

## **STAFF REPORT**

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**DATE:** February 28, 2022  
**TO:** Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Tabetha Smith, Clerk to the Board  
**SUBJ:** APPROVAL OF THE ACTION SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 14,  
2022

### RECOMMENDATION

Motion to Approve.

**SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
BOARD MEETING  
February 14, 2022**

**ROLL CALL:** Roll Call was taken at 5:32 p.m. via Zoom. PRESENT: Directors Budge, Howell, Hume, Jennings, Nottoli, Schenirer, Serna, Valenzuela, and Chair Miller. Director Kennedy joined the meeting at 5:34 p.m. Absent: Director Harris

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 2.1 Motion: Approval of the Action Summary of January 10, 2022
- 2.2 Resolution 22-02-0002: Authorize the Board of Directors to Teleconference from February 14, 2022 through March 15, 2022, in Compliance with the Brown Act Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953 as Amended by Assembly Bill 361, During the COVID-19 Pandemic (O. Sanchez-Ochoa/T. Smith)
- 2.3 Resolution22-02-0003: Delegating Authority to the General Manager/CEO to Authorize up to 10 Free Ride Days on Bus and Light Rail to Encourage Ridership (D. Selenis)
- 2.4 Resolution 22-02-0005: Approving the Contract for On-Call Testing, Repair and Preventative Maintenance of Wayside Generators with Collicutt Energy Services Inc. (E. Stanley)
- 2.5 Resolution 22-02-0008: Fifth Amendment to FY 2022 Capital Budget (B. Bernegger)
- 2.6 Resolution 22-02-0007: Ratifying the Approval of the Third Amendment to the Personal Services Contract with Denise Standridge (B. Bernegger)

Public Comment was taken by phone from Jeff Tardaguila and Nick Bryant.

Mr. Tardaguila stated that the YouTube link was currently not showing the Board Meeting.

Mr. Bryant expressed concern over an unhoused individual who loiters and sleeps on the bench of the 21 line side bus route.

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

### **3. INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS**

### **4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 4.1 Resolution 22-02-0009: Authorizing the General Manager/CEO to Pursue a Legislative Amendment to the SacRT Enabling Legislation Relative to the Board's Composition and Voting Structure (O. Sanchez-Ochoa / S. Valenton)

Shelly Valenton reported on the meetings of the Board Composition and Voting Structure Ad Hoc committee and offered a proposed motion for changing the structure of the SacRT Board as approved by the Ad Hoc committee. She gave a quick review of how Assembly Bill (AB) 1196 changed the voting structure of the Board from a weighted voting to a one member, one vote structure resulting in the voting strength of the County of Sacramento being reduced and the City of Sacramento's voting power increased. In addition, during annexation discussions, the City of Elk Grove requested to add another seat to the Board based on their population relative to the other jurisdictions. Staff presented information and options for modifying the Board structure at the December 2021 Board meeting. Ms. Valenton informed that the composition of SacRT's Board is set out in state law, when SacRT's Enabling Act under the Public Utilities Code (PUC) was established 50 years ago. The act dictates how the Board seats are allocated and if and how representation can be increased or decreased. There are only two available options set out in the Enabling Act for changing the Board structure: one is for the voting entity to voluntarily appoint fewer members; and two, to reallocate seats based on gross cost of service. Staff reviewed the potential impact of using the gross cost of service and this method only further exacerbates the voting inequity.

At the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board created an Ad Hoc committee to review options for changing the Board structure. Chair Miller appointed himself, Directors Valenzuela, Hume, Budge, Notolli, and Howell. All member jurisdictions of the SacRT Board were represented. Ms. Valenton thanked the Ad Hoc committee members for their participation at the committee meetings held on January 24<sup>th</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup>. During the Ad Hoc meetings, staff presented additional information for the Committee's review, including the structure of comparable transit agencies, transit revenue and competitive funding by jurisdiction, as well as the legislative timeline should the Board decide to make modifications to SacRT's Enabling Act. After a thorough deliberation, the following final motion was voted on and approved by the Ad Hoc committee to amend SacRT's enabling legislation:

*The County of Sacramento will have an additional seat (four total) and the City of Elk Grove will have an additional seat (two total) on the SacRT Board of Directors. The City of Sacramento can appoint an alternate, but they must be an elected official. The Board must revisit seat allocation no less than every 10 years, but it must happen if/when Yolo/West Sacramento annex to SacRT or whenever a member jurisdiction has had a significant population increase or decrease or change to their landscape. The maximum size of the SacRT Board will be 13 members.*

Ms. Valenton explained that the motion only proposed having an alternate of the City of Sacramento and Staff additionally recommends that the Board add to the final motion the option to also have an alternate for the County of Sacramento to reflect the Committee's intent. Staff believes that this motion addresses the main issues that were brought up. Based upon the final motion to be approved by the full Board, Staff will work on a legislative initiative to effectuate the Board structure changes. Ms. Valenton announced that Assemblymember Ken Cooley has agreed to author and carry a bill in the Legislature to *clean up* SacRT's Enabling Act language. She thanked Chair Miller for engaging with Assemblymember Cooley on this. She then stated that the deadline to introduce Bills for this legislative cycle is February 18<sup>th</sup> and if the full Board approves a motion to change the Board structure, the approved changes will be incorporated in the *clean up* bill and will be submitted during this year's legislative cycle.

