

CAPITAL METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
2910 East Fifth Street Austin, TX 78702

~ Minutes ~

Executive Assistant/Board Liaison Gina Estrada
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Monday, March 26, 2018
12:00 PM

12:11 PM Meeting Called To Order
3:00 PM Meeting Adjourned

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Safety Briefing

Donna Simmons, Capital Metro's Executive Vice President of Administration and Chief Safety Officer, gave her monthly briefing. She reviewed evacuation protocols for the boardroom and emphasized the importance of ensuring you have a safe ride home when going out.

III. Security Briefing

Darryl Jamail, Capital Metro's Security Director, reviewed the assistance that Capital Metro staff and service providers provided to the Austin Police Department during the recent bombings investigation, and recognized several employees for their efforts. He emphasized the importance of communication and coordination between the two agencies. Chair Cooper added his thanks and appreciation.

IV. Recognition

Former Texas State Representative Patrick Rose presented the agency with the "Employer of the Year" award from the International Right of Way Association. Vincent Sandoval accepted on behalf of Capital Metro.

V. Public Comment:

Gus Pena, citizen, stated that cuts being made to bus routes will be catastrophic to many veterans, and people, and he is opposed to them. He intends to file a federal injunction to prevent these cuts.

Anthony Walker, bus operator, believes that the reputation of Capital Metro is so poor in the community that any bond election related to the agency is certain to fail. MetroRail is the worst investment in history. Must do a better job of reaching out to operators, and the public, because much damage has already been done. Service changes should have waited until the new CEO was onboard.

Brent Payne, ATU Local 1091, represents 90 percent of operators and appreciates recent efforts to work together on things like restrooms and operator breaks. He hopes that this continues and that lines of communication stay open.

David King, citizen, spoke on the issue of displacement of lower-income residents to the suburbs that may not be as well served by transit. Hopes that analysis is being done to insure that changes don't disproportionately affect these citizens. Worried about CodeNext and the impact on our community over the next decade.

Zenobia Joseph, citizen, provided comments related to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. She spoke against the elimination of Route 392, which serves more customers than other routes that will remain -- this is not equitable. We will no longer have east-west connectivity. Other examples of this type of inequity include service in Hyde Park, the TIGER grant related to MetroRail service near the Domain, and a heavily subsidized route in Manor.

VI. Advisory Committee Updates:

1. Update on the Customer Satisfaction Advisory Committee (CSAC); and

David Foster, Chair of CSAC, provided the report. He invited CEO Clarke to attend the committee's next meeting and expressed thanks to the board of getting recent vacancies filled. The committee is looking at ways to engage other transit users, including increased use of social media and moving CSAC's meeting location around.

2. Update on the Access Advisory Committee (AAC).

Kendall Jackson, Community Involvement, provided the report. The committee met on March 7th, and heard updates on MetroAccess statistics and technology from Chad Ballentine. Marc Guerrero also gave an update on the Downtown Station, and the committee heard updates on Cap Remap and the MetroAccess "Pathways" Program.

VII. Executive Session of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code:

Section 551.072 for real property issues - Real Estate - future operational facilities

Went into session at 2:27 pm

Returned at 3:00 pm

VIII. Board Committee Updates:

1. Operations, Planning and Safety Committee

Committee Chair Jonse provided the report. The committee met on March 9th and heard four items -- two of which are on the consent agenda today and two of which are on the action agenda.

2. CAMPO update

Board member Mitchell provided the report. The policy board met on March 5th to discuss several items, including amendments to pedestrian improvements in the area.

IX. Consent Items

1. Approval of minutes from the February 26, 2018 board meeting.

2. Approval of a resolution authorizing the President/CEO, or his designee, to finalize and execute a contract with MAC, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$201,931, for the construction of 35 parking spaces at the South Congress Transit Center.

X. Action Items:

1. Approval of a resolution authorizing the President/CEO, or his designee, to modify a contract for Literature Distribution services with SmartMail of Austin, Inc. to increase the contract in an amount not to exceed \$646,555 for three (3) option years with a total not to exceed amount of \$1,049,545.

