



**PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY**  
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**PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 22, 2020**

Committee Vice-Chair Barkley called the January 22, 2020 Planning Committee meeting to order at 10:30 am. Members present: Joe Barkley, Josh Shulman, Vince Cocks, Darden Rice and Keith Sabiel. Members absent: Dave Allbritton. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO; and PSTA staff members.

**Public Comment:**

There were no public comments.

**Action Items:**

**November 20, 2019 Minutes** – Mr. Barkley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cocks, to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**Elect Committee Officers** – Mr. Cocks made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sabiel, to approve the nomination of Mr. Shulman as Chair, and Mr. Allbritton as Vice-Chair. Motion passed unanimously.

**[Ms. Rice entered the meeting at 10:36 am.]**

**County Beach Access Construction Contract** – Abhishek Dayal, Director of Project Management, explained that due to a request by the City of St. Pete Beach, the Central Avenue Trolley (CAT) service, shortened in December to turn around at the Don Cesar Hotel, will be shortened a second time once the construction of a bus turnaround facility at the Pinellas County Beach Access Parking lot is completed. Mr. Dayal added that the terminus will also be used by the future Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project as the last stop on this service. Al Burns, Director of Procurement, spoke about the procurement process to identify a contractor to build the terminus. He said on January 7th, PSTA received two responsive bids from Odyssey Global and Tampa Contracting Services Inc. Mr. Burns indicated that Odyssey Global was determined the low bidder at \$343,381.11. He added that the Odyssey Global bid was fair and reasonable according to the Project Manager and

the Engineer of Record, H.W. Lochner. Mr. Burns was pleased to report that Odyssey Global participates in the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program and has committed to a 66% DBE commitment to the construction project, resulting in a saving of \$225,991.50.

The Committee had questions related to shelters and lane usage, signal priority, project funding and a lack of transit service south of the Terminus. After Mr. Dayal and Mr. Burns addressed all the questions, Ms. Rice made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cocks, to recommend approval of a Contract with Odyssey International Inc., dba Odyssey Global for the Construction of a Bus Turnaround Facility in the Pinellas County Beach Access Park for a Total Cost Not to Exceed \$378,000.00, which includes a 10% Contingency. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

**BRT Construction Phase Oversight Services** – Mr. Dayal explained the need to extend two contractor services contracts related to the BRT construction, which is expected to begin this summer. He informed the Committee that the contract with H.W. Lochner, who handle design support services, needs to increase by \$650,000 to complete the next phase of the BRT project; and HDR Inc., who handle construction management services requires an additional \$1,110,000 added to their contract.

The Committee had questions related to when PSTA will officially be notified of the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) funding for the BRT project. Mr. Dayal stated that PSTA has met all requirements to secure the FTA funding and has recently received the letter of no prejudice from FTA for the project, which is a very reassuring sign. Mr. Barkley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cocks to recommend approval of both contract amendments: H.W. Lochner for a not-to-exceed amount of \$650,000 to update the total contract limit to \$4,200,000; and HDR Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,110,000 to update their contract limit to \$2,810,000. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

**Temporary Construction Easement with University of South Florida (USF)** – Mr. Dayal informed the Committee that the proposed BRT station at 3rd Street South and 6th Avenue South requires a temporary construction easement with USF – St. Petersburg. Ms. Rice made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cocks, to recommend approval of a temporary construction easement with USF. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

**Flamingo Fares Policy** – Cassandra Borchers, Chief Development Officer, presented the proposed fare structure that will accompany the new Flamingo system (smartcards, a mobile app, and an upgraded fare structure), which will launch this Spring. She explained the proposed fare structure would eliminate the current 3-day and 7-day fare products, and

will be more efficient, streamlined, and will offer the best value options to customers including fare capping and a new 1-day Group Pass for up to 5 people to ride unlimited for \$10. Ms. Borchers described fare capping and said the benefit to the customer is there is no further expense to ride that day or month. Fare capping, ease of use, and the mobile app are expected to encourage and increase ridership.

Mr. Borchers added that an equity analysis was conducted on the new Flamingo fare policy as dictated by the federally mandated Title VI requirements and concluded that there are no negative impacts to minority or low-income populations. The Committee had questions related to how the reduced fares would work, the different categories of reduced fares still offered, and how the Flamingo system will affect customers who do not have smart phones. Committee-Chair Shulman raised the question at what age a minor child can ride the bus unaccompanied by an adult, which Ms. Borchers responded PSTA does not have a policy. He suggested PSTA adopt a future policy on this issue, and whatever age is determined to be the cut-off to be accompanied by an adult, the minor should ride free of charge.

Ms. Rice made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barkley, to recommend approval of a revised PSTA fare policy and fare equity analysis for Flamingo fares. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Future Meeting Subjects:**

The Committee was provided with a list of upcoming meeting subjects. Mr. Barkley requested a future update on the status of the installation of the protective safety barrier shields on the PSTA fleet. He suggested the agency should ramp up the public relations and communication of the new safety feature.

#### **Other Business:**

Mr. Barkley thanked PSTA for their participation in the MLK Jr. Holiday breakfast and parade.

#### **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 am. The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2020 at 10:30 am.