

County Connection

2477 Arnold Industrial Way Concord, CA 94520-5326 (925) 676-7500 countyconnection.com

CCCTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

January 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/CONFIRM QUORUM

Chair Amy Worth called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9:00 a.m. Board Members present were Directors Andersen, Diaz, Noack, Schroder, Sos, Tatzin and Wilk. Directors Hoffmeister, Hudson and Storer were absent.

Staff: Churchill, Sherman, Dixit, Duran, Glenn, Hill, Horta, Johnson, Kamara, Martinez, McCarthy, Mitchell and Reeb

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: None

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: Director Noack moved approval of the Consent Calendar, consisting of the following items: (a) Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 15, 2022; (b) Approval of Minutes of Special Meeting of December 21, 2022, (c) Resolution No. 2023-024, Declaring that the Proclaimed State of Emergency for the COVID-19 Pandemic Continues to Impact the Ability for the Board and its Committees to Meet Safely in Person, and Directing that Virtual Board and Committee Meetings Continue. Director Andersen seconded the motion, and it received the following vote of approval:

Aye: Directors Andersen, Noack, Schroder, Tatzin, Wilk and Worth
No: None
Abstain: Directors Diaz and Sos
Absent: Directors Hoffmeister, Hudson and Storer

REPORT OF CHAIR:

Chair Worth informed the Board that she and Director Noack met to discuss MTC's Network Management Committee. They can be helpful with the following topics: Fares and Easy to make payments, Transit Network-Unity between the transit agencies, Accessibility and more efficiency all while using existing resources.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER:

In Person Meetings

General Manager Bill Churchill informed the Board that assuming the Governor's state of emergency is lifted on February 28, 2023, we are looking to go back in person in March 2023 for committee and Board meetings. We will bring this back to the Board in February in order to update and/or confirm this change.

APTA Legislative Conference in March 2023

General Manager Bill Churchill informed the Board that the APTA Legislative Conference will be in March 2023. As of right now, we have two board members interested in attending. If anyone else is interested, please reach out to him or Lathina Hill.

Appointment of CCTA Bus Transit Board Ex-Officio Member and Alternate

General Manager Bill Churchill informed the Board that the four Contra Costa County bus operators (AC Transit, County Connection, Tri-Delta Transit, and WestCAT) share a non-voting seat on the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) Board of Directors. The seat rotates among the four operators in alphabetical order. The term is for one year. Prior to an agency holding the seat for a given year, that same agency holds the alternate seat for the previous year.

County Connection is set to hold the Ex-Officio Alternate seat from February 1, 2023 through January 31, 2024. CCTA bylaws require that all board members; including Ex-Officio members, be elected officials.

The Ex-Officio member does not vote but attends the meetings of the full CCTA Board. The Ex-Officio does not sit on any of the CCTA board standing committees.

MOTION: Director Noack moved approval of Amy Worth becoming the new Ex-Officio Member on CCTA's board. Director Wilk seconded the motion, and it received the following vote of approval:

Aye: Directors Andersen, Diaz, Noack, Schroder, Sos, Tatzin, Wilk and Worth

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Directors Hoffmeister, Hudson and Storer

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Marketing, Planning & Legislative Committee

Integrated Transit Plan Update-Information Only

Melody Reeb, Director of Planning, Marketing, & Innovation, gave a brief background stating that in 2019, the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) developed a Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP) for a potential new sales tax measure. The TEP established a transit-first policy and called for the development of an Integrated Transit Plan (ITP), which would establish goals and recommendations to improve transit coordination and integration in Contra Costa County and define how TEP funding could be used. Although the March 2020 ballot measure did not pass, CCTA is hiring a consultant to move forward with the development of the ITP as a proactive approach in response to regional efforts such as the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force to improve transit efficiency and coordination amongst the various operators.

CCTA developed a scope of work and released a Request for Proposals (RFP) in November 2022 for a consulting firm to develop the ITP. The plan will include an assessment of existing services and travel markets to identify gaps in service as well as current and projected travel trends. Based on these findings, action plans will be developed that recommend specific service changes to better serve the different markets, establish priorities in serving the differing needs of the various populations, and identify new service choices that have the best potential to gain transit market share. The plan will also identify infrastructure needs in order to support the recommended improvements. Finally, the plan will explore the institutional and policy changes that would be necessary to

support greater transit effectiveness and productivity beyond the short- to medium-term improvements identified in the action plans. However, in the absence of a new sales tax measure, the plan will not identify alternative new funding sources for the action plan recommendations.

Transit operator staff will be participating in the RFP evaluation process. The contract is tentatively scheduled to be awarded in February 2023, and it is anticipated that the plan itself will take 12 to 18 months to complete. Staff will provide updates to the MP&L Committee and Board as the plan development moves forward.

