

# CAPITAL METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY **BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC HEARING** 2910 East Fifth Street Austin, TX 78702

~ MINUTES ~

Executive Assistant/Board Liaison Gina Estrada 512-389-7458

Thursday, September 14, 2017 12:00 PM

12:18 PM Meeting Called To Order 12:49 PM Meeting Adjourned

### **Public Comment:** L

David King, citizen, spoke in favor of keeping bus routes 383 and 392. In addition, he asked the Board to consider implementing the following strategies: Increase fares for transit services in the urban core and provide free bus fares for families earning below the living wage. Lastly, he suggested that Capital Metro ask the City of Austin Equity office to review our proposed FY2018 budget and provide feedback.

Jennifer McPhail, Adapt Texas, is unhappy that some bus drivers are not understanding of her disability and rush her to get on the bus. She also spoke about a bus stop at the Met Center that is difficult to board because of an incline. Recently, her friend Sparky, who is also disabled, tried to board at a bus stop that had a similar incline and was unable to do so. The driver did not understand Sparky's disability and had the police involved. Jennifer would like the new CEO to be someone that has empathy for transit riders with disabilities and implement some cultural changes.

Heiwa Salovitz, Adapt Texas, agrees with increased bus frequency and the proposed MetroRail frequency. He would like the next CEO to know the ADA law and be willing to work with people with disabilities, people of color, and other minorities.

Keith Lofton, Adapt Texas, spoke in favor of route 320. He stated it would be very difficult for him to get to the Adapt office is we cancel this route.

Zenobia Joseph, citizen, is concerned about the changes to routes 383 and 392. She stated this would create a safety hazard at Braker and North Lamar where people would have to cross in 5 lanes of traffic because there is no pedestrian safety crossing. She added that changes to 325, 820, and 37 are causing Capital Metro to lose revenue. Board member Kitchen stated the City would check on the safety at that particular intersection and would get back to Ms. Joseph.

#### II. **Presentations:**

Proposed January 2018 Service Changes

Roberto Gonzales, Planning Department, presented the Proposed January 2018 Service Changes. We are not proposing any substantive changes at this time due to the upcoming Connections 2025 changes to the network in June 2018. However, we are asking for the Board's consideration for a potential change of service to MetroRail when the new cars are in service. Minor adjustments to schedules may need to be made at that time.

2. Fiscal Year 2018 Operating and Capital Budget and Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Kevin Conlan, Budget Director, presented the Fiscal Year 2018 Operating and Capital Budget and Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan. Kevin reviewed the budget calendar, proposed budget highlights, growth in FY2018 services, and the proposed Five-Year capital plan. There were no public speakers.

Board member Garza asked to see the safety and security budget. Kevin will supply that information.

Board member Garza would like to know how drivers report accidents. Dottie Watkins will provide that information at the Operations Committee meeting as part of her monthly Operations Report to the committee.

## III. Adjournment

### **ADA Compliance**

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Wade Cooper, Chair; Beverly Silas, Vice Chair; Juli Word, Board Secretary; Rita Jonse, Ann Kitchen, Terry Mitchell, Delia Garza and Pio Renteria. 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.