



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
3201 SCHERER DRIVE, ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716
PSTA.NET 727.540.1800 FAX 727.540.1913

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 21, 2019**

Committee Chair Long called the October 21, 2019 Legislative Committee meeting to order at 1:06 pm. Members present: Janet Long, Charlie Justice, Joe Barkley, Gina Driscoll, and Heather Gracy. Also present were: Brad Miller, CEO, and PSTA staff members. The following participated via telephone: Natalie King and Ron Pierce, RSA Consulting; Alan Suskey, Suskey Consulting; and Harry Glenn and Steve Palmer, Van Scoyoc.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Action Items:

Approve August 9, 2019 and September 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes – Mr. Justice made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barkley, to approve both minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

2020 Legislative Priorities – Mr. Miller outlined both the State and Federal Legislative priorities for 2020. He said both priorities will be sent to the October Board meeting for approval. He indicated that the five recommended State Legislative priorities are: 1) Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) proviso language, 2) electric vehicle infrastructure, 3) continued TD LateShift/Uber grant funding, 4) Medicaid-eligible trips, and 5) the Volkswagen settlement funds. The Committee and the advocacy team discussed each priority and it was suggested that the TD proviso language and the TD LateShift/Uber funding be combined into one priority. The Committee recommended approval of the four State Legislative priorities.

The group discussed the three Federal Legislative Priorities: 1) Capital Investment Grant Funds for Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project, 2) maintaining or increasing Federal Transit Appropriations in 2020 compared to 2019 levels, and 3) Transportation Authorization that fully funds mass transit programs. After the Committee and the Federal advocacy team discussed, it was decided to add the word "Secure" before Capital

in number one and add Highway Trust Fund to number 3. It was also suggested to add two more priorities: 4) Counting Rides for Complementary Innovative Modes, and 5) Establish a process for Autonomous Vehicle/Bus Pilot Programs. Mr. Barkley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Justice, to recommend approval of the five Federal Legislative Priorities. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

Information Items:

State and Federal Updates – Mr. Barkley asked about meeting with local delegation to discuss PSTA’s 2020 Legislative priorities. Mr. Glenn stated that there already were some meetings that took place in September. The group briefly discussed upcoming Legislative trips scheduled for December and March.

Other Business:

No other business was discussed.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:06 pm. The next Legislative Committee meeting is to be determined.