

## CAPITOL CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2009

10:00 AM

BART BOARD ROOM

OAKLAND, CA

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Jim Holms by telephone with Vice-Chair Bob Franklin presiding over the meeting. Vice-Chair Franklin discussed the \$8 billion dollar capital investment program from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and gave praise to the CCJPA for their lobbying efforts for funding for California that impressed the FTA and FRA.
- The CCJPA Board approved the minutes of the February 18, 2009 meeting.
- The CCJPA Board approved the consent calendar supporting polling by CTA to protect transit state funding. Board Member Murray later commented that she hoped the polls would also rank transit as compared to other important issues such as education and health care.
- Managing Director Gene Skoropowski presented an update on the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA) funded through ARRA under Section 501 - High Speed Rail, Section 301 – Service Corridor Capital Assistance, and Section 302 – Congestion Grants. FRA has established 3 funding tracks: 1. Project – Grant agreement 2. Corridor Program – Cooperative agreement 3. Planning – Cooperative agreement. CCJPA has identified 9 proposed projects and the associated funding track they would fall under. Board Member Cohn believes these are projects RT should support as well since it includes the Sacramento Station track realignment and Sacramento to Roseville track and infrastructure improvements. Board Member Dickinson asked about the priority of the projects and was informed the FRA would decide what gets funded. No prioritization was identified since each is a stand alone project.
- Board Member Dickinson questioned the Sacramento to Roseville project regarding the possibility of a station at McClellan and modernizing the UPRR Watt Ave. overcrossing. Currently the project has not focused on specific details, but there have been 2 meetings held with UPRR regarding the possibility of constructing a new set of passenger and freight tracks on the north side of the ROW. Configuration of the tracks is a difficult issue with a future meeting being planned with UPRR to address the problem. Board Member Dickinson requested that Sacramento County be involved in the future discussions.
- Board Member Dickinson questioned the availability of State of California Bond Funds and was told that Prop. 1B funds have been in suspension until they were released on May 1, 2009, but only for specific projects. The State of California is

not encouraging the use of state bond funds due to the current fiscal crisis and is emphasizing the use of ARRA funding. The State Dept. of Finance is holding up future bond money.

- Board Member Dickinson discussed the Regional Rail concepts in Sacramento County and questioned whether that was related to any of the projects being proposed and was told that it was completely separate and not eligible. Additional trips were added on commuter rail between Auburn and Sacramento at no cost and additional frequency will require operating funding, rolling stock, and capital investment. Board Member Dickinson believes this could be a good opportunity to use ARRA funding. Chair Holms agreed and looked to work cooperatively to achieve these goals toward Regional Rail.

Board Member Souza questioned the application process and later requested a letter be drafted for approval by the CCJPA board to support these projects.

- The Managing Director discussed legislative matters and those items that were either being supported or watched by the CCJPA. Board Member Dickinson questioned H.R. 2454 referred to as the "Climate Change Legislation" about allowances on behalf of intercity rail and whether there has been any discussion with Senator Boxer's office since he was aware APTA has spoken to Boxer's staff about this issue. The CCJPA Board approved to send a letter to support legislation as identified with Board Members Spring and Augustine voting no on H.R. 2454.
- The CCJPA Board approved the Wireless Network Procurement Project authorizations and budget revisions.
- The CCJPA Board approved the funding of the Oakland Subdivision ROW for the Dumbarton Rail Project.
- The Managing Director reported on status of service performance stating that ridership is somewhat lower as compared to last year, but still around 130,000 to 140,000 passengers per month. There has been a decline in some commuter and the discretionary riding, but no catastrophic declines. They are looking to modify the fare structure on the monthly pass and multi-ticket books while leaving the single fare tickets the same. A marketing effort is under way to increase ridership where kids can ride free on weekends and seniors can save 50% off on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday through October 2009. Board Member Dickinson appreciated keeping the single fare tickets the same price as compared to the discounted monthly and multiple fare tickets. Board Member Murray asked about the senior outreach program and wanted handouts to distribute to community centers.
- Board Member Spring questioned seamless fare technology for Capitol Corridor, TransLink, Amtrak, BART, etc. using smart card readers and the

portable validator's pilot project. It was reported there are still obstacles to overcome but there was progress being made.

- Board Member Cohn commented about the ridership saying it made sense about the marketing efforts and that more service was needed to Placer County since it is an underutilized market. He also questioned whether there was the flexibility to offer off-peak fares. It was reported that they are taking a look at all avenues but don't want to dilute total revenues.
- Board Member Augustine discussed the city government television channel as a tool the CCJPA could use for marketing efforts. He also requested a letter be sent to Caltrans asking for highway signs to be placed on the interstate system informing motorists about the locations of the Capitol Corridor Train. His recent discussion with Caltrans Director Will Kempton leads him to believe this request should be granted. Board Member Souza stated that U.C. Davis and the City of Davis have access to public radio and television stations for the marketing efforts as well and would like handouts for their senior community.
- Board Member Dickinson stated future technology should be able to print a ticket online rather than having to come to Amtrak to print out the ticket since this is currently available in many other ticket systems. He also questioned the relationships with hotel chains around the areas that the Capitol Corridor Train serves and was informed there are relationships such as the Radisson Hotel in San Francisco posted on the website.
- Mike Barnbaum provided public comment on not being able to use discount codes and the guest rewards program discounts online and at the ticket vending machines. Currently these are only honored at the ticket windows.
- The next CCJPA Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at City Council Chambers in the City of Suisun.

**Agenda Item #25**

Chair's Report

None at this time.