

**Summary Minutes
Operations & Scheduling Committee
Friday, October 7, 8:15 a.m.**

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

Directors: Robert Storer, Mike McCluer, *Dave Hudson*

Staff: Bill Churchill, Ruby Horta, Melody Reeb, Pranjali Dixit, Rosa Noya

Public: None

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Director Storer.

1. Approval of Agenda

The Committee approved the agenda.

2. Public Communication

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of September 2, 2022

The Committee approved the minutes.

4. Winter Bid Update

Mr. Dixit informed the committee that ridership has continued to show strong year-over-year growth, boosted by lower COVID case counts, fare promotions such as the Summer Youth Pass, and expansion of free rides along the Monument Corridor to weekend Routes 311, 314, and 316. Additionally, he informed that 3 routes were being modified based on discussions with the union to improve access to various amenities like bathrooms and restaurants, 3 more routes were being modified to improve on-time performance, alignment on one route will be modified to travel on Center Ave and will replace school route 608 effective November 13th.

5. One-Seat Regional Ride Pilot Update

Mr. Churchill informed the committee that as the operator of the Regional One Seat Ride program, County Connection is responsible to report the performance metrics to NTD when the pilot period ends, which would then be used to distribute federal funding. He informed that since the service area covers more than one urbanized area (UZA), it has posed challenges and that staff has been working with FTA, NTD and MTC to identify a solution to equitably divide the funding. He informed that to maintain the "Pilot" nature of the project for one more year, staff proposes the project to include a Travel Training component and possibly expand the service area to western Contra Costa that includes cities like Richmond, El Sobrante, Kensington, San Pablo and El Cerrito to accommodate the interest shown by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA). The committee approved the one-year extension to the One-Seat Ride Regional Pilot program and agreed to forward to the full Board for approval.

6. Monthly Reports

Mr. Dixit informed that the agency saw the ridership reach its highest level in August since the initial lockdown began in March 2020 due to lower COVID case counts, fare promotions such as the Summer Youth Pass, and expansion of free rides along the Monument Corridor to weekend Routes. He reiterated the issue of operator shortage which led to increase in missed trips in August. He responded to Director McCluer's question about weekday ridership that the ridership on the express service has continued to lag leading to lower ridership recovery on weekdays compared to weekend.

Ms. Noya informed that starting July 1st, the key performance metrics in the contract was amended to raise on time performance standard from 90% to 92% and lower the productivity standard from 2 to 1.5 passengers per revenue hour. She informed that August had the highest ridership since the initial lockdown began in March 2020, productivity rose to 1.84 from 1.5 in July and decrease in on time performance to 83% from 92.9% in July due to the unanticipated increase in ridership. This also resulted in higher complaints with respect to timeliness.

7. Committee Comments

Director Hudson briefed about the challenges with transition to complete electric fleet discussed at Mayor's conference.

8. Future Agenda Items

Director Hudson requested an update on the Hydrogen Fuel Cell Project. Director Storer requested to an update on Solar infrastructure at the County Connection facility.

9. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for November 4th at 8:15 a.m. via teleconference.

10. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 a.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: Pranjali Dixit, Manager of Planning