



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES
JANUARY 20, 2021

Committee Chairperson Shulman called the January 20, 2021 Planning meeting to order at 10:30am. Members present: Josh Shulman, David Allbritton, Vince Cocks, Keith Sabiel and Michael Fridovich. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO; PSTA staff members; and members of the public.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Action Items:

PSTA's Sustainable Strategic Plan – Mr. Miller introduced the history of the Sustainable Strategic Plan and thanked the Planning staff for leading the Agency's efforts to incorporate a holistic approach to sustainability using the triple bottom line framework: Workforce Training and Wellbeing, Environmental Sustainability, and Economic Vitality.

Cassandra Borchers, Chief Development Officer, explained the plan will officially establish short-, medium-, and long-term goals along with key metrics to measure performance or progress over time. PSTA is in the process of trying to achieve Gold Level Sustainability Status, after being awarded Silver Status last year.

Nicole Dufva, Planning Manager, reviewed the Healthy Communities and Workforce projects such as: PSTA & Feeding Tampa Bay, the Fitbit/Wellness program for PSTA staff, the Diversity Business Enterprise (DBE) inclusion in our agency partnerships, the Autonomous Vehicle Advantage (AVA) pilot, and SunRunner project.

Heather Sobush, Planning Director, presented PSTA's environmental efforts by reviewing the Agency's commitment to energy saving electric buses, inductive chargers, reducing greenhouse gases and air pollutants, and proposing a solar photovoltaics (pv) power grid. She concluded that the plan will provide a basis for and guide the Agency's budget development as well as the pursuit of grant funding.

Mr. Shulman was impressed with the tremendous effort to consolidate the plan and requested a copy of the plan be shared with Board members for review and clarity. Mr. Allbritton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fridovich, to approve the Sustainable Strategic Plan. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

Title VI Program Update – Jacob Labutka, Project Planner, outlined the Title VI update that is submitted to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) every three years as a requirement to receive federal funding.

He also explained that PSTA set a disparate impact and disproportionate burden threshold of plus or minus ten percent to utilize when conducting equity analyses for major service and fare changes. Mr. Allbritton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fridovich, to approve the Title VI update report be sent to the FTA. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Allbritton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sabiel, to approve the threshold of ten percent for adverse effect of PSTA's policies, programs, and activities on low income or minority populations. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

Information Items:

February Service Changes – Ms. Borchers explained as part of the regular February service change, Reid Power, Transit Planner, researched and prepared a detailed analysis of the nine busiest routes, which determined what route segments were likely to experience customer pass-bys under the current COVID restricted service levels. Mr. Powers said in order to alleviate the pass-bys, the February service change will include new COVID Relief Service overlaid on the regular service on Routes 19, 34, and 52. The new COVID Relief Service will go into effect February 2021. He explained the service is temporary and will be discontinued when the maximum allowed load on each bus is increased.

Future Meeting Subjects:

The Committee was provided with a list of upcoming meeting subjects.

Other Business:

No other business was discussed.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19am. The next Planning meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2021 at 10:30am.