



STAFF REPORT

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

RECOMMENDATION

Motion to Approve.

**SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BOARD MEETING
February 22, 2021**

ROLL CALL: Roll Call was taken at 5:30 p.m. PRESENT: Directors Budge, Harris, Hume, Jennings, Kennedy, Nottoli, Schenirer, Serna, Valenzuela, and Chair Miller. Director Howell arrived at 5:45 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 2.1 Motion: Approval of the Action Summary of January 25, 2021
- 2.2 Resolution: Awarding a Contract for Weed Abatement Services to Quality Sprayers, Inc. (C. Alba)
- 2.3 Repealing and Restating the Fare Structure for Complementary Paratransit Service; and Authorize a COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment Confirmation to be Considered a Valid "Fare Equivalent" from March 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021 (D. Selenis)
 - A. Resolution: Repealing Resolution No. 20-06-0048 and Restating the Fare Structure for Complementary Paratransit Service; and
 - B. Resolution: Authorize a COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment Confirmation to be Considered a Valid "Fare Equivalent" from March 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021
- 2.4 Resolution: Approving the Second Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget (B. Bernegger)

The Clerk read written public comments into the record from:

Item 2.3 - Mike Barnbaum and Barbara Stanton. Both comments were in support of approval of the free rides for COVID-19 vaccination appointments.

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

3. INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. PUBLIC HEARING

6. PUBLIC ADDRESSES BOARD ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

The Clerk read one public comment into the record from:

Mike Barnbaum – Mr. Barnbaum provided a summary of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority Meeting of February 17, 2021.

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

8.1 General Manager's Report

- a. State Legislative Update – Mark Watts, Smith, Watts & Hartmann
- b. Federal Legislative Update – Julie Minerva, Carpi & Clay, Inc.
- c. San Joaquin JPA Meeting Summary – January 22, 2021 (Hume)
- d. SacRT Meeting Calendar

The Clerk read one public comment into the record from:

Mike Barnbaum – Mr. Barnbaum asked SacRT's Legislative staff to comment about potential funding and whether the funding could be used for operating and/or capital expenses.

Mr. Li then introduced SacRT's federal and state consultants.

Julie Minerva, partner at Carpi & Clay, expressed their excitement with the upcoming infrastructure opportunities for SacRT and the broader Sacramento region. Congress is focused on providing additional COVID relief, and is transitioning to a recovery package which focuses on infrastructure. Ms. Minerva stated that SacRT could expect the Biden Administration to roll out a high-level recovery package in early Spring and that the Biden Administration is already focusing on equity, climate, job creation, and security.

Jeff Boothe, Boothe Transit Consulting, talked about HR2 (the Moving Forward Act) as the starting point for the House Authorization Proposal, the Presidents Infrastructure Plan. Mr. Boothe indicated that there is good news in the Bill for SacRT: 1) authorizes funding for the program at roughly \$5 billion, which is a doubling of the current size of the program and 2) directs the cost share to 80% for all projects. In addition, Congress is proposing to change the project development phase to a 3-year period rather than a 2-year period. If this passes, project development will be defined as completion of the environmental work, and adoption of the project into the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. This would allow the period between project development and engineering to go

from 30/35% to 65% design, and then the money that was expended to do that work would all be eligible as match funds.

Mark Watts, Smith, Watts & Hartmann, noted that Friday, February 19th was the last day for Bill introductions. The State focus between January 2021 and this period was the Governor's proposal for early and near-term action on budget requests for amending the current year budget. The Committee structure has been focused on budget subcommittees as they look at the Governor's proposal for the budget for the upcoming year. Mr. Watts noted that the Senate has decided to waive the constitutional provision that requires a bill to be in print for 30 days before it can be dealt with. There is a \$20.6 billion budgetary program for state revenues. The core transit budget for California is seeing a continued increase of approximately \$700 million for State Transit Assistance Programs, and expecting half a billion dollars to be available for competitive grants for the TIRCP program. The low carb and transit program is expected to come in at projected levels. The proposal by the Governor is expected to provide TDA relief, so the local transportation funds received at the County level and shared with other transit operators, is seeing a continuation of modifications to the standards that had been placed. Transit operators will be held harmless due to ridership levels being diminished during the pandemic. There will be increased flexibility in the State of Good Repair/State Transit Assistance Program and, if adopted, can be used for operational and maintenance activities. Several bills have been introduced or reintroduced at the State level. In 2019, the Governor issued a Executive Order (N1919) that required the Secretary of Transportation to put together a climate action plan. The Governor has asked the Secretary to align state resources with projects that require/produce less greenhouse gas emissions.

Mr. Li highlighted the approval of the free rides for COVID-19 vaccination as well as the renewal of the free fare program for students in K-12 which was renewed in October 2020 for another year. Mr. Li noted that SacRT has been awarded funds from the California Department of Housing and Community Development in the amount of \$2 million to renovate the 13th Street and Archives Plaza Light Rail Stations. The Capital Area Development Authority also received funds for mixed used housing near the 13th Street Light Rail Station.

SACRT and the City of Elk Grove are continuing with staff discussions regarding annexation. The Board, in an action earlier on the agenda, set aside funds for the costs relating to the potential annexation of Elk Grove. No funds will be expended until the agreement has been reached. Mr. Li thanked Directors Hume and Nguyen for their support as SacRT staff continues to work with Elk Grove staff on the final remaining outstanding items.

Mr. Li noted that SacRT's global rating with the Standard and Poor's has been upgraded to stable as of January 2021.

Director Valenzuela commended Mr. Li and the team for their quick response to her request to provide a bus to transport patrons to overflow warming centers, noting that her request was made early in the morning and that the task was accomplished by the same afternoon.

Director Hume reported that he was selected as Chair of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority for the next 2 terms. He is looking forward to getting stations built and working with High Speed Rail to make the service a reality.

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

12. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board recessed to Closed Session at 6:15 p.m.

13. CLOSED SESSION

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

a. Robert and Loreta Bell v. SacRT
Case Number 34-2018-00232970

b. Susan Sa v. SacRT
Case Number 34-2018-00239452

13.2 Conference with Legal Counsel
Pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)
Anticipated Litigation

Two Cases

14. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

15. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

There was no Closed Session Report.
February 22, 2021 Action Summary

16. ADJOURN

As there was no further business to be conducted, the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

STEVE MILLER, Chair

A T T E S T:

HENRY LI, Secretary

By: _____
Cindy Brooks, Assistant Secretary