Cynthia Lucas, Marketing Director, presented this item. This contract puts Capital Metro printed materials out on each of our buses, at our transit centers, and at 85 other outlets throughout the city. Many people still rely on these printed materials, and in particular we expect increased demand around the June Service Change. The use of digital information is increasing but we still have need for this contract. We distribute about 1.3 million leaflets a year and 200,000 system maps. Twice a week we also place placards with updated messages from the agency on each of our buses. We will

continue to evaluate the need for this contract as things change, and bring it back to the board when these 3 option years expire.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Delia Garza, Board Member
SECONDER:	Rita Jonse, Board Member
AYES:	Mitchell, Word, Cooper, Garza, Kitchen, Jonse, Renteria
EXCUSED:	Travillion

2. Approval of a resolution authorizing the President/CEO, or his designee, to finalize and execute an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Austin to design, manage, construct, and maintain transportation infrastructure projects that will improve transit speed and reliability for an amount not to exceed \$3 million.

Todd Hemingson, Executive Vice President of Planning and Development, presented this item. The City of Austin approved this ILA last week. The improvements paid for with this partnership will increase transit speed and reliability. We have identified four items that we would like to complete in time for the June Service Change.

Board member Renteria asked if this agreement included study of all the major corridors, including the Green Line. Mr. Hemingson explained that this agreement was really for the implementation of specific projects, not studies, and that the Green Line was being looked at as part of Project Connect.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ann Kitchen, Board Member
SECONDER:	Sabino Renteria, Board Member
AYES:	Mitchell, Word, Cooper, Garza, Kitchen, Jonse, Renteria
EXCUSED:	Travillion

3. Approval of a resolution authorizing the President/CEO, or his designee, to waive collection of fares on all Capital Metro services for the period of June 3, 2018 through June 9, 2018.

Reinet Marneweck, Chief Financial Officer, presented this item. This item was requested by Board member Travillion, and will increase reliability during the first week of the major service change in June. It will speed up boarding for customers and allow operators to focus on new routes. The estimated cost for waiving fares for the week is \$310,000 in lost revenue, but we can absorb this cost because our sales tax revenue has been favorable and above projections this year.

Board member Garza asked if it might be possible to extend this by an additional week, or even for the entire month of June. Ms. Marneweck stated that in her next CFO report she will be reporting on some other items that have run above budget and she can look at what the costs of doing so would be. CEO Clarke said we can do some more analysis and bring it back to the Finance Committee.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Delia Garza, Board Member
SECONDER:	Terry Mitchell, Board Member
AYES:	Mitchell, Word, Cooper, Garza, Kitchen, Jonse, Renteria
EXCUSED:	Travillion

4. Approval of a resolution authorizing the President/CEO, or his designee, to formally request the inclusion of funding for Project Connect preliminary engineering and environmental analysis as a component of the City of Austin's 2018 Bond Proposal.

Todd Hemingson, Executive Vice President of Planning and Development, presented this item. Project Connect will require additional funding to move to the next phase, including preliminary engineering and environmental work. Funding via the 2018 bond would keep the ball rolling on the project. The funding would also ask the City to look into how we resolve the gap on Pleasant Valley Road south of Riverside, which could become a major North-South transit corridor for Capital Metro.

Board member Renteria commented that the reason that Pleasant Valley does not connect is that residents in that area are opposed to it, but something might be worked out. Board member Kitchen wondered if the work on Pleasant Valley was related to work already being studied on Bradshaw. Mr. Hemingson said he thought that was the case.

Board member Garza expressed that she was excited about the prospect of a corridor in southeast Austin, to get more customers onto transit. Board member Renteria expressed support and offered that his office is willing to assist with outreach efforts in this area to educate residents of the importance of connecting the roadway gap.

Board member Kitchen asked if the \$15 million in funding would be enough to cover all the discussed items. Mr. Hemingson explained that the figure did not include the study for Pleasant Valley, just the engineering and environmental work for Project Connect.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Delia Garza, Board Member
SECONDER:	Ann Kitchen, Board Member
AYES:	Mitchell, Word, Cooper, Garza, Kitchen, Jonse, Renteria
EXCUSED:	Travillion

XI. Presentations:

1. Transit Empowerment Fund

Michelle Meaux, Regional Coordination Manager and Capital Metro's staff representative on the Transit Empowerment Fund, introduced Andrew Levack, TEF board member. Mr. Levack gave an overview of TEF's goals and activities.

In addition to providing transit passes to low income riders through area social service agencies, the TEF also funds several projects that address transit needs in the region. Capital Metro's annual contribution is currently \$350,000. He discussed the process through which agencies obtain the passes. The TEF has now provided more than 4 million rides since 2012. The TEF makes money available to local demonstration projects that support mobility.

