

Summary Minutes
Marketing, Planning, and Legislative Committee
Thursday, December 2, 2021, 8:30 a.m.

Due to COVID-19, this meeting was conducted as a teleconference pursuant to the provisions of Assembly Bill 361.

Directors: Amy Worth, Candace Andersen, Kevin Wilk

Staff: Rick Ramacier, Bill Churchill, Ruby Horta, Melody Reeb, Madeline Chun

Public: None

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Director Worth.

1. Approval of Agenda

The Committee approved the agenda.

2. Public Communication

None

3. Approval of Minutes from November 4, 2021

The Committee approved the minutes.

4. Mt. Diablo USD Meeting

Mr. Churchill informed the Committee that staff met with several mayors and the new superintendent of the Mt. Diablo School District to discuss traffic congestion around school bell times. Moving forward, staff hopes to meet regularly with the school district's transportation coordinator and look into ways to share data to better serve the schools.

5. Pass2Class Update

Ms. Horta presented the results from the Pass2Class program in partnership with 511 Contra Costa. Over 30,000 trips total were taken using the pass during the months of August and October, and more than half of the trips were on 600-series school routes. The top three 600-series routes were Routes 601, 602, and 606 serving WCI, OIS, and Miramonte HS, while Routes 10, 18, 20, 21, and 35 carried the majority of Pass2Class trips on local routes.

6. Federal Legislative Update

Mr. Ramacier provided an update on four pieces of federal legislation related to public transit. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) has been enacted and includes a 65% increase in direct spending on public transit. Some of this funding is expected to assist with the transition to zero-emission buses. With the Build Back Better Act, which is almost double the amount of the IIJA, there could be funding available through

competitive grants for some of the types of services that County Connection began operating during COVID, such as trips to access health care, food, and shopping. The Fiscal Recovery Funds Infrastructure Flexibility Act would allow state and local governments to spend some of their ARP funding on transit. The transit budget at the federal level has been enacted and includes \$17 billion for public transit.

7. PEPR & Federal Section 13(c)

Mr. Ramacier informed the Committee that in October, the US Department of Labor informed FTA Region 9 that due to the alleged conflict between PEPR and Section 13(c), they intend to withhold all California transit operator federal grants, including ARP funds. Staff estimates that if federal funding is withheld for more than two years, TDA reserves will be exhausted, and service will need to be cut.

8. Community Events

Ms. Horta provided a summary of outreach being conducted in December. She noted that the goal for 2022 is to have more consistency in terms of locations and have a set schedule on where staff will be.

9. Committee Comments

None

10. Future Agenda Items

None

11. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for January 6th at 8:30 a.m. via teleconference.

12. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

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