



STAFF REPORT

DATE: March 22, 2021
TO: Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors
FROM: Cindy Brooks, Clerk to the Board
SUBJ: APPROVAL OF THE ACTION SUMMARY OF MARCH 8, 2021

RECOMMENDATION

Motion to Approve.

**SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BOARD MEETING
March 8, 2021**

ROLL CALL: Roll Call was taken at 5:30 p.m. PRESENT: Directors Budge, Harris, Howell, Hume, Jennings, Kennedy, Nottoli, Schenirer, Serna, Valenzuela, and Chair Miller.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 2.1 Motion: Approval of the Action Summary of February 22, 2021
- 2.2 Resolution: Awarding a Contract for Janitorial Supplies - Facilities to Elite Supply Source, Inc. (L. Ham)
- 2.3 Resolution: Delegating Authority to the General Manager/CEO to Reject Settlement Offers in Excess of General Manager/CEO's Settlement Authority (O. Sanchez-Ochoa)

Director Budge moved, Director Howell seconded approval of the consent calendar as written. Motion was carried by roll call vote. Ayes: Directors Budge, Harris, Howell, Hume, Jennings, Kennedy, Nottoli, Schenirer, Serna, Valenzuela, and Chair Miller. Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None.

3. INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. PUBLIC HEARING

6. PUBLIC ADDRESSES BOARD ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

The Clerk read two public comments into the record from:

Jeffery Tardaguila – In summary, Mr. Tardaguila talked about the SacRT calendar; wanted to know more about future rail service and stations; low floor light rail vehicles; transit oriented development; wants better public transit; and wanted to know what the Board is doing for the October statewide transit meetings.

Mike Barnbaum – In summary, Mr. Barnbaum provided information on the Yolo County Transportation District meeting of March 8; the San Joaquin JPA future meeting on March 8, 2021 Action Summary

March 26th; SacRT service changes on April 4 and 5; and noted that he will focus on an 11-year anniversary of the Board on March 22nd.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Workshop: City of Elk Grove (Transit Service) Annexation to SacRT (L. Ham/B. Bernegger)

Laura Ham provided a progress update on annexation efforts for transit services with the City of Elk Grove (City) highlighting the significant benefits of annexation including positions the district more strongly for transit-related grant funding, regional paratransit service, enhancements in service delivery and customer satisfaction, simplified regional fare structure, operational efficiency, continued improved wages and benefits for employees and continued SacRT Board of Directors representation. The target date for annexation is July 1, 2021. A detailed transition plan with the City will provide further financial and administrative function transfers. SacRT has agreed to maintain a proportionate share of service and no changes to City transit services for the first year. The City will retain significant control of service changes; emergency service changes are permitted, preserving current fare structure for at least 6 months, and a Rider Task Force will be established. As it relates to minor service changes, the Elk Grove City Manager has the authority to approve/disapprove of those changes. Under the current proposal, major changes proposed by SacRT would require a meet and confer process in addition to the SacRT Board approval process. The City may request service changes during the 4-year period. The agreement also assumes a gradual return to pre-COVID service levels for City transit service.

Brent Bernegger explained that the agreement is structured so that Elk Grove transit related funds, assets and revenues will be transferred to SacRT and SacRT would be obligated to pay any liabilities and costs associated with providing the transit service upon annexation. SacRT will commit a reasonable proportionate share of Future Sales Tax Measure allocations including commitment for light rail extension, zero emission vehicle replacement and other service improvements. SacRT will lease the transit facility at the City's corporation yard and City will use these funds to address the Negative Transit Fund Balance of \$3.58 million. SacRT will provide the City approximately \$98,000 per year for Transit Administration/Transit Improvements plus or minus with TDA fluctuations. SacRT expects to break even over a five-year period.

Mr. Bernegger stated that SacRT Staff are looking to work with City Staff to work out a few more items. Once those items have been worked out there may be a need to have a 2 x 2 meeting of the City of Elk Grove Councilmembers and SacRT Board members, so that Staff can bring the item back to the SacRT for adoption at the March 22 Board meeting.

Director Hume noted that the final sticking points seems to be Elk Grove's ability to assure transit equity within the Elk Grove jurisdiction once they get absorbed into the Regional Transit District. Director Hume wanted to know if there is a potential for

agreeing to language to resolve these issues. Laura Ham indicated that the staffs are close to reaching agreement on the specific language noting that Elk Grove would maintain primary authority related to service changes in the first 4-year period. SacRT has asked for a meet and confer process under certain circumstances going forward, and the staffs are discussing the details of that language, but Ms. Ham believes that all will reach agreement on the specific language.

Mr. Li noted that his has been a 4-year journey, and an intensive and happy process because this annexation does something great for the region. The SacRT Board will treat all member entities equally, and there should not be a concern from his perspective.