Board member Jonse asked about providing passes to MetroAccess-eligible customers. Board member Renteria asked if TEF has reached out to the Rebekah Baines Johnson Center. Chair Cooper asked what the TEF saw as the biggest gaps in the communities we serve. Board member Kitchen asked about efforts to reach out to the City and Austin Energy, who are also looking at innovative options for low-income residents.

2. Project Connect

CEO Randy Clarke gave some opening comments to set the stage for the presentation. He sees the effort comprised of two major pieces -- a deep technical planning effort, which Todd Hemingson and his team have been leading along with a technical advisory committee and partners; and an easier-to-comprehend set of materials that can be used to initiate discussion in the community. At this point in the process discussion of specific modes is not as crucial as progress on corridors and dedicated right-of-way. We also need to consider that future technological innovations in transportation will affect what is eventually chosen.

Todd Hemingson, Executive Vice President of Planning and Development, made the presentation. Project Connect is a regional transportation vision, connecting people and places across Central Texas. This is about moving people, not just cars, since building more roads is no longer an option.

Mr. Hemingson also discussed the process of pursuing federal funding. Project development and engineering will help us to decide which projects, or package of projects, to pursue funding for. He showed maps and discussed goals of the current plan at the regional, urban, and downtown levels. We have prioritized each of corridors in the plan into several categories, with the highest ridership potential being the corridors along North Lamar, South Congress, and Riverside.

Mr. Clarke added to the discussion with some ideas that he has asked to be put into the mix for consideration, which have been discussed before but may warrant a second look: the terminus of the Red Line, the MoKan corridor, tunneling in areas where the right-of-way is constrained, vehicle technology, and "other" which includes being the regional unifier for transportation options, even if we do not own or operate every piece of it.

Board member Kitchen inquired about the Bergstrom Spur. Mr. Hemingson stated that Capital Metro had made inquiries into acquiring the right-of-way, although it is held by a mix of public and private landowners.

Mr. Hemingson then discussed timelines for several phases of the project and for getting to a potential bond vote in 2020. He also gave an overview of recent public involvement efforts for Project Connect. He encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming Traffic Jam event at the new Central Library.

Jeb Boyt from the Alliance for Public Transportation provided public comment after the presentation. He praised recent efforts on Project Connect and emphasized how critical the public involvement process is in this effort. He welcomes the opportunity to engage with the Agency on this in the coming years.

Board member Kitchen asked if we were engaging partners in providing support and endorsement for the overall Project Connect map, which the Capital Metro board will approve in June. Mr. Hemingson said endorsements are expected -- they may not come as early as June -- but that outreach on that is already underway.

XII. Reports:

1. President's Report

President Randy Clarke presented his report. He thanked the board and community and board for the warm welcome he has received. He has been meeting with elected officials and partners and is working hard to get to everyone. He thanked staff, in particular Darryl Jamail and John Jones, for their great work in the recent effort with APD. He also thanked staff for their hard work and extra effort during this year's SXSW festival -- 90 staff ambassadors and 755 hours of volunteer time. Finally, he thanked the team that put together the team that was able to quickly develop and implement a new MetroRail schedule earlier in the week, and thanked our customers for their patience in dealing with the recent rail delays.

Mr. Clarke introduced Dave Dech, the new Vice President of Rail Operations. He mentioned the recent "We're On It - Meet the Team" event at the Downtown Rail Station, and stated that we'd be doing similar events monthly in the future. Lastly, he mentioned his intention to bring forward to the board a strategic calendar for board agenda items.

XIII. Items for Future Discussion:

XIV. Adjournment

ADA Compliance

Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications are provided upon request. Please call (512)389-7458 or email gina.estrada@capmetro.org if you need more information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Wade Cooper, Chair; Delia Garza, Vice Chair; Juli Word, Board Secretary; Terry Mitchell, Pio Renteria, Jeffrey Travillion, Rita Jonse and Ann Kitchen. Board Liaison: Gina Estrada (512)389-7458, email gina.estrada@capmetro.org if you need more information.

The Board of Directors may go into closed session under the Texas Open Meetings Act. In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, consultation with attorney for any legal issues, under Section 551.072 for real property issues; under Section 551.074 for personnel matters, or under Section 551.076, for deliberation regarding the deployment or implementation of security personnel or devices; arising regarding any item listed on this agenda.