

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OPERATIONS & SAFETY COMMITTEE
METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY
April 30, 2015

The Board of Directors Operations & Safety Committee met on April 30, 2015 at 10:07 a.m. in the Board Room on the 6th Floor of the MARTA Headquarters Building, 2424 Piedmont Road, Atlanta, Georgia.

Board Members Present

Roberta Abdul-Salaam
Harold Buckley, Sr.
Robert F. Dallas
Frederick L. Daniels, Jr.
Jim Durrett, *Chair*
Jerry Griffin
Freda B. Hardage
Barbara Babbit Kaufman

MARTA officials in attendance were: General Manager/CEO Keith T. Parker, AICP; Chief Operating Officer Joseph Erves (Acting); Chief Financial Officer Gordon L. Hutchinson; Chief Administrative Officer Edward L. Johnson; Chief Counsel Elizabeth O'Neill; Chief of Staff Rukiya S. Eaddy; AGMs Farouk Baksh (Acting), Robin Henry, Reginald Mason, Ryland McClendon and Donald Williams (Acting); Executive Director Antoine Smith (Acting); Sr. Directors Rhonda Briggins, and David Springstead; Directors Lisa DeGrace, Tim Elsberry (Acting), Lyle Harris, Connie Krisak, Pat Minnucci, Knox O'Callaghan and Warren Taylor (Acting); Managers Greg Anderson, Kelly Hayden, Sherma Sobers and Uladia Taylor; Executive Manager to the Board Rebbie Ellis-Taylor; Sr. Executive Administrator Brenda L. Williams; Finance Administrative Analyst Tracy Kincaid. Others in attendance Davis Allen, Carlos Arietta, Nicholas Gowens, Don Lawrence, LaTonya Pope and Srinath Remala.

Also in attendance Jeffrey Boothe of Holland & Knight, LLP; Jim Schmid of HNTB; Sid Sparks of UAI.

Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of the March 26, 2015 Operations & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
- b) Resolution to Accept the Contract for Project B22613, Lift Replacement at Hamilton Bus Facility
- c) Resolution Authorizing Award of a Contract for Procurement of Furniture for the Brady Mobility Facility, RFP P35384

On motion by Mrs. Kaufman seconded by Mr. Daniels, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved by a vote of 6 to 0, with 6 members present.

Individual Agenda

Resolution Authorizing Award of a Contract for the Procurement of Mobile Radios and Communications Consoles, RFP 35624

Mr. Taylor presented this resolution for Board of Directors' approval authorizing the General Manager/CEO or his delegate to enter into a contract with Motorola, Inc., State of Georgia Enterprise Agreement Vendor number 980-280008, for the procurement of Mobile Radios and Console Equipment, in the amount of \$2,924,016.

Mr. Dallas asked about the life cycle of the radios.

Mr. Taylor said as MARTA has transferred to newer frequencies the devices need to be upgraded.

Mr. Dallas asked will new buses come with these.

Mr. Taylor said yes.

Mr. Dallas asked what happens to the old radios.

Mr. Parker said if a radio still has any useful life the Authority will continue to use in it – in most cases the bus outlives the radio.

Mr. Daniels asked if the radios have advanced technology.

Mr. Parker said this is the best available.

On motion by Mrs. Kaufman seconded Mrs. Hardage, the resolution was unanimously approved by a vote of 6 to 0, with 6 members present.

Resolution Authorizing Award of a Contract for the Procurement of Small AC Motor Overhaul Repair Services, CP B34369

Mr. Taylor presented this resolution for Board of Directors' approval authorizing the General Manager/CEO or his delegate to award a contract to RAM Industrial Services in the amount of \$671,817 for the procurement of Small AC Motor Overhaul and Repair Services.

On motion by Mrs. Kaufman seconded by Mr. Daniels, the resolution was unanimously approved by a vote of 6 to 0, with 7 members present.

Mrs. Abdul-Salaam abstained.

Resolution Authorizing Award of a Contract for MARTA Utilities Locate Services, CP B34703

Mr. Elsberry presented this resolution for Board of Directors' approval authorizing the General Manager/CEO or his delegate to award a contract for the procurement of MARTA's Utilities Locate Services to IDS Global-International Design Services, Inc., in the amount of \$777,600.

On motion by Mr. Griffin seconded by Mrs. Hardage, the resolution was unanimously approved by a vote of 7 to 0, with 7 members present.

Briefing – Public Hearings Results for August 8, 2015 Service Changes

Ms. Briggins briefed the Committee on the Public Hearings Results for the August 8, 2015 Service Changes.

