

MINUTES

PLANNING & CAPITAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY

February 27, 2020

The Board of Directors Planning & Capital Programs Committee met on February 27, 2020 at 9:33 a.m. in the Board Room on the 6th Floor of the MARTA Headquarters Building, 2424 Piedmont Road, Atlanta, Georgia.

Board Members Present

Jim Durrett

William "Bill" Floyd, **Chair**

Roderick A. Frierson

Jerry Griffin

Freda B. Hardage

John "Al" Pond

Rita A. Scott

Christopher S. Tomlinson*

MARTA officials in attendance were: General Manager/ CEO Jeffrey A. Parker; C-Suite Team Members Chief Customer Experience Officer Rhonda Allen, Chief of System Safety, Security & Emergency Management/Police Michael Burrows (Acting), Chief of Bus Operations Collie Greenwood, Chief Financial Officer Kevin Hurley (Interim), Chief of Staff Melissa Mullinax, Chief Counsel Elizabeth O'Neill, Chief of Capital Programs, Expansion & Innovation Franklin Rucker and Chief of Rail Operations David Springstead; AGMs Heather Alhadeff, Marsha Anderson-Bomar, LaShanda Dawkins, Gina Major, Dean Mallis, Santiago Osorio, Emil Tzanov and George Wright; Senior Director Erica Pines; Directors Robin Boyd, John Cochran, David Emory, Jacqueline Holland (Acting), Jonathan Hunt, Sherrie Johnson, Torrey Kirby, Eric Meyers, Shelley Peart, William Taylor and Don Williams; Managers Dena Hasty (Acting) and Dedric Parham; Manager MARTA Board of Directors Rebbie Ellisor-Taylor; Sr. Executive Administrator Kenya Hammond; Department Administrator Demeka Wallace (Contract). Others in attendance Hunter Abel, Michael Bradley, Adrian Carter, Jolando Crane, Abebe Girmay, Cedric Griffin, Venus Kendall, Monty Montgomery, Pamela Smith and LaTonya Pope.

Also in attendance Eric Burton of HNTB; Sidney Douse of ARC; Jamie Gross-Sears of GDOT; Andrea Hubbard of GDOT; Greg Munden of TranSystems; Josh Rowan of City of Atlanta; Jim Schmidt of HNTB and Jabbari Weston of GSU.

Mr. Parker introduced the new Department of Transportation Commissioner and strong partner with MARTA, Josh Rowan.

* **Christopher S. Tomlinson is Executive Director of Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) and is therefore a non-voting member of the MARTA Board of Directors**

Approval of the January 30, 2020 Planning & External Relations Committee Meeting Minutes

On motion by Mr. Durrett seconded by Mr. Pond, the minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 6 to 0 with 7* members present.

Briefing – City of Atlanta Strategic Transportation Plan

Mr. Rowan presented the City of Atlanta's Strategic Transportation Plan.

About the Commissioner

- Born in New Mexico
- Georgia Tech Graduate
- 24 years of construction experience in the Atlanta

A Look Into the Future

- Moving patrons efficiently through the city
 - Car
 - Bus
 - Walk
 - Ride

Atlanta's Mobility Challenges

- Some of the Atlanta's neighborhoods are frustrated by the lack of basic transportation infrastructure, like pothole-free streets and accessible sidewalks
 - 60% of streets are in poor conditions
- Traffic Death rates in Atlanta for both drivers and pedestrians are three times higher than in peer cities like Seattle, Minneapolis and Boston
- 63 people died in 2019 on Atlanta's streets including 22 pedestrians, 3 scooter riders and a cyclist

Transit Goals – Build a 21st Century Transit Network for Atlanta

- Improve the bus network to connect more Atlantans to jobs and services
- Make bus service faster and more reliable
- Reduce bus delay at stops and intersections
- Provide real-time bus arrival info and other amenities at transit stops and stations
- Collaborate with MARTA to improve customer satisfaction and better inform riders

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Transit Goals – Make it Easier to Access Jobs and Services without a Car

- Work with partners to improve livability and mobility through more multimodal streets
- Set and track goals for increasing walking, biking and transit use
- Launch citywide Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program
- Develop a City of Atlanta employee TDM Program and increase transit ridership
- Expand new mobility options
- Develop a unified payment system with partner transit agencies

Safety is our Business

- Develop ZERO injuries and fatalities on Atlanta's streets
- Redesign high-injury corridors and intersections
- Assess feasibility and effectiveness of reducing speed limits on Atlanta's roads
- Speed Limit enforcement
- Install leading pedestrian intervals at high-risk intersections to make crossing streets safer
- Create Atlanta Safe routes to School Programs
- Establish an application-based neighborhood traffic-calming program

Speed is a Key Factor in Traffic Deaths

- Speeding is just as dangerous as driving drunk, new report call
- Hit by a vehicle traveling at 20 MPH
- Hit by a vehicle traveling at 30 MPH
- Hit by a vehicle traveling at 40 MPH

Mr. Durrett said it is a pleasure having the opportunity to partner with the City of Atlanta and operate in a more effective way.

