

**Summary Minutes  
Operations & Scheduling Committee  
Supervisor Andersen Office  
3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Lafayette, CA  
Thursday, October 5, 2017, 8:00 a.m.**

**Directors:** Robert Storer, Jim Diaz, Sue Noach, Dave Hudson  
**Staff:** Rick Ramacier, Bill Churchill, Ruby Horta, Scott Mitchell  
**Public:** None

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Director Storer.

- 1. Approval of Agenda Items:** Agenda was approved.
- 2. Public Comment and/or Communication:** None.
- 3. Approval of O&S Summary Minutes for September 1, 2017:** Minutes were approved.
- 4. Committee Chair Selection**

The Committee voted unanimously to appoint Robert Storer as Chair.

**5. Slab Replacement Project**

Mr. Mitchell explained that the concrete slab on the north side of the maintenance building needs to be repaired in order to avoid damage to the vehicles. Staff went through the bidding process and has identified the lowest bidder to be GEMS environmental Management Services, Inc. The project budget has been set at \$168,000 and will be funded by a federal grant (\$135,000) and a local match using Prop. 1B (\$33,000). The project is expected to be completed by February 2017.

The O&S committee requests that the Board of Directors allow the General Manager to enter into a contract with GEMS Environmental Management Services Inc. for the Slab Replacement Project.

**6. Fixed Route Service Near Schools**

In response to the discussion at the previous Board meeting, Mr. Churchill provided a comprehensive review of how service near schools has developed over the years, to the best of staff's knowledge. Mr. Churchill reviewed the attachments included and explained the impact of State initiatives as well as budget cuts to the service provided by and for schools. As a public transit agency, County Connection is required to make all routes available to the public, publish routes and timetables, and make have consistency on bus stop signage. As the needs of school district's change over time, County Connection's ability to provide

increasing demands has been diminished. Mr. Churchill explained the difficulty of meeting the demand of changing bell times in addition to the needs of commuters, seniors and college students in the same community.

Mr. Ramacier provided additional details on Attachment B. He indicated that areas currently served couple of school trips a days used to have all-day service, prior to the service cuts in 2008/2009. Rather than completely eliminate service in those areas, County Connection maintained trips to serve the student population.

Director Noack described the challenges Pleasant Hill faces as it attempts to accommodate an influx of students outside the district boundaries.

Director Storer inquired about fixed route options available for families along Camino Tassajara. All of the fixed route service in the Danville area is concentrated along I-680.

Director Hudson suggested staff follow up with the Traffix program and inquire about their potential to provide additional service to Monte Vista High School.

The O&S Committee directed staff to include the policy for adding new service and present this item to the Board as information only.

## **7. New School Bus Service Requests**

Ms. Horta summarized the two petitions staff has received for additional bus service to schools. The first petition requests two morning trips in the reverse direction of existing Route 623 to provide service to Monte Vista High School. The second petition requests two morning trips and two afternoon trips to imitate existing Route 626 with service to Stanley Middle School. Meeting these service requests will cost approximately \$204,000 per year.

The O&S Committee directed staff to work with the petitioners and the local student transportation providers to identify potential funding sources. County Connection is currently not in a position to incur additional operating expenses.

## **8. Walnut Creek Transit Village (WCTV) Update**

Ms. Horta provided an update on the WCTV. Construction has begun and certain County Connection routes were re-routed due to road closure. All routes are accessing the Walnut Creek BART station from Ygnacio Valley Road. This detour has not caused any service delays.

## **9. Reports**

Staff reported on the fixed route statistics.

## **10. Committee Comments**

Director Hudson informed the Committee that Bishop Ranch's Easy Mile autonomous vehicles have received approval from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and are awaiting approval from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Director Storer informed the Committee that the Town of Danville will consider WAVE inductive chargers in an effort to increase the viability of electric buses along the I-680.

**11. Future Agenda Items**

- Bus on Shoulder (BOS) update

**12. Next Scheduled Meeting** – November 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette CA.

**13. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: Ruby Horta Director of Planning & Marketing