



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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TRANSIT RIDERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TRAC) MEETING MINUTES APRIL 17, 2018

Committee Chair Gloria Lepik-Corrigan called the April 17, 2018 TRAC meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Members present: David Kovar, Teresa Dunphy, Elisabeth Olden, Richard McDaniel, Gloria Lepik-Corrigan, Kim Rankine, Debra Bjorkquist, Renee Graham, Sue Keating, Tim Parietti, Derek Shavor, Portia Smith, Korri Krajicek, and Mark O'Hara. Members absent: John Estok and Camille Soleil. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO, Josh Shulman, PSTA Board member, PSTA staff members, and members of the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

CHAIR REPORT

Chair Lepik-Corrigan gave a brief report on last month's Board meeting held on March 21st. She said there were many items discussed that the TRAC had already covered, such as the Direct Connect expansion. She then turned to Cassandra Borchers, Chief Development Officer, to brief the Committee on the planned expansion of the 100X and 300X routes that was presented to the Board. Ms. Borchers informed the Committee that PSTA has conducted surveys and received many emails on how the proposed change would affect 300X riders. She was pleased to report that PSTA will incorporate an express run from the park and ride to downtown Tampa in the morning, and from downtown Tampa to the park and ride on Ulmerton Road in the late afternoon. This express run will bypass the proposed bus stop at Tampa International Airport (TIA) to accommodate the riders who work in downtown Tampa.

Ms. Borchers thanked Mr. Shavor for conducting surveys on the 300X, and for all his comments that helped PSTA put together a final package for the June service change. Mr. Shavor thanked Ms. Borchers and her staff. Mr. Miller updated the group on his recent trip to Washington D.C., along with some Board members, local Chamber of Commerce, and City of St. Petersburg representatives.

He explained how important it is for PSTA and its delegation to visit Senators and Federal Transit administrators to advocate for funding for PSTA services. The trip was a success and the U.S. Congress, along with U.S. President Trump, approved a budget that not only maintains, but increased federal dollars for transportation. Mr. Miller added that he and Ross Silvers, Mobility Manager, attended the American Bus Benchmarking Group (ABBG) Paratransit Workshop in Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Miller explained the ABBG Benchmarking group compares how transit agencies provide paratransit service. Some have taxi cabs providing the service, while others, like PSTA, use contractors like CareRide and Wheelchair Transport.

FORWARD PINELLAS REPORT

Mr. Kovar provided a summary of the Forward Pinellas Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting held on March 22nd. He asked fellow Committee members to recommend anyone they may know who lives north of Curlew Road, who would like to apply for the opening on the CAC. Mr. Kovar shared the information from a presentation about the future plans for the U.S. 19 construction improvements north of Clearwater to Weeki Wachee. He said there is growing opposition to the planned extension that may affect the future plans for U.S. 19. As always, he welcomed fellow members to attend CAC meetings.

ACTION ITEMS

March 13, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Mr. Schneider made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keating, to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Wheelchair Ramp Replacement - Henry Lukasik, Director of Maintenance, provided information about the wheelchair ramp replacement project for PSTA buses. The Committee had several questions and comments about different models of wheelchairs used by disabled riders, as well as the positioning of the rider once on board the bus. Mr. Lukasik addressed all questions, either during or immediately after the meeting. Ms. Olden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parietti, to recommend approval of the contract with Gillig for the purchase of wheelchair ramp assemblies for a total cost not to exceed \$200,000. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

TRAC Award for Transit Access - Cyndi Raskin-Schmitt, Director of Communications & Marketing, presented draft selection criteria and an application form for the TRAC Award for Transit Access. She led a lengthy discussion with Committee members and

received suggestions and edits to the application form and selection criteria. Maryanne Sobocinski, TRAC Coordinator, recorded the input and will revise the materials for Chair Lepik-Corrigan to present at the next TRAC meeting.

MEMBER COMMENTS

No member comments.

OTHER BUSINESS

Flamingo Fare Card Beta Test: Michael Hanson, Director of Finance, and Shpresa Zenku, Manager of the Revenue Center, gave a demonstration on how to set-up, use, and provide feedback on the newly issued Flamingo Regional Fare cards. The volunteers were asked to use the Beta test Flamingo Fare card as extensively as possible to ensure that technical and user issues can be resolved before the public launch.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM. The next TRAC meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 15th at 4:00 PM.