Mr. Tomlinson asked if there has been discussion with partnering with the region.

Mr. Rowan said the City of Atlanta is connected to the region and looking forward to future partnerships with operators.

Mr. Floyd acknowledged Mr. Rowan for an excellent presentation and thanked him for speaking to the MARTA Board.

Mr. Parker distributed the One Atlanta Strategic Transportation Plan by Mayor, Keisha Lance Bottoms to MARTA Board members. Pages 56-57 were flagged for Board review. These pages list the goals to build a 21st Century Transit network for Atlanta and how to manage parking to better serve Atlanta's merchants, commuters and residents. He thanked Mr. Rowan for his dedication and commitment.

Briefing – Results of Public Hearing on Service Modification for April 2020

Ms. Pines provided an update on the outreach and results of the Public Hearings for April 2020 service modifications.

Public Hearing Locations

- Tuesday, February 11, 2020 – City of East Point Annex
Presiding Board Member, Alicia M. Ivey
- Saturday, February 15, 2020 – The Chamblee Library
Presiding Board Member, Rita A. Scott

Public Hearing Attendance

- East Point Annex: 22 Attendees / 8 Speakers
 - Steve Dickerson, ATL Board member, District attended
- Chamblee Library: 17 Attendees / 7 Speakers
 - Karen Lupton, City of Chamblee, Councilmember, District 3 attended

Community Outreach

- Post and Rail Mounted Signage – 96
- Stakeholder Briefing Presentations – 3
- Digital Outreach Emails – 400+
- Station Outreach – 6,125 Flyers/1,175 Bus Hangers
- Earned and Owned Media – 4.4K views
- Literature Drops – 88 Locations

Public Comments

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Oppose April Service Changes<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Total Comments: 6- Route: 126▪ Support April Service Changes<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Total Comments: 3- Route: 79 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Bus On-Time Performance<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Total Comments: 1- Routes: 126▪ Pedestrian Safety<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Total Comments: 2- Routes: 192, 126 |
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Recommendations

- Atlanta, Clayton, DeKalb and Fulton
 - Routes 8, 79, 82, 114, 124, 126, 192, 295
 - Proposed changes will be implemented based on public feedback
 - Route 126 proposed modification has been revised to maintain service along Flower Road South during peak periods

Ms. Scott expressed appreciation for the dedication of Mr. Williams, Ms. Pines and the Planning Department. She said while chairing the Public Hearing in DeKalb County, comments were received from professors and students that attend Mercer University. Mercer is building a 350-unit housing complex. These units would offer opportunities for professor and students to reside near the campus. She stated she was impressed by the number of professors that ride MARTA. Additionally, there will be FBI personnel moving from the Century Center location to a location near the Mercer campus.

Mr. Floyd said the conversation in his community is changing. It is a positive conversation lots of people are riding the MARTA bus.

Resolution Authorizing the Approval of Service Modifications for April 11, 2020 on Routes 8, 79, 82, 114, 124,126 and 192

Mr. Williams presented a resolution for the MARTA Board to adopt the 2020 Service Modifications for Routes: 8, 79, 82, 114, 124,126 and 192.

The MARTA Act and the MARTA Service Standards require public input and consideration before bus and rail modifications are approved by the Board for implementation.

The route modifications were developed based on the input and feedback from passengers, operators and communities as well as MARTA's ongoing service monitoring and evaluation to identify and pursue opportunities to enhance service.

The modifications have been designed to: expand service, improve service reliability (on-Time Performance); enhance safety, minimize perceived adverse impacts on communities improve operational efficiency; and better tailor service to demand.

On motion by Mr. Griffin seconded by Mrs. Hardage, the resolution was unanimously approved by a vote of 6 to 0 with 7* members present.

Resolution Authorizing the Solicitation of Proposals for the Sale of 0 Oak Valley Rd, Parcel D3050, a 2,830 sf Parcel at the NW Corner of Oak Valley & East Paces Ferry, District 17, Land Lot 9, Fulton County, Atlanta, Georgia

Ms. Boyd presented a resolution authorizing the General Manager/CEO or his delegate to solicit proposals for the sale of 0 Oak Valley Road, Fulton County, Atlanta, Georgia.

The Parcel is excess property that is the remnants of real property acquired for the construction needs for Contract CN480 construction of Lenox Station and realignment of Lenox Road (aka Railroad Avenue). Post construction of the station and other transit facilities, the Authority and the City of Atlanta realigned the road and MARTA conveyed majority of the surplus properties to the City for street right-of-way.

