



STAFF REPORT

DATE: September 27, 2021
TO: Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors
FROM: Tabetha Smith, Clerk to the Board
SUBJ: APPROVAL OF THE ACTION SUMMARY OF AUGUST 23, 2021

RECOMMENDATION

Motion to Approve.

**SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BOARD MEETING
August 23, 2021**

ROLL CALL: Roll Call was taken at 5:31 p.m. via Webex. PRESENT: Directors Budge, Harris, Howell, Hume, Jennings, Kennedy, Nottoli, Serna, Valenzuela, and Chair Miller. Absent: Director Schenirer.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 2.1 Motion: Approval of the Action Summary of July 26, 2021
- 2.2 Resolution: Termination of Easement for Park and Ride Spaces at Lakeside Estates (B. Bernegger)
- 2.3 Resolution: Ratifying the General Manager/CEO's Execution of the First Amendment to the Contract for On-Call Towing and Roadside Assistance Bus Maintenance with George Little Investments, Inc. DBA College Oak Towing and Approving the Second Amendment (C. Alba)
- 2.4 Resolution: Suspending Fares for One Week on the Airport Express Bus Route 142 to Encourage Ridership (D. Selenis)
- 2.5 Resolution: Second Amendment to Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Budget (B. Bernegger)
- 2.6 Resolution: Delegation of Authority to the General Manager/CEO to Award Contracts for Pre-Employment and DOT/DMV Certification Medical Examinations, Prescription Drug Safety Reviews and Evaluation of Job Description Physical Requirements (S. Booth)
- 2.7 Resolution: Temporarily Reducing Fares for On-Board Light Rail Single Ride Ticket and On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Ticket (B. Bernegger)
- 2.8 Resolution: Conditionally Approving Sole Source Procurement of Radio Equipment from Motorola Under the County of Sacramento Master Agreement (C. Alba)
- 2.9 Resolution: Conditionally Approve Work Order No. 6 to the Contract for General Engineering Support Services – 2020 for the Watt I-80 Transit

Center Design Project with Mark Thomas and Company, Inc. (L. Ham)

- 2.10 Resolution: Amending and Restating Title VIII of the Administrative Code Pertaining to Employee and Director Expense Reimbursement and Director Compensation (O. Sanchez-Ochoa)
- 2.11 Approving the Student Transit Pass Agreement 2021-2022 with the City of Sacramento, Modifying the Fare Structure to Revise the Definition and Validity for the Annual Student (TK-12) Pass, and Conditionally Approving Issuance of a Pass to Students Outside the City of Sacramento (B. Bernegger)
- A. Resolution: Approving the Student Transit Pass Agreement – 20221-2022 with the City of Sacramento; and
 - B. Resolution: Modifying the Definition and Validity Requirements of the Annual Student (TK-12) Pass; and
 - C. Resolution: Conditionally Authorizing Students (K-12) Residing in or Attending School Outside the City Limits of Sacramento and Within SacRT’s Service Boundary to Obtain an Annual Student (TK-12) Pass Prepaid Fare Valid from October 1, 2021 Through June 30, 2022 without Payment by a Sponsoring Entity
- 2.12 Resolution: Approve the Amended and Restated Personnel Policy Manual (S. Valenton)

The Clerk read one public comment into the record on Item 2.9:

Rick Hodgkins - Mr. Hodgkins suggested it be auditorily announced what trains are arriving and from what direction. Also, if the elevators are going to be out of order that it be announced over the station’s public address system. Mr. Hodgkins recommended installing extra security cameras.

The Clerk read a response to Mr. Hodgins from Laura Ham, Vice President of Planning & Engineering:

Ms. Ham responded that both elevators are currently in service. The east elevator has been completely replaced. Construction will begin on the west elevator within the next month. The public will be notified before it closes. The replacement of the elevators will greatly improve reliability. When funding is fully secured the current stairs will be replaced with an upgraded and open stairwell.

