

SUMMARY
Paratransit Board Meeting
January 28, 2016

The following Directors were present: Don Nottoli, Eanad Lott, Jill Yungling, Pete Spaulding, Scott Leventon

Director Yungling reflected on Paratransit's mission.

Linda Deavens, CEO announced Director Catherine Kelly Baird's resignation from the Paratransit Board of Directors due to current health related reasons. Linda shared a letter that Director Baird requested be read aloud at the Board Meeting. Ms. Baird hopes that she may at some point in the future, be re-appointed.

Public Comment:

- Diane Treas addressed the Board relating two issues, the first was that increasing the price of the ADA paratransit pass would hurt a lot of people financially, as she goes to various places every day and uses the pass along with coupons when the trip is not an ADA trip (Paratransit, Inc. does not accept the monthly pass for demand response trips that are not ADA required). She also requested policies be changed to allow the vehicle operators to assist paratransit clients beyond the door, such as when she has doctor appointments and needs assistance to the second floor of the medical building due to her visual impairment.
- Jeff Tardaguila addressed the Board stating it was ironic that RT thinks that the paratransit ADA pass should be discontinued, further stating that he hoped that Paratransit, Inc. could provide input on what might work, suggesting that RT look to Elk Grove and what they are doing. Mr. Tardaguila also stated that the RT Board should be more sensitive and understanding of ridership needs and issues.
- Helen O'Connell addressed the Board, she relayed that she uses both ADA paratransit and RT for her travel needs. She indicated that she has an RT monthly pass and utilizes coupons for ADA paratransit trips. Transportation costs consume 10% of her budget. Ms. O'Connell stated that before rates are raised, RT should bring service back up to at least 2009 levels and added that just because RT raises fares, Paratransit does not have to follow suit. The ADA pass should be kept for those who rely on it.

The following Items were approved unanimously by the Board:

- Authorization for the CEO to negotiate with representatives of Sacramento Unified School District concerning property located at 2401 Florin Road.
- Authorization and approval ratifying the execution of a contract by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) with the City and County of Honolulu for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Paratransit Eligibility In-person Assessment Program, authorizing the CEO to execute all additional contract amendments, and further authorizing the CEO to enter into a contract and sign all documents required for the lease of office space in Honolulu for the duration of this contract which is five years with two one-year options.

The following were nominated and elected as Officers for 2016

President: Scott Leventon
Vice President: Frances Gracechild
Secretary: Eanad Lott
Treasurer: Pete Spaulding

Transportation Development Act Financial Audit Presentation

Steve Robinson-Burmester provided an overview on Paratransit's annual Transportation Development Act (TDA) financial audit performed by Richardson & Company. A clean opinion was issued on Paratransit Inc.'s financial statement.

The CEO's report highlighted the following:

- Linda announced that the date of her written CEO report marked her 36 year anniversary with Paratransit, Inc.
- RT released its Title VI Fare Equity Analysis and Fare Change Proposal for a 30-day public review.
- Staff participated in two scheduled meetings of the Sacramento Transportation Authority's Professional Advisory Committee.
- Paratransit was invited by Assembly member McCarty to participate in a Transportation Roundtable Meeting to provide background on Paratransit's efforts related to local transportation and for suggestions for possible legislation, and to hear about the Legislature's work during the special session.
- Paratransit learned that the contract to provide integrated eligibility certifications and travel training for the Chicago RTA was awarded to their competitor. They plan on pursuing a public records request if it is learned that cost was not a

factor, with the goal of improving future proposals. At this time, Paratransit has decided against submitting proposals to MARTA (Atlanta) or Orange County. Paratransit is expecting Access Services, Inc. in Los Angeles to issue an RFP any day which they plan on providing a proposal. The contract to continue operation of the eligibility center in Honolulu was awarded to Paratransit, Inc. for another five years with options for two one-year renewal periods.

The financial report highlighted the following:

December 2014 through November 2015 trips increased 1.7%, with an increase in Demand Response trips and a decrease in CTSA trips. Year-to-Date demand response is up 6%, CTSA trips have increased by .4%. Cost per trip is \$50.89 and the fare recovery ratio is at 10.5%, meeting the 5% mandate, and over Paratransit's goal of 10%.

Information Update on Paratransit, Inc.'s filing as a Public Entity on the State of California Roster of Public Agencies.

In 2008, SB1124 officially designated CTSA's as eligible public entities in the State of California. To obtain formal protections in the laws as a public entity, a CTSA must file a Statement of Facts with the Secretary of State and request to be added to the Roster of Public Agencies. At the time Paratransit, Inc. had decided not to file, however while doing some research, they discovered that filing would now be in their best interest due to the benefits it would afford them such as abilities to enter into MOU's with other public agencies to coordinate services instead of competing through procurement processes, priority when negotiating or acquiring property from other public agencies etc.

Community Transportation Partnership Updates

Mike Wiley provided information about RT's Financial Update and Fare Change Proposal stating that this information went to RT's Board on January 25, 2016. RT's future financial sustainability was discussed. In November 2015, the RT Board adopted four new fiscal policies to address sustainability and regulations. An update was made to RT's Comprehensive Reserve Policy. He indicated that RT is extremely sensitive to fare increases and that there had not been increases in nearly seven years. RT's fare recovery ratio has declined from 26% to 21%, which is dangerously low. Federal funding is fairly flat and there is a greater emphasis on local funding. State funding is relatively flat as well. Quality and safety is a high priority; RT has had to dip in to their reserves to make ends meet. Revenues have continued to come in less than projected. The Golden 1 Center is having a positive impact, it provides a tremendous opportunity to introduce the system and RT is planning and working on a whole series of improvements throughout the service area. RT is pursuing other additional revenue sources, one of these being greenhouse credits which have recently increased funding by 1.2 million. These credits are hard to project as revenues as the market is volatile and you must sell at the right time. RT is looking aggressively in all areas, the proposed

fare change should provide an additional 4 to 4.5 million. For 2017, RT is projecting a 2.4 million dollar gap. Our fiscal policies call for enhancing RT's reserve. RT is also looking at some positive enhancements such as re-introducing the central city fare which is attractive for short trips; this could be a whole market that RT is currently not attracting. Information on electronic media was also shared. Dates for RT's Open Houses to allow the public an opportunity to provide input and get questions answered about the proposed fare changes were announced. Paratransit's Board had questions on the process and made suggestions relating to the open houses such as having later hours and one on a weekend. Director Yungling inquired about the process, and was told that all information collected would be provided to RT's Board, and RT is taking comments in a variety of ways to make it easy for everyone to be able to comment. Mr. Wiley did admit that at this time, not one Board member is ready to adopt this proposal. RT's Board has asked for additional information and analysis. Director Nottoli provided information about RT's fiduciary responsibility, fares and the cost of operations. Director Leventon stated this was all new to the Board and asked how all of a sudden RT could be looking at a 19 million dollar shortfall. He also wondered why RT's presentation did not provide information on the ADA paratransit service, stating we were all in this together. Mr. Wiley assured the Board that we are actively seeking public comment on this item.