Parcel D3050 was originally acquired by MARTA as Acquisition Parcel N755 under the FTA Grant No. GA-03-0023 Phase B Rapid Rail with 77% federal participation, as part of the purchase related to the construction of the Lenox Station.

MARTA currently leases a portion of the Parcel to One Atlanta Plaza under a ground lease for signage. Annual rental income to MARTA is \$13,200 based on \$1,100/month. The parcel is no longer required for the operation or maintenance for the Authority. During the 2017-2018 period, Parcel D3050 was listed for sale with brokerage services for a minimum bid amount of \$30,000, however no offers were received.

Timing is now believed optimal for disposal of the property rights. As a result of Houston's restaurant closing for business on a neighboring parcel, various entities are attempting to assemble all properties on the block bordered by Lenox Road, Wright Avenue, Oak Valley Road and East Paces Ferry Road.

On motion by Mr. Durrett seconded by Mr. Griffin, the resolution was unanimously approved by a vote of 7 to 0 with 8* members present.

Resolution Authorizing the Disposal of MARTA Parcel C5013A, as a Permanent Utility Easement to the City of Atlanta for the Installation & Maintenance of a Sewer Line Located South of Bankhead Station in Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia

Ms. Boyd presented a resolution authorizing the sale of MARTA parcel C5013A, a sanitary sewer easement, to the City of Atlanta.

The City of Atlanta requires a sanitary sewer easement on MARTA owned property near the Bankhead Station.

The property rights will be conveyed to the City for the appraised value of \$6,000.00.

The sale of these property rights will not impact the maintenance or operation of the transit system.

On motion by Mrs. Hardage seconded by Mr. Durrett, the resolution was unanimously approved by a vote of 7 to 0 with 8* members present.

Briefing – Surveying Consulting Services

Ms. Anderson Bomar provided a briefing on Surveying Consulting Services.

The current Surveying Services contract with Atkins North America Inc., KCI- LandAir Surveying Company and Woolpert expired on August 31, 2019. The purpose of the new Surveying Services contract is to provide continued on-call surveying services.

Surveying Services are required to support design and construction projects, the disposition of real estate, transit-oriented development, transit adjacent development, the management of MARTA's primary survey control system, utility mapping, facilities and trackway monitoring and the preparation of as-built drawings for existing facilities.

As required under the Brooks Act, engineering services are procured through a qualifications-based solicitation process.

Purpose for the request is to provide continuous surveying support to the following MARTA branches:

- Real Estate
- Transit Oriented Development
- Planning
- Architecture
- Program Management
- GIS

Functions of the request is to provide:

- Disposition of real estate
- Property plats
- Mapping for asset management
- Survey control system
- Utility mapping
- Trackway monitoring
- Preparing as-build plans
- Determining Right-Of-Way limits
- General survey services

The term of the contract would be three (3) base years with two (2) one-year options.

Resolution Authorizing the Commitment of Local Funding Related to Certain Atlanta Regional Commission Transit Improvement Plan (TIP) Project Grant Application

Mr. Williams presented a resolution authorizing the General Manager/CEO or his delegate to execute grant applications on behalf of MARTA for the receipt of federal funding under the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG).

The Atlanta Regional Commission requires confirmation from the MARTA Board of Directors indicating that if any of the projects below are selected to receive federal funding, MARTA will provide the non-federal local funding match portion of each project. Below is the list of MARTA proposed projects.

- MARTA Clean Bus Procurement: Federal \$4,980,000, Local Match \$1,245,000 (Total \$6,225,000)
- Clayton County Bus Routes (Two New Routes): Federal \$6,000,000, Local Match \$1,500,000 (Total \$7,500,000)
- Avondale Yard Train Wash Replacement: Federal \$7,444,000, Local Match \$1,861,000 (Total \$9,305,000)
- Clayton County Transit Center (Justice Center): Federal \$5,000,000, Local Match \$1,250,000 (Total \$6,250,000)
- Metropolitan Parkway ART: Federal \$5,000,000, Local Match \$1,250,000 (Total \$6,250,000)

Mr. Parker said these federal funds are money the region is already receiving.

Mr. Bradley said ARC runs the solicitation. FTA is the grantee.

Mr. Tomlinson said this is not money exclusive to transit. These are regional funds that can be used for different purposes.

Mr. Durrett and Mr. Floyd expressed they would like more clarity and more information at a later date.

Mr. Durrett asked to follow up at a later date regarding this matter.

On motion by Mr. Durrett seconded by Mr. Pond, the resolution was unanimously approved by a vote of 7 to 0 with 8* members present.

Other Matters

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Adjournment

The meeting of the External Relations Committee adjourned at 10:26 a.m.