



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES
JANUARY 19, 2022

Committee Chairperson Josh Shulman called the January 19, 2022 Planning committee meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Members present: Josh Shulman, Vince Cocks, David Allbritton, Deborah Figgs-Sanders, Rene Flowers. Members absent: Michael Fridovich. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO; PSTA staff members; and members of the public.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Action Items:

Elect Committee Chair/Vice-Chair - Mr. Cocks made a motion, seconded by Ms. Flowers, to nominate Mr. Shulman as Chair. Motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment. Mr. Cocks made a motion, seconded by Ms. Flowers, to nominate Mr. Allbritton as Vice Chair. There was no public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

October 20th, 2021 Meeting Minutes – Ms. Flowers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Allbritton, to approve the minutes. There was no public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Information Items:

SunRunner Rising Development Study – Cassandra Borchers, Chief Development Officer gave an update on the status of the SunRunner Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Rising Development Study. Ms. Borchers reminded committee members that PSTA received the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Pilot Program grant to address and expand the land use policies and plans in the BRT corridor.

Mr. Eric Bosman and Mr. Jared Schneider, consultants from Kimley Horn, presented the early findings and proposed recommendations including the comments received from PSTA land use partners. The study will conclude in the Spring 2022 with the finalization of the deliverables and endorsement of the recommendations by the City of St. Petersburg, the City of South Pasadena, and Forward Pinellas. Committee members expressed their concerns over the effect of the transportation enhancements on local

small businesses who are located adjacent to the BRT stations; as well as encouraging our focus on the residents who live in low-income housing and need assistance and affordable transit and housing assistance.

Spring Break Service Plan – Ms. Borchers stated that with the expected record number of visitors on the beach this Spring, PSTA and the City of Clearwater are bringing back the Spring Break Park and Ride beginning March 1st through April 30th, 2022. She explained beachgoers and tourists will be able to park free at designated lots in downtown Clearwater provided by the City of Clearwater and Pinellas County. Ms. Borchers added that enhanced service will be provided on the Suncoast Beach Trolley and the Jolley South Beach routes to improve frequencies and limit wait times. The cost of the enhanced service will be shared equally between PSTA and the City of Clearwater.

Waterborne Transportation – Mr. Miller informed the committee that PSTA has committed staff resources, federal planning, and engineering dollars to the development of capital and operating cost models and unit cost estimates. PSTA included \$100,000 of “state of good repair funds” to assist with maintenance and upgrades needed to restart the service previously available in Clearwater, Clearwater Beach, and Dunedin. Mr. Miller advised the committee that PSTA staff recently presented several capital and operating investment options to be discussed, prioritized, and funded through the Forward Pinellas Waterborne Transportation Committee (FPWTC), and future updates will follow in the next few months. Committee members had questions and suggestions related to the ongoing discussions, cost, and plans for the development of future waterborne transportation.

Future Meeting Subjects:

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

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 am. The next Planning committee meeting is scheduled for February 18th at 10:30 am.