

CARSON CITY PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the July 30, 2002 Meeting

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A meeting of the Carson City Public Transit Advisory Committee was scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 30, 2002 in the Cooperative Extension Conference Room, 2621 Northgate Lane, Suite 12, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Mary Winkler
Vice Chairperson John Peshek
David Allen
Roberta Dowell
Richard Staub

CARSON CITY STAFF: Walter Sullivan, Planning and Community Development Director
John Flansberg, Transportation Manager
David Heath, Finance Director/Risk Manager
Laura Beckerdite, Administrative Assistant
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary

MV TRANSIT STAFF: Paul Sommers, General Manager

NOTE: A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office and is available for review and inspection during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (1-0001) - Chairperson Winkler called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present.

ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - May 30, 2002 and June 11, 2002 (1-0015) - Vice Chairperson Peshek moved to accept the minutes as presented. Member Staub seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS (1-0075) - Chairperson Winkler introduced Mr. Sommers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (1-0097) - None.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE UPDATE OF THE DISCREPANCY OF THE MONEY ON THE PRIDE CONNECTOR SERVICE CONTRACT (1-0100) - Mr. Heath advised that, in the final analysis, \$75,000 remains in question and has not been reimbursed to Paratransit, Inc. due to NDOT's problems with Paratransit's documentation for the PRIDE connector service. Paratransit has threatened legal action and Mr. Heath anticipates that a decision will be made prior to the next Committee meeting. He advised that NDOT has offered to reimburse the \$75,000 if the City will agree to repay the money in the event of a FTA audit. The District Attorney's opinion is that this would be inadvisable. In response to a question, Mr. Heath advised that NDOT will also be a

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named defendant in any lawsuit filed by Paratransit. He commented that Paratransit did a poor job of record keeping and that NDOT was heavily criticized by the FTA regarding grant management during an audit approximately two years ago. In response to a further question, Mr. Heath indicated that surplus funds between the old contract and the new contract would be best used to upgrade equipment or expand service. Chairperson Winkler requested staff to reagendaize this item for the next meeting. No formal action was taken.

2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AREAS OF ENHANCEMENT TO THE SYSTEM FOR THE USE OF THE FUNDS SAVED AS A RESULT OF THE PROVIDER CONTRACT COMING IN BELOW THE BUDGETED AMOUNT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002/2003

(1-0209) - Ms. Beckerdite explained this item was agendaized at the recommendation of the Board of Supervisors. She advised that grant applications have been submitted by NDOT to purchase buses for Carson City, and that the funding will be awarded in October. In addition, Ms. Beckerdite will be submitting a grant application to the Division of Aging Services on August 1st. She responded to questions regarding the purpose for the grant funding and match requirements.

Vice Chairperson Peshek suggested using the surplus funds as match funding for the grant applications which were submitted to upgrade the fleet. Mr. Heath suggested considering 8-10 passenger vans with lifts, which cost approximately \$35,000 a year to operate, as opposed to 15-passenger buses, which cost approximately \$50,000 a year. Discussion took place with regard to leasing versus purchase, the type of grant funding applied for, the boundaries of the MPO, and possible expansion of the Committee's membership. In response to a question, Mr. Flansberg advised that the issue of representation from Douglas and Lyon Counties will be presented to the Regional Transportation Commission and to the Board of Supervisors. He advised of a meeting with Dan Haller, of Douglas County, who expressed an interest in being represented in the MPO. He discussed the availability of funding for transportation and transit planning, and advised of the requirement for an NDOT staff person to be represented in the MPO. Discussion took place regarding the grant applications, and Mr. Flansberg commented that the City will most likely not acquire any new buses until after January 2003. He agreed with using the money saved between the two contracts as match funding.

Member Dowell suggested requesting Mr. Sommers to research lease or purchase costs for the smaller vehicles. Member Staub expressed a concern regarding possible conflicts with the MPO, and inquired as to whether the City should move forward with acquiring buses using the surplus funding or wait until the City receives MPO status. Mr. Flansberg suggested that the Committee wait until a decision is made on the Division of Aging Services grant application which will coincide with the City becoming eligible for MPO funding. A decision is anticipated in October 2002 and the City would be eligible for reimbursement of the funds after January 2003. In response to a question, Ms. Beckerdite advised that Ms. Stanio's request included four buses for Carson City. She clarified that there has been no indication as to how the buses will be distributed. Mr. Flansberg acknowledged that using the money saved between the two contracts as match funding and moving forward to acquire new buses would be the Committee's best option. Discussion took place regarding the condition of the existing fleet and the need for repairs, and Chairperson Winkler suggested reagendaizing this item for the next meeting.

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(1-1147) Vice Chairperson Peshek moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that approximately \$30,000 of the savings be used for matching funds for grants for new vehicles for transportation, depending on the funds necessary for maintenance. Motion died for lack of a second. **Member Staub moved to use the funds that have been saved as a result of the provider contract coming in below budget to enhance and improve the equipment and buses used within the system. Member Dowell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (1-1071) - Chairperson Winkler advised the Committee members and staff to contact Ms. Beckerdite with future agenda items. Ms. Beckerdite advised that the next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 23rd. (1-1225) Vice Chairperson Peshek suggested agendaizing election of officers for the next meeting.

ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-1266) - Vice Chairperson Peshek moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Allen seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Minutes of the July 30, 2002 meeting of the Carson City Public Transit Advisory Committee are so approved this 23rd day of October, 2002.

MARY WINKLER, Chair