Director Jennings 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, Serna, Valenzuela, and Chair Miller. Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Director Schenirer.

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:

Charlotte Bergheimer – Ms. Bergheimer wrote to let SacRT know about a personal experience while trying to connect to SacRT from the Capital Corridor Amtrak Service. The schedules do not align with the Amtrak train to either the bus (route 30) or light rail. Ms. Bergheimer is wanting to know if there is any way to better align the schedules so that riders can more easily transfer from Amtrak to SacRT.

Rick Hodgkins – Mr. Hodgkins was concerned about the plates at the beginning and end of all 20 low floor light rail cars by Siemens. The plates should be painted yellow and have raised bumps so the visually impaired know what they are. Another concern is the Network Draft Plan of the long range transit plan. Mr. Hodgkins submitted comments to James Drake, particularly regarding the new bus terminal at Sacramento Valley Station and the redesigning of all light rail stations. As SacRT moves to accommodate low floor light rail vehicles, there should be a braille map for the visually impaired. There should be audible announcements letting people know when the next train is arriving and in which direction. Everything must be accessible to people with all disabilities, including those that are visually impaired.

The Clerk read a response from Laura Ham, Vice President of Planning & Engineering:

Ms. Ham responded to Mr. Hodgkins that the tile will be safety yellow and include raised and detectable domes. SacRT is also evaluating options to make audible announcements and provide other information to passengers with disabilities about boarding location once the new light rail vehicles are placed in service.

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- 8.1 General Manager's Report
 - a. Major Project Updates
 - b. San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority – July 23, 2021 (Hume)
 - c. SacRT Meeting Calendar

Mr. Li recognized the rise in COVID cases and the need to take necessary safeguards to protect and prevent the spread of COVID. Mr. Li then stated that last week, the Transportation Security Administration extended the face mask requirement for public transportation through January 18th of 2022. SacRT will continue to provide free transit to and from vaccine sites in hopes of increasing vaccine rates.

Mr. Li acknowledged the loss of an unvaccinated employee, who had been out for a number of weeks, and had recently passed away from COVID. Mr. Li stated this is an important reminder to take this virus seriously and recognized the fact that those who are vaccinated are far less likely to be hospitalized. Mr. Li then asked us to join him in a moment of silence in remembrance of the team member.

Mr. Li provided a follow-up update on the Safe Parking Item that the Board was briefed on at the last meeting. Mr. Li informed us that at the August 10th Sacramento Council meeting, the city unanimously adopted a Masterplan for homeless siting identifying 20 potential locations. The city's plan identified three SacRT light rail park-and-ride locations as potential sites for safe parking: Franklin, Florin and Roseville Road. Mr. Li went on to say that SacRT then met with city staff to discuss the plan and is reaching out to the community, residents, businesses and other stakeholders. Mr. Li acknowledged that this will be a process as the SacRT Board of Directors, as well as federal and state regulators, will have to approve any plan that involves SacRT property. This item will be brought back to the Board with further updates at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Li updated the Board and alerted the public on an opportunity to provide feedback on SacRT service planning. Mr. Li stated that SacRT planning department had begun work on *SacRT On The Move*, the proposed Short-Range Transit Plan, that will make service recommendations over the next five years. Mr. Li spoke of major changes to the bus network with the SacRT Forward project. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic upended transit service and changed travel patterns everywhere. With the new bus network implementation and impacts from COVID-19, SacRT will examine data to see what is working and what is not, in addition to impacts from the pandemic. SacRT will then use the data and have conversations with stakeholders and the community to establish where to go from there. Mr. Li stated that the draft plan will be available in the coming weeks, and SacRT will be actively seeking public comment this fall.