Operations & Scheduling Committee

LCTOP and Route 99X Update

Pranjal Dixit, Manager of Planning explained that starting in August 2018, County Connection launched Route 99X, which was designed to meet the new LCTOP guidelines. The route runs from Martinez Amtrak to North Concord BART during peak hours and serves the Pacheco Transit Center, Concord Adult Homeless Shelter, Contra Costa County offices at Glacier and Muir, and the courthouse in Martinez. Route 99X serves the section around Pacheco and Morello which is part of the disadvantaged community (DAC). in Martinez. Beginning in FY 21-22, DAC definitions were updated and there are now three additional DACs in County Connection's service area in Concord.

Since the launch of the route in August 2018, the route has not attracted much ridership and even at its peak, its performance was below the overall express route average. During the pandemic, as people started working remotely, commuter trips went down and have remained significantly below pre-pandemic levels as many workers have not yet returned to the office full time. Although the overall express route ridership continues to lag, Route 99X continues to underperform compared to other express routes. Currently the route operates 19 trips during the peak commute hours and averages 44 passengers a day at 3.5 passengers per hour, which is below the current express route average of 6.6.

The biggest ridership generators along the route are the Martinez Amtrak Station, North Concord BART, Concord Adult Homeless Shelter located on Arnold Industrial Way, and the apartments/businesses on Morello Ave. New or expanded transit service is only eligible for LCTOP funds for up to 5 years, so Route 99X will no longer be eligible starting in August 2023. Due to the consistent underperformance and lack of funding, staff will evaluate options to redesign the route to better suit the demands and/or reallocate funds based on the new DACs, and will present proposed recommendations at a future meeting.

Report from the Advisory Committee

Marji McWee, Chair of the Advisory Committee, will give an update from the Committee.

Marji McWee gave a brief update on the Proposed Regional Network Management under the MTC: Ms. Rashida Kamara introduced the plans for the new regional network governance structure. The committee has asked to review the MTC's consultant's report on the proposed structure. This will help us to contemplate and speak to the impact from our perspectives across stakeholder groups. Likewise, we look forward to updates from staff on the plan's implementation and their own evolving understanding of how these changes will impact the CCCTA.

CCTA Framework for the Development of a Coordinated Entity: Ms. Kamara introduced the CCTA's plans to develop a coordinated entity to address the ATSP's findings. After explaining the context, she highlighted the task force's recommendation for a centralized entity to coordinate the delivery of services. She explained its merits and the funding considerations. The advisory committee affirmed the possibilities from the rider's perspective. The idea of a "one-stop-shop" for riders to navigate all the county's transportation options was viewed positively. The committee looks forward to updates as the entity becomes operationalized.

Strategic Marketing Plan: Mr. Ryan Jones highlighted the key elements of the '23-'24 strategic marketing plan. The advisory committee provided Mr. Jones with ideas for additional tactics for the plan. These focused on ways to reach underrepresented stakeholder groups other than through social media. Tactics were identified for reaching specific stakeholder through in-person events and the venues where they may be found. For example, non-profit social service agencies, health and rehabilitation service providers, faith-based programs providing support services, senior centers, professional gatherings, public fairs and service provider showcases/networking events, transit villages/high density housing areas, and neighborhood/homeowners' associations. These in-person efforts would complement the plan's other tactics.

BOARD COMMUNICATION: None

CLOSED SESSION:

The Board of Directors went into closed session at 10:04 a.m.

Public Employee Performance Evaluation; Conference with Labor Negotiator
(pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957, 54957.6)
Agency Designated Representative: Board Chair
Position: General Manager

OPEN SESSION:

Report of Action(s) taken during the Closed Session

The Board of Directors came back from closed session at 10:16 a.m.

Director Worth reported that the Board met in closed session with its advisory committee regarding the completion of the General Manager's performance evaluation. A proposed resolution was shared with the public and an oral report was made by the Chair regarding the key terms of the proposed amendment to the General Manager's employment agreement as follows: a 5% wage increase to the General Manager's annual salary, for a revised annual salary of \$245,700, which salary will be effective January 1, 2023.

MOTION: Director Noack moved approval of the resolution amending the General Manager's employment agreement. Director Andersen seconded the motion, and it received the following vote of approval:

Aye: Directors Andersen, Diaz, Noack, Schroder, Sos, Tatzin, Wilk and Worth

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Directors Hoffmeister, Hudson and Storer

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Worth adjourned the regular Board meeting at 10:21 am.

Minutes prepared by:

Lathina Hill

Assistant to the General Manager

Date: February 8, 2023