

**CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
MASS TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
CITY LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2011**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Elizabeth Thyne called the meeting to order at 2:50 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Elizabeth Thyne, Susan Rains, Art Apruzzese, Louise Justice, Jody Frey,
Jonathan Ellis, Jean Long, and Todd Katz

Absent: Stanley Yucikas

Staff: John Webster

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Spencer Reed, civil engineering student, discussed a class project that was investigating intersections and preferential bus interaction and invited MTC members to attend the review of the upcoming Circulation and Land Use Elements study.

Ms. Rains reiterated the need for buses to be able to get preferential treatment at intersections to avoid buses slowing down traffic and other congestion issues.

Mr. Webster discussed intersection issues, e.g. Highland/Santa Rosa, Madonna/LOVR, Foothill/Santa Rosa. He suggested coordination with SLORTA Safety/Security grant funds regarding upgrading signals.

A. CONSENT ITEMS

A-1. Approval of September 14, 2011 Regular Meeting

No discussion

A-2. SLO Transit Marketing Plan – Cal Poly Project

Ms. Rains reported that she was meeting with Professor Mary LaPorte in December to discuss the project parameters and would report back.

After general discussion, Ms. Thyne appointed Mr. Apruzzese, Mr. Ellis, and Ms. Long to an ad hoc subcommittee to represent MTC in the project scope. Ms. Rains agreed to act as liaison between the subcommittee and class.

Mr. Katz moved to approve the September 14, 2011 meeting minutes and the staff recommendations in item A-2 as submitted. Ms. Rains seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

B-1. Review and Comment RFP-SLO Transit Operation & Maintenance

Mr. Webster discussed the Request for Proposal (RFP) and the tentative Council date of 12/6 to hear it. He noted that the RFP process was lengthy, discussed possible timelines. If an RFP was issued it would be effective for FY 2012-13 starting on July 1, 2012. He discussed a possible significant reduction in federal discretionary funding which would impact service levels if enacted.

There was general MTC discussion on the RFP process and it was noted that the First Transit agreement could be renewed as an extension to the current contract for up to an additional four years. At that point an RFP would be needed to provide other contractors the opportunity to bid on the service. There was general discussion regarding First Transit performance and other operational and contractual issues.

Mr. Webster reported that the city had received a proposal from First Transit for a fourth option year, and was currently under evaluation by city staff but he did not know whether the final contract could be negotiated at a price that would be within the approved FY 2012-13 budget.

After a lengthy discussion the MTC member consensus was that the option of extending First Transit contract, if fiscally feasible, was preferable.

C. ACTION ITEMS

C-1. SLO Transit Service Adjustments

Mr. Webster discussed the service adjustment to Routes A/B and the recommendation eliminating Saturday service between June 14, 2012 until Labor Day, 2012. He said the estimated cost savings would be approximately \$3500.

APPROVED MTC REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 11, 2012

After a general discussion of the potential impacts to the Highland/Patricia and Foothill corridors Mr. Apruzzese moved to approve the Routes A/B service adjustments as proposed by staff. Ms. Frey seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

D. INFORMATION ITEMS

D-1. Transit Manager's Report

D-2. Operating-Performance Reports

The Transit manager report covered various subjects including Capital projects (Radio replacement, facility, and vehicle replacement) and Mr. Webster provided information regarding the various performance reports.

He discussed extending the double-decker service extending later on Thursday evenings, but did not note any specific route changes.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Frey asked staff what would be the function of the current Downtown Transit Center when the new DTC is located on Higuera.

Mr. Webster noted it would become a regular bus stop.

Ms. Justice reported people had been requesting a shelter at the Target stop. Mr. Webster discussed the need for re-routing through the Costco parking lot and the Irish Hills shelter could be used.

Ms. Justice also felt the shelters that served evening service stops should have lights, e.g. Scolari's, Orcutt/Laurel Lane. Mr. Webster agreed to explore possibilities of retro-fitting, possible solar options.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. to the regular meeting January 11, 2012 at 2:45 p.m. in the Council Hearing Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Woske, Recording Secretary