- The MARTA Act and the MARTA Service Standards require public input and consideration before bus service modifications are approved by the MARTA Board for implementation
- The following Public Hearings were held:
 - April 13 - Living Waters International Church - Clayton County
 - April 13 - Decatur Recreation Center - DeKalb County
 - April 14 - MARTA Headquarters - City of Atlanta

- April 16 - North Fulton Service Center - Fulton County
- MARTA staff held community exchange sessions one hour prior to each hearing; staff also received public comments, petitions, phone calls and emails regarding the proposed budget
- Advertisement
 - *AJC*
 - *ACE III/Champion*
 - *Clayton Daily News*
 - *Crossroads & South DeKalb County*
 - *Neighbor Newspapers*
 - *Mundo Hispanico*
 - Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, website)
- Electronic Notice Distribution
 - Distributed to all 26 Neighborhood Planning Units (NPU) within the City of Atlanta
 - Senior Centers (63)
 - Email Blast to Outreach Database
- Flyer Distribution – LEP Communities
 - Chinese Community Center
 - Dinho Super Market
 - Vietnamese Market/Buford Highway
 - Hong Kong Market - Jimmy Carter Blvd.
 - Super H-Mart - Doraville/Peachtree Industrial & I-285
 - Happy Valley Restaurant - Jimmy Carter Blvd.
 - Buford Farmers Market Media Distribution Desk
 - Asian American Resource Center Gwinnett
 - Korean Community Center - Buford Highway
 - Ho Pin Market Media Table
 - Atlanta Chinese Community Church

Operations & Safety Committee
4/30/15
Page 5

- Center for Pan Asian American Community Services
- Flyer Distribution – Rail Stations/Bus Routes
 - College Park station
 - Routes 15, 21, 55, 74 and 196
- Public Hearing Attendance
 - April 13 - Living Waters International Church - Clayton County
 - Attendance – 33
 - Speakers – 14
 - Media – 0
 - April 13 - Decatur Recreation Center - DeKalb County
 - Attendance – 12
 - Speakers – 9
 - Media - 0
 - April 14 - MARTA Headquarters - City of Atlanta
 - Attendance – 6
 - Speakers – 4
 - Media – 0
 - April 16 - North Fulton Service Center - Fulton County
 - Attendance – 2
 - Speakers – 2
 - Media – 0
- Additional Public Hearing Comments
 - Public Comment Line (Voice Mail) - 0
 - Emails - 0
 - Petitions - 2 - Route 189 (Bus Stops) and Route 75 (Sunday Service)
 - Letters - 0
 - Public Comments (written) - 5

Mr. Daniels asked what are LEP communities.

Ms. Briggins said the term refers to Limited English Proficiency.

Mr. Parker said there are many LEP communities in Clayton County – MARTA had to really ramp up its efforts with DEO.

Mrs. Abdul-Salaam added that Friends of Clayton Transit is also translating all of their materials for the LEP communities.

Resolution Authorizing the Service Modifications and Additions for the August 8, 2015 Mark-Up

Mr. Hayden presented this resolution for Board of Directors' approval authorizing the General Manager/CEO or his delegate to implement service route modifications or additions to Bus Routes 8, 21, 74, 75, 148, 191, 193, 195 and FLEX1 Lovejoy including Mobility service.

Mr. Griffin asked about parking near bus stops in Clayton County.

Mr. Hayden said there are some challenges – patrons are using an impromptu Park & Ride.

Mr. Griffin asked if patrons can park at Southlake Mall without getting towed.

Mr. Hayden said the short answer is no; but MARTA is working with the City of Morrow to come with options.

Mrs. Abdul-Salaam asked if changes can be made after the Board votes.

Mr. Hayden said Clayton County is an evolving service area. MARTA is more than willing to make future modifications if practical.

On motion by Mrs. Kaufman seconded by Mr. Daniels, the resolution was unanimously approved by a vote of 8 to 0, with 8 members present.

Briefing – Federal Transportation Overview

Mr. Boothe provided the Committee an update on Federal Legislation.

