize the use of land near TOD stations to benefit transit developments.

Mr. Limmer said to ensure BRT is successful, MARTA will partner with neighboring jurisdictions on land use and planning activities to provide a transit supportive environment for a development to take place. This would be a new transit option for the Metropolitan Area.

Resolution Adopting a Locally Preferred Alternative for Connect 400: Georgia 400 Transit Initiative

This resolution is to adopt the Amendment of the Locally Preferred Alternative to include BRT and Express Lanes along GA-400 from North Springs to Windward Parkway. That this Locally Preferred Alternative in partnership with the ATL, be transmitted to the Regional Transit Committee to be incorporated into the fiscally constrained Regional Transportation Plan. MARTA would then move forward to compete for federal discretionary funding through the Federal Transit Administration's Capital Investment Grant Program.

On motion by Mr. Dallas seconded by Mr. Floyd, the resolution was approved by a vote of 5 to 0, with 6* members present.

Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Professional Governmental Affairs Services, RFP P40331

Mr. Graham presented a resolution authorizing the award of a contract for professional governmental services.

This resolution would authorize the General Manager/CEO or his delegate to enter into a Contract for the Procurement of Professional Governmental Affairs Services, RFP P40331, with Holland & Knight, LLP.

- The contract term is (2) base years with (3) one (1) year options
- On February 14, 2018 – Notice to Proponent were sent to (20) vendors
- Contract terms = \$1M

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Three (3) proposals were received from the following firms:

- Holland & Knight, LLP
- Smith Dawson & Andrews
- Squire Patton Boggs

Two (2) of the three (3) proposals received were deemed non-responsive. The proposal from Smith Dawson & Andres was received after the proposal deadline and the proposal from Squire Patton Boggs did not include the requited financial documents. The only responsive proposal was from Holland & Knight, LLP.

Mr. Pond asked what were the issues with the two firms deemed non-responsive.

Mr. Graham said one proponent submitted documents after the deadline and the other proponent did not submit audit documents that could be verified.

Mr. Dallas asked with Mr. Highsmith serving as a Board Attorney and the role of Holland & Knight is there a potential conflict.

Mr. Graham said no conflict has been detected. This is one firm providing two different services for MARTA - one being a Board Council and the other being Federal.

On motion by Mr. Durrett seconded by Mr. Pond, the resolution was approved by a vote of 5 to 0, with 6* members present.

Adjournment

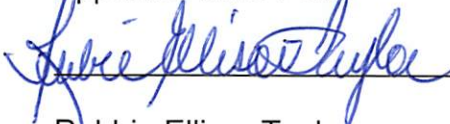
The meeting of the Operations & Safety Committee adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Tonya Gantt
Sr. Executive Assistant (Contract)

Approved as to Form



Rebbie Ellisor-Taylor
Assistant Secretary to the Board