

**Summary Minutes  
Marketing, Planning, and Legislative Committee  
Thursday, May 7, 8:30 a.m.**

*Due to COVID-19, this meeting was conducted as a teleconference pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20.*

**Directors:** Amy Worth, Keith Haydon, Rob Schroder

**Staff:** Rick Ramacier, Bill Churchill, Ruby Horta, Rashida Kamara, Melody Reebbs,  
Madeline Chun, Erick Chung

**Public:** Andy Smith

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Director Worth.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

The Committee approved the agenda.

**2. Public Communication**

None

**3. Approval of Minutes from March 5, 2020**

The Committee approved the minutes.

**4. Status report on the three, free-fare transit bills**

Mr. Ramacier informed the Committee that the three bills that were introduced in the state legislature earlier this year that would require free transit to select groups have been dropped from consideration this year. However, they will likely be reintroduced next year.

**5. Status report on AB2057**

Mr. Ramacier informed the Committee that AB2057 will also not be moving forward this year and will likely be reintroduced next year. Meanwhile, MTC has established a task force to consider some of the seamless issues and make recommendations on how to allocate the second tranche of CARES act funding.

**6. COVID-19 Service Levels**

Ms. Horta provided an update on current fixed-route service levels and safety measures that have been implemented in response to COVID-19. Staff is currently evaluating service level needs if social distancing requirements continue into the fall. Director Schroder asked how social distancing requirements are enforced on the vehicle. Ms. Horta replied that it is currently left to driver discretion. Staff is also updating vehicle headsigs so drivers can display a message when the bus is at capacity. Mr. Ramacier

added that staff will likely be bringing a formal policy to the Board for approval related to social distancing and vehicle capacity. Director Haydon noted that public outreach will be important to ensure riders are aware of capacity limitations. Director Worth asked whether staff has been involved with any efforts on the state level to coordinate on how schools reopen. Mr. Ramacier responded that this issue was recently brought up with California Transit Association staff. Staff has also reached out to all the school districts directly. Mr. Churchill noted that he has had discussions with three districts so far.

## **7. Social Distancing on LINK**

Ms. Kamara provided an update on safety measures being implemented on paratransit in response to COVID-19. Currently, vehicles are only transporting one passenger at a time. However, staff has been evaluating how to maintain social distancing once demand for service increases. Staff is also looking at alternative fare collection methods that would minimize contact. Director Haydon asked if passengers who have tested positive for the virus are being transported by the LINK system. Ms. Kamara responded that LINK has partnered with the County to help transport passengers who have tested positive. Drivers have received extensive training and PPE, and vehicles have been dedicated for those trips. Director Schroder asked if there are any state or federal funding subsidies to support the continued use of paratransit vehicles for community services, such as meal delivery. Ms. Kamara replied that funding from the CARES act can be used to pay contractors who are providing these services. Mr. Ramacier added that staff is working with the County on an MOU to provide some reimbursement.

## **8. Status of County Connection's Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) implementation plan**

Ms. Horta informed the Committee that staff intends to work with the Center of Transportation and the Environment (CTE) to develop a Zero Emission Bus Rollout Plan using the remaining funds from a Low-No Grant that was originally awarded in 2016. Using these currently available funds means that staff will not need to seek out a different source of funding to fulfill this State requirement.

## **9. Website and Social Media Report**

Ms. Reeb provided an overview of website and social media activity for January through March. She noted that staff had been working to increase engagement levels over the first two months. However, circumstances changed significantly in March, and staff has since focused the use of the website and social media for announcing service impacts, as well as distributing information from other community organizations. Director Haydon asked about the recent drop-off in activity on NextDoor. Ms. Reeb responded that staff has typically used NextDoor to promote community events, which have since all been cancelled. Director Haydon requested including NextDoor when posting service impacts, as it tends to be a very active platform particularly in communities like Clayton.

## **10. Committee Comments**

None

## **11. Future Agenda Items**

None

**12. Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. at 3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

**13. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: Melody Reeb, Manager of Planning