

**Summary Minutes
Advisory Committee
County Connection
Gayle B. Uilkema Memorial Board Room
2477 Arnold Industrial Way
Concord, CA
Tuesday, July 9, 1:00 p.m.**

Members: Jim Donnelly, Marjorie McWee, Matthew Horne
Staff: Sean Hedgpeth, Rashida Kamara
Public: Pam Lochner (Transdev LINK driver, ATU)

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved.
3. **Approval of the Minutes of May 14, 2019:** The minutes were approved as presented.
4. **Public Comment and/or Communication:**
Pam Lochner commented that they are working on the transition to Transdev at LINK and they are committed to the new goals for service.
5. **Consent Calendar**
None.
6. **Link Transition to New Service Model**
Ms. Kamara informed the committee about the new transition to Transdev as the operator of LINK. Highlights include a new mobile app, LINK drivers equipped with tablets to allow for better ETAs, and a new LINK service option provided by Big Star, which uses a TNC (eg. Uber/Lyft) model with branded vans for pickups that are more difficult to serve with traditional 16 passenger paratransit vans. Ms. McWee commented that there were routing problems with First Transit, often going way out of the way or not pairing pick-ups properly. Ms. Kamara replied that all incoming Transdev dispatch staff have received new special training on the scheduling software, Trapeze, which should alleviate some of these issues.
7. **Draft Transportation Expenditure Project List**
Mr. Hedgpeth filled in the committee about recent efforts for a countywide sales tax for transportation. Staff has been working with the bus operator committee to put together the preferred transit project expenses for the county. Ms. McWee asked what the BART corridors signified in the project listing. Mr. Hedgpeth replied that these would be bus routes to BART with at least 15 minute frequencies. Mr. Donnelly asked why so little funding was programmed for electric buses. Mr. Hedgpeth replied that the TEP funding is designed to provide matching dollars and would not cover 100% of the cost of electrification.

8. **Update on Recent Bay Area Mega-Measure (FASTER) Efforts**
Mr. Hedgpeth let the committee know about early efforts of the Silicon Valley Leadership Council to put together a Bay Area wide transportation tax measure to the tune of over \$100 billion, similar to recent successful transit measures in Los Angeles County and the Seattle Metro area. County Connection is working with larger agencies such as AC Transit on a proposed express bus plan, as well as additional funding for other bus service.
9. **LCTOP Funded Free Fare Service on Routes 11, 14 and 16**
Mr. Hedgpeth informed the committee that as of July 1st new grant funding was released that allows County Connection to provide free fares on Routes 11, 14, and 16 serving the Monument Corridor. This would be a one year pilot. Mr. Hedgpeth expressed optimism for induced ridership with the program after some ridership drops associated with a national trend and recent fare increases.
10. **Update on Walnut Creek Transit Village**
Mr. Hedgpeth filled the committee in on recent efforts of County Connection staff to work with BART and the developer of the parking garage to provide good service at our #1 stop by ridership.
11. **County Connection LINK Coordination with Choice in Aging Program**
Ms. Kamara informed the committee about a new pilot to serve a group of twelve passengers going to programs in Choice in Aging. This pilot uses a service called SilverRide, which is sort of a value added TNC operator that is focused on senior trips with additional service and training. This pilot is intended to assess the effectiveness of SilverRide in improving long travel times for sensitive populations who regularly need transportation to this program. Mr. Donnelly asked for ongoing updates to the pilot and Ms. Kamara obliged.
12. **ADA Monthly Reports**
LINK monthly operating for March and April 2019 were reviewed. Ms. Kamara informed the committee that the complaints are up because we now have a better system to capture them, where as last year a lot of potential complaints may not have been logged properly.
13. **Fixed-Route Staff Reports**
Fixed-route Ridership Report – The monthly reports for March and April were reviewed. Mr. Hedgpeth mentioned ridership was mostly flat in March, but a drop in April could be attributed to a much rainier spring in 2018 over 2019.
14. **Member Communication:**
Mr. Donnelly thanked staff for following through with board members to appoint more members to the Advisory Committee. He also mentioned he would like to look at the bylaws to allow the committee to receive information in a more timely matter in order to influence board decisions.
15. **Next Scheduled Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2019, at 1 pm at the County Connection board room.
16. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 2:58 pm.