FY16 Budget

- President seeking nearly \$4 billion
 - \$68 billion increase over FY15 – 7% increase
 - Would increase both domestic and military spending
 - Depends on tax increases to avoid spending cuts
 - Goal of President and Congress are to avoid sequestration
- House/Senate Working on FY16 Budget to reset budget targets
 - House and Senate agree on total budget of \$1.016 trillion
 - No growth or worse for Capital Investment Grants
 - Trust Fund programs await action on MAP-21 Reauthorization
- House and Senate Appropriations Committees will determine allocations of non-defense spending in May as mark-ups begin

FY16 FTA Funding

- Proposed increase of \$8.595 billion to \$13.914 billion for formula programs
 - State of Good Repair proposed to increase from \$2.165 billion to \$5.719 billion
 - Section 5307 but it is funded within the proposed increase
 - Bus and Bus Facilities proposed to increase from \$428 million to \$1.939 billion
 - Capital investment Grants (CIG) proposed to increase from \$2.120 billion to \$3.250 billion
 - Future Clayton County Commuter Rail, I-20 East BRT, Clifton Corridor or Georgia 400 projects would be funded from the CIG Program
- Formula programs are funded from the gasoline tax - discussed later
- The CIG program is funded from the General Fund and is tied to action taken by the Appropriations Committees on non-defense spending

Highway Trust Fund

- Highway Trust Fund (HTF) is exhausted by July or early August 2015

Operations & Safety Committee

4/30/15

Page 8

- MAP-21 expires on May 30, 2015
- Short term extension likely but "pay fors" not yet identified
- House and Senate Budget agreements differ on whether "pay fors" are offset in FY16 or over a period of time
- At least \$3 billion needed to extend HTF and Mass Transit Account (MTA) to September 30, 2015
- No agreement on source of funding for HTF and MTA
- Gas tax increase has been taken "off the table" by House leadership
- Repatriation of revenues being considered but a less certain funding source and not a long-term fix
- Challenge: Auto fuel efficiency erodes value of the gas tax as a funding mechanism

MAP-21 Reauthorization

- MAP-21 expires on May 30, 2015
- House and Senate authorizing committees not expected to release a draft bill until funding levels are known
 - Senate Banking Committee - expected to make few changes to MAP-21
 - House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
 - Support for increasing funding for the Bus and Bus Facilities program - perhaps a formula factor focused on fleet age
 - Amending definition of "fixed guideway" that would allow Small Start funded BRT projects to qualify under High Intensity Motorbus State of Good Repair Program
 - Amend split between Fixed Guideway State of Good Repair and High Intensity Motorbus State of Good Repair (currently 97.15%/2.85%) to accommodate growth in FTA funded BRT projects

TIGER VII

- \$500 million is available - extremely competitive program
- DOT held Summit on April 16, 2015
- Pre-application due on May 4, 2015
 - Intended to determine initial eligibility

Operations & Safety Committee

04/30/15

Page 9

- Important for the region to coordinate on and build political support for the priority project(s)
- Notice of Funding Availability
 - Continued emphasis on Ladders of Opportunity - providing safe and affordable transportation connections for disconnected communities to jobs, services and education
 - Final application due on June 5, 2015
 - Pre-construction activities completed by June 30, 2017
 - Monies must be obligated by September 30, 2017

Local Hiring Initiative

- Common Grant Rule and FTA/FHWA statutes historically prohibited "local hiring" provisions as limiting "full and fair competition"
 - Congress lifted prohibition in FY15 THUD Bill for FY15
- Pilot Project - for FY15 funds
 - MARTA would be required to submit an application to FTA to execute a contract with a local hiring provision
 - Application would describe the provision, its effect on competitive bidding, potential offsetting benefits and how MARTA would protect the integrity of competitive bidding
- Proposed Rule - comments due May 4th
 - Permanently amend Common Grant Rule to allow for geographical preference
 - Generated much conversation within APTA between and among the public and private sector members

Mr. Daniels asked how might the legislation affect MARTA.

Mr. Boothe said, for example, if MARTA has a bus procurement or rail car rehab will the Authority be required to hire locally – based on complexity MARTA needs the option to look elsewhere, to assess the market.

Mr. Dallas asked if MAP-21 and funding go through the same committee.

Mr. Boothe said no.

Mr. Dallas asked will any of it go through Representative Price's committee.

Mr. Boothe said yes.

Mrs. Abdul-Salaam asked if the Capital Investment Grants will only cover 1-2 projects.

Mr. Boothe said it is incumbent upon MARTA identifying its funding source.

Other Matters

Mrs. McClendon announced the following external events:

- MARTOC – May 4th 2:00pm – Coverdell Legislative Office Building
- DeKalb Jurisdictional Briefing – May 5th 9:00am
- Governor's Signing Ceremony (MARTA bill) – May 5th 10:00am
- MARTA's Development Day – May 5th 8:00-10:30am – Georgia Tech's Historic Academy of Medicine

Adjournment

The meeting of the Operations & Safety Committee adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kellee N. McDaniel
Sr. Executive Administrator to the Board