CARSON CITY PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE Minutes of the July 13, 2000 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Public Transit Advisory Committee was held at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 13, 2000 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Vice Chairperson Mary Winkler

Robert Kennedy John Peshek

PARATRANSIT SERVICES STAFF: Marc Reynolds, General Manager

Matt Konze, Dispatch Supervisor Darren Johnson, Dispatcher

CARSON CITY STAFF: David Heath, Finance Director

Kathleen King, Recording Secretary (PTAC 07/13/00; Tape 1-0001)

NOTE: Unless indicated otherwise, each item was introduced by Vice Chairperson Winkler. 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.

- I. ROLL CALL, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (1-0001) Vice Chairperson Winkler called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present.
- II. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF AGENDA (1-0004) None.
- III. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 27, 2000 (1-0011) Member Kennedy moved to approve the minutes. Member Peshek seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- IV. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2000 (1-0024) Member Peshek moved to approve the minutes. Member Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- V. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS (1-0035) Vice Chairperson Winkler introduced the members and ex-officio members of the Committee, Paratransit staff, Carson City staff, and the other guests present, including Sandi Stanio, of the Nevada Department of Transportation ("NDOT"). (1-0209) Cathy Blankenship of the Boys and Girls Club introduced herself for the record. (1-0258) Exofficio member Barbara Taylor, of the Welfare Department, introduced Penny Papaianni, also of the Welfare Department.
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS (1-0045) None.
- VII. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

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- 1. REPORT AND DISCUSSION ON UNMET TRIP RESERVATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2000 (1-0048) Mr. Konze distributed and reviewed the Unmet Ride Reports. He noted that unmet trips have dropped drastically, mostly due to the Jacobsen bill funding received from NDOT.
- 2. REPORT AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON TASK FORCE ACTIVITY REGARDING SURVEY OF UNMET NEEDS (1-0077) Member Peshek distributed the Task Force Report and those in attendance reviewed the same. Discussion took place regarding the problems indicated by two users who had stopped using the service. Vice Chairperson Winkler discussed comments received from the senior citizens surveyed, and advised that the work of the task force is complete. In response to a question, Mr. Reynolds advised that all the Paratransit drivers have commercial drivers licenses. No formal action was taken.
- 3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON STATUS OF REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (1-0209) Sandi Stanio, of NDOT, advised that a contract is being developed with Peter Schauer to work with Carson City. This item will be reagendized for the August meeting.
- 4. REPORT AND DISCUSSION ON STATUS OF BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB AFTER SCHOOL TRANSIT PROGRAM (1-0265) Cathy Blankenship, of the Boys and Girls Club, clarified that the subject transit program is the Community Council on Youth ("CCOY") Summer Youth Transportation Program, and explained the funding source for the same. She provided background information on development of the program, and advised that it had started on the first day of the Boys and Girls Club and Recreation Department summer programs. Two school buses pick up at every elementary school, both middle schools, and several neighborhoods selected based on the numbers of children picked up during the school year. The children are transported to approximately ten different agencies at about 9:00 a.m. Another route is completed just before lunch at the elementary schools, the middle schools, and the neighborhoods. At that time, children can reboard the bus to be transported to a different agency. During the last evening run, many children board the bus at the Boys and Girls Club to be transported home. Eighty-five children used the service the first week, and it has since grown to 190 per week.

Ms. Blankenship advised that Nevada Hispanic Services had been enlisted to publicize the program, flyers were distributed, and the program was advertised in the newspaper. She expressed appreciation for the advertising dollars expended by the CCOY. She advised that Nevada *Appeal* staff is considering a story which would include interviews with some of the children. She discussed concerns expressed by parents, including that stops are not included at Riverview Estates and Lakeside, and for the safety of children waiting for buses at the schools. These concerns have been addressed by Ms. Blankenship or by Recreation Superintendent Barbara Singer. Ms. Blankenship advised that the children utilizing the service know to abide by the same bus rules as during the school year. There have been no complaints from any of the agencies regarding too many children to accommodate. Discussion took place regarding the possibility of continuing the program.