Director Howell inquired as to the negative fund balance on Elk Grove's balance sheet, and whether Elk Grove had made adjustments for service prior to this point. Director Hume indicated that the negative fund balance was from the previous Elk Grove administration choosing to use hybrid buses that were prone to having thermal incidents on the freeway. Director Hume noted that the City has been paying the balance down.

Director Howell noted only minor issues since the annexation of Folsom transit services to SacRT. When issues arose, SacRT was contacted and the issues were quickly resolved. She also indicated that the ridership in Folsom is very happy. Chair Miller also noted that Citrus Heights is happy with annexing their transit service to SacRT.

Chair Miller inquired as to whether the Elk Grove buses would be branded as SacRT buses. Laura Ham indicated that the buses will be branded as SacRT buses noting that the livery of wraps will happen over time as vehicles are replaced.

The Clerk read two public comments into the record from:

Helen O'Connell and Mike Barnbaum

8. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- 8.1 General Manager's Report
 - a. Capitol Corridor JPA Meeting – February 17, 2021 (Harris/Miller)
 - b. SacRT Meeting Calendar

Mr. Li noted that SacRT started providing free rides for COVID-19 vaccines within SacRT's service area on March 1, and continues to fog, sanitize, and clean its vehicles, enforce mask wearing and social distancing. SacRT has added temperature check stations at 11 key facilities and employees have been required to get a temperature checks before entering a SacRT facility for over a year.

As of March 8th, SacRT launched its second online rider survey to gauge rider readiness to come back to transit and find out more information about its current riders. The survey can be accessed on SacRT's website and has been shared with Board members

and SacRT's partners to help promote the survey.

SacRT will hold a virtual ADA paratransit open house on March 11 with two sessions. The meeting will be recorded for those that cannot attend and will be added to the SacRT GO website with closed captioning available.

Moody's has completed its S&P Global Rating and Mr. Li congratulated the Finance staff, the SacRT Board, and strong fiscal policies for this good rating from Moody's. Additionally, Mr. Li thanked SacRT's congressional delegation for their leadership in passing the American Rescue Plan Act, and the \$1.9 trillion relief package which included \$30 billion for public transit nationwide.

SacRT's Real Estate Department has completed the sale of 2220 Cemo Circle in Gold River. The property was sold to USA Properties Fund and SacRT will receive \$2.125 million from the sale. SacRT also finalized the transfer of the Del Rio Trail to the City of Sacramento. Ten parcels were transferred as part of the old rail corridor between Sutterville Road and just past Meadowview. Construction of new student housing continues on the former site at the University/65th bus transit center. Significant progress has been made on the construction of 223 housing units. The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) approved a development for their 59th Street Reuse Project to be named Sac 59. SMUD's proposed Sac 59 development includes 108 single family homes with 770 multi-family homes. A key component of the project includes relocating the 59th Street light rail station to the west.

Director Harris noted that the City of Sacramento has been working with SacRT to develop transit-oriented development (TOD) opportunities for years. The Symphony 65 development is progressing nicely which will help create the feeling of a University Village around Sacramento State. The SMUD 59th opportunity is the next best TOD possibility in the region right now.

Director Valenzuela inquired as to whether outreach for future service is being done in multiple languages. Devra Selenis indicated that staff is producing the survey in other languages. Director Valenzuela asked to receive information to use in promoting the survey. Ms. Selenis offered to get the information translated for Director Valenzuela, and will provide her with the materials. Director Valenzuela asked if SacRT has the ability to track the language interpretation. Ms. Selenis indicated that the Customer Service team uses a third-party translator to work with any customer in any language. Director Valenzuela asked to get the data of the number of customers that use the third-party translator.

Director Jennings congratulated the SacRT team for offering free rides for COVID-19 vaccines. Director Jennings offered to get the word out about the free rides. Director Jennings asked for a report back on the ridership numbers of those that used the free rides for vaccines, and asked what the Board could do to help get the word out to get more people involved and engaged. Mr. Li indicated that staff would share the materials with the Board, and provide a report back with the ridership numbers. Director

Jennings also would like to see SacRT buses wrapped with the promotional material about the free rides to vaccines.

9. **REPORTS, IDEAS AND QUESTIONS FROM DIRECTORS, AND COMMUNICATIONS**
10. **CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC ADDRESSES BOARD ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (If Necessary)**
11. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

The Clerk announced that the Closed Session item was being pulled from the agenda.

12. **RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

13. **CLOSED SESSION**

13.1 Conference with Legal Counsel
Pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9
Existing Litigation

- a. Stephen Drummond v. SacRT
Case Number 34-2020-00282569

14. **RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

15. **CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

16. **ADJOURN**

As there was no further business to be conducted, the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

STEVE MILLER, Chair

A T T E S T:

HENRY LI, Secretary

By: _____
Cindy Brooks, Assistant Secretary

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