Mr. Li mentioned another way the public can get involved is by signing up for SacRT's upcoming 2021 Transit Academy. SacRT is currently seeking applicants for a four-class course, which starts on October 5th. The Transit Academy will include presentations, Q & A and interactive discussions, and behind-the-scenes field trips, including a trip to Siemens Mobility, to see new light rail car manufacturing, a transit-oriented development project, and SacRT's bus facilities. SacRT had a successful class of over 60 participants in 2019 and is glad to be able to resume the Academy after a one year hiatus.

Mr. Li then gave an update with regards to the Ad-Hoc Real Estate Committee that was created last fall, to discuss the status of SacRT's facilities and to come up with a comprehensive plan for the district moving forward. The Committee has discussed many items which include:

- the state of the existing Administrative Campus and outdated facilities,
- efforts to upgrade SacRT facilities,
- timeline on potential purchases & sale of properties,
- existing capital funds,
- and what options are available to meet short term/long term cash needs.

Mr. Li stated that SacRT staff has been working to create a comprehensive plan to bring back to the Ad Hoc Committee and Board. SacRT is working with real estate brokers to help with an Administrative Campus search as well as future bus and rail facilities. SacRT staff will work with the team and examine current market conditions and weigh the pros and cons, cost analysis and numerous other factors before making a final recommendation.

Some of those include:

- Administrative Building Upgrade or Purchases/Sale/Lease Back
- Bus Operation & Maintenance Expansions
- Zero Emission Vehicle/Multi-fuel Infrastructure
- Light Rail Operation & Maintenance Expansion
- Other Safety and Operational Needs
- Financial plan

SacRT hopes to have a report back to the Board in the coming months.

Mr. Li announced that this weekend, SacRT is expanding bus service to better meet the needs of the community. Improvements include a new route 124 peak-hour bus from Fair Oaks and Orangevale to Rancho Cordova, with connections to the Gold Line Sunrise Station. The new route will also connect to offices in Rancho Cordova near City Hall, Kaiser Hospital, and the VA Medical Center. SacRT is also restoring the Airport Express bus route 142 between downtown Sacramento and the Sacramento International Airport. The service will operate with all new zero-emission electric battery powered buses and will be available every 30 minutes, 7 days a week. SacRT is hosting a celebration event at the Bus Yard on Friday, August 27th at 10 a.m. and Mr. Li is hoping for all of to be able to come to this event.

Mr. Li then mentioned that on August 30, 2021, SacRT will officially open the Morrison Creek light rail station along the Blue Line between the Meadowview and Franklin stations. The station construction was initially deferred during the 2015 Blue Line expansion to Cosumnes River College in anticipation of transit oriented development west of the station. The opening of this station signifies a major mobility project that will help eliminate barriers to opportunity by providing much needed connectivity and transit service in an area that is economically challenged. It also demonstrates SacRT's ability to progress transit investment in suburban areas supporting the Sacramento region's Blueprint principles by tying transit service to future development and promoting patterns of smart growth. The Stone Beetland mixed-use transit village is anticipated to be a dynamic and active center of the community, with the Morrison Creek Station anchoring the eastern edge. The commercial component is envisioned to offer local retail goods and services, which will provide a walkable destination for residents, those using the SacRT system and for existing surrounding neighborhoods. The Morrison Creek Station includes convenient bicycle and lighted pedestrian access. And, while the future public access road is under development, SacRT will be demonstrating the use of electric carts as part of its innovative service fleet. The service will operate during scheduled light rail service hours seven days a week. Customers will have the ability to board the free service at the station gateway, located at the south end of Ann Arbor Way via Detroit Boulevard, and be driven approximately 1,000 feet to and from the Morrison Creek Station.

In closing remarks, Mr. Li noted that with the opening of the new station, SacRT will officially serve 53 light rail stations within its 440-square mile service area, which includes service in the cities of Sacramento, Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom and Rancho Cordova, and Sacramento County.

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**
13. **CLOSED SESSION**
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 5:54 p.m.

STEVE MILLER, Chair

A T T E S T:

HENRY LI, Secretary

By: _____
Tabetha Smith, Assistant Secretary