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In response to a question, Ms. Blankenship advised that the school district is providing information regarding the number of children which are transported from each stop and the agencies to which they are delivered. She advised that there have been no children getting off at the WNCC stop, and that the feasibility of this stop will be re-evaluated. She further advised that additional marketing will be done at one particular apartment complex stop. In response to a question, Ms. Blankenship advised that each bus holds 75 children. She explained that more children ride the lunch route to get to the agencies, and approximately 25 children utilize the service for transportation home in the evening. Ms. Blankenship acknowledged that she would provide a report to the Committee at the time a report is provided to the Board of Supervisors. Vice Chairperson Winkler thanked Ms. Blankenship for her presentation.

5. REPORT AND DISCUSSION ON INTERCITY TRANSIT BETWEEN CARSON CITY AND RENO (1-0499) - Ms. Stanio distributed a map of the proposed bus stops, and advised that NDOT is in the process of contracting with Frontier Tours as the operator. She further distributed a time line developed by the Washoe County Regional Transportation Commission ("RTC"), and reviewed the same. The start up date is scheduled for August 14th and a ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for August 18th. Ms. Stanio distributed proposed schedules, and reviewed the same. She additionally distributed a document entitled "Frequently Asked Questions" and explained that these are questions being asked by the RTC within their own operation to ensure all issues have been addressed. She advised that Senior Engineer Harvey Brotzman is working with the RTC to establish the bus stop locations. She discussed several agency-related issues which have yet to be addressed.

Ms. Stanio advised of a meeting with Mr. Reynolds regarding development of the connector service. A subscription service is being considered for everyday riders, and she discussed the proposed details of the same. She referred to the map and discussed the proposed stops. She has expressed a concern over the RTC's proposal that the buses turn around at the Highway 50 park and ride. Ms. Stanio then referred to the proposed schedules and expressed a concern that the RTC does not have a clear understanding of the traffic patterns in Carson City, as indicated by the times assigned to the various stops. She will be speaking with RTC representatives to ensure the schedule is practical. An additional concern is in regard to the \$3 fare from Carson City to Reno, as Carson City Community Transportation ("CCCT") charges \$4. Ms. Stanio advised that she had spoken with Administrative Assistant Laura Beckerdite to request that a meeting be scheduled between NDOT representatives and Carson City representatives regarding the CCCT fare structure. One of the proposals is to drop the fare to \$2. Ms. Stanio advised of a meeting with Welfare Department representatives to discuss procedures for the service. The Welfare Department will be providing \$40 per client per month to use the service. The money will be credited to Carson City for the welfare clients. If the CCCT fare is reduced to \$2, a reduction in revenue will result; however, the Welfare Department revenue would make up the difference. An additional matter to be discussed at the meeting will be to determine how the job access funding for the connector service should be handled.

Member Kennedy inquired as to the status of the program once Carson City becomes a metropolitan planning organization. Ms. Stanio advised that NDOT will need to work with Carson City at that time on a transition; 5307 funding will need to be utilized instead of 5311 funding. In addition, Douglas County should be "on line" by that time so the service would still come through Carson City.

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Ms. Stanio discussed an additional concern that the RTC is not fully aware that the service is to be mainly utilized by Carson City riders. With regard to the Carson City to Silver Springs and Fallon, and the Reno to Fernley routes, Ms. Stanio indicated that these should be bid in the next thirty to sixty days. The main contact in Douglas County has recently resigned her position so this part of the service will again be delayed. In response to a question, Ms. Stanio advised that the buses hold 55 people. Discussion took place regarding the possibility of stops in Washoe Valley. Vice Chairperson Winkler thanked Ms. Stanio for her presentation.

(1-0906) Ms. Stanio advised that the Committee members would be invited to the ribbon cutting ceremony once it is scheduled.

VIII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS (1-0877) - None.

- IX. ACTION ON PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS FOR AUGUST 10, 2000 MEETING (1-0882) Mr. Reynolds will reagendize item VII(3). A status report on the CCOY Summer Youth Transit Program will be agendized for the September meeting. (1-0930) Mr. Reynolds advised that the unmet trip reservations report would be removed from the agenda unless the numbers begin to increase. Ms. Stanio requested that Mr. Reynolds agendize a presentation regarding connector service. Mr. Reynolds advised that he would additionally agendize a discussion regarding the rate structure.
- X. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-0979) Member Peshek moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. Member Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Minutes of the July 13, 2000 meeting of the Carson City Public Transit Advisory Committee are so approved this 11th day of January, 2001.

MARY WINKLER, Vice Chairperson