

**PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY/
FORWARD PINELLAS
JOINT BOARD WORKSHOP
3201 SCHERER DRIVE, ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716**



**JULY 29, 2016; 9:00 AM
MEETING MINUTES**

The Board members of the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) and Forward Pinellas held a meeting in the Auditorium at PSTA Headquarters at 9:00 AM on this date. The following members were present:

PSTA Board

Darden Rice, Chairperson
Doug Bevis
Julie Bujalski
Mark Deighton
Dave Eggers
Samantha Fenger
Pat Gerard
Bill Jonson
Janet Long
Brian Scott
Kenneth Welch
Lisa Wheeler-Bowman

Forward Pinellas

Jim Kennedy, Chairperson
Sandra Bradbury
Doreen Caudell
Joanne Kennedy
Cliff Merz
Karen Seel
Tom Shelly

Also Present:

Brad Miller, PSTA CEO
Whit Blanton, Forward Pinellas Executive Director
Alan Zimmet, PSTA General Counsel
Chelsea Hardy, Pinellas County Attorney
PSTA Staff Members
Forward Pinellas Staff Members
Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Staff Members
Members of Public

WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Kennedy opened the meeting at 9:02 AM.

INTRODUCTIONS

The Board members introduced themselves indicating their agency/organization affiliation.

REVIEW OF JANUARY 22, 2016 WORK SESSION AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Mr. Blanton summarized the comments from the January 22nd joint workshop. He highlighted four areas of common consensus on what PSTA can do for the County, what Forward Pinellas can do for PSTA, and how the two agencies can work together. He indicated that the four areas were: critical unmet needs – more frequent routes and later service; better communications and collaboration; connect downtowns; and develop premium service. Mr. Blanton also talked about staff actions since the last meeting for each area.

CORRIDOR STUDIES

Mr. Blanton spoke about the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and setting targets and performance measures. He detailed five corridor planning studies as an example of collaboration between Forward Pinellas and PSTA: SR 60 Implementation Strategy, Alternate U.S. 19, U.S. 19, East and West Bay Drive, and Pasadena Avenue.

TRANSIT PROJECTS

Mr. Miller spoke about the development of a multi-modal transportation priority list of initiatives for Pinellas County. He explained PSTA's Path Forward Strategic Plan and presented the Authority's priority projects which are based on the Path Forward. Mr. Miller said that there are seven priority projects – the Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), frequency and service span improvements, sustainable annual bus replacements, regional service expansion, regional farebox, Clearwater Intermodal Center, and a BRT network. He described the current stage and next steps for each project.

DRAFT PRIORITIZATION PROCESS

Chelsea Favero, Forward Pinellas, presented the draft prioritization process indicating that the purpose of the process is to establish a performance-based, outcome-driven planning process which would use the Countywide Plan and the Long Range

Transportation Plan (LRTP) as the basis. She indicated that the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act specifies that the Forward Pinellas plan describe the performance measures and targets that Forward Pinellas uses. Ms. Favero noted that in order for projects to be funded, they have to be on the Forward Pinellas priority list. She stated that Forward Pinellas is recommending a prioritization process that examines major network/connectivity gaps. She said that there will be three lists – roads/complete streets, transit (from PSTA), and bicycle and pedestrian that will be taken to the Forward Pinellas Committees in August to develop a top ten recommendation list for the Forward Pinellas Board, which will then be transmitted to the FDOT.

[A break was taken from 10:25 – 10:37 AM.]

INTEGRATED PLANNING AND PRIORITIZATION

[Ms. Seel left the meeting at 10:40 AM and did not return.]

Mr. Blanton asked the Board members three questions to start off the discussion on policy integrated planning and prioritization and how PSTA fits into the vision for the transportation system. What transit outcomes do you want to see in three, five, and ten years? What are your top three ideas for making transportation work better for Pinellas County and Tampa Bay? How do we measure our success at collaboration? A long discussion ensued and Mr. Blanton documented everyone's ideas and input which he will summarize for the group.

[Ms. Bradbury left the meeting at 11:50 AM and did not return.]

Mr. Blanton, Ms. Rice, and Mr. Kennedy thanked everyone for attending and concluded the meeting with their final comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 PM.