Director Serna thanked staff and the committee and then questioned if Board members are absent if their vote would carry over to other members of their jurisdiction as in the past.

Olga Sanchez-Ochoa responded that when AB 1196 was adopted, the language that transferred votes was removed as it was part of the weighted voting structure. The only option is for alternates, which currently are only available to the jurisdictions that have one seat. This is also why the current discussion is to allow alternates for the County and the City of Sacramento.

Director Serna was concerned that if the 5<sup>th</sup> County Board of Supervisor was the alternate but there were two County Board members absent, there would be no opportunity to have the number of alternates necessary to fulfill the County's presence.

Ms. Sanchez-Ochoa responded that is correct unless you were allowed to appoint non-elected alternates.

Director Serna then questioned if that is something that could be established.

Ms. Sanchez-Ochoa replied yes, that is something the Board could add that to their motion.

Director Serna expressed to the Chair that the single jurisdiction alternate option should be extended to the County and the City and should have a commensurate number of alternates which would then require SacRT Board members to appoint their alternates possibly as elected officials but from other jurisdictions.

Director Jennings thanked the Ad Hoc committee and would like to hear more discussion on alternates and if they need to be elected officials and was concerned if full Board approval was possible given that Director Harris was not present.

Ms. Sanchez-Ochoa responded that it is possible as long as the majority of the quorum votes in favor of the motion.

Director Schenirer questioned if the City of Sacramento would only have one alternate and would it be for anybody who was not present.

Ms. Sanchez-Ochoa confirmed that is how the current recommended motion is written but, the structure of the recommendation could be changed by the full Board.

Director Schenirer stated that if there are four positions, there should be four alternates,, and he supports the idea that the alternates do not need to be elected officials.

Director Budge stated she is not sure she is comfortable with the City of Sacramento having four alternates, but she is in favor of having non-elected officials serve as alternates.

Director Valenzuela is supportive of having non-elected officials to serve as alternates and it should be up to the appointing jurisdictions to decide.

The Clerk read written public comment from Barbara Stanton into the record.

Barbara Stanton stated that RiderShip for the Masses supports a Board composition to include non-elected community members.

Public Comment was taken by phone from Dan Allison and Jeffery Tardaguila.

Dan Allison, speaking on behalf of Sacramento Transit Advocates and Riders (STAR), objects to the recommendation as presented as there is no reason to require alternates or regular board members be elected officials and they object to the thirteen member maximum. Concern was expressed with the lack of public engagement in conjunction with the Ad Hoc Committee meetings. They do support an extra seat for Sacramento County and for Elk Grove.

Jeffery Tardaguila advocating for SacTRU and other coalitions mentioned that SacRT is the only agency that has elected officials only. He supports bringing more individuals in and stated there should have been more public input.

Director Serna moved the Ad Hoc committee recommendation with the following changes: The City and County of Sacramento be permitted to appoint non-elected individuals as alternates, and each of the four Sacramento County Board of Supervisor members will each select alternates which do not need to be elected officials.

Director Schenirer seconded the motion adding that each jurisdiction can appoint the number of alternates as they have seats and they do not have to be elected officials.

Director Hume thanked the Board for their consensus in adding the seat for Elk Grove. He then expressed concern that by having too many alternates they may not be knowledgeable on current issues.

Director Serna responded that his experience has been that alternates are knowledgeable because they receive the materials including the Board packets and agendas.

Director Budge believes there should be an adequate selection of alternates because some knowledge is necessary for the SacRT Board.

Director Schenirer then asked if the process to pick an alternate could be left up to each jurisdiction, which would be his preference.

***Director Serna motioned to approve Staff's recommendation with modifications:***

- Any member jurisdiction that would have alternates, the members of those jurisdictions would select the alternates for their seated representation on the SacRT Board commensurate with the number appropriated for service on the SacRT Board.
- The selection of those alternates is not restricted to elected individuals – it would be at the discretion of individual jurisdiction and their membership to select them.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> member of the Board of Supervisors would no longer be considered the alternate explicitly.

Ms. Sanchez-Ochoa questioned if the thirteen-member limit was okay, and Director Serna confirmed yes.

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

**Final Motion for item 4.1**

*The County of Sacramento will have an additional seat (four total) and the City of Elk Grove will have an additional seat (two total) on the SacRT Board of Directors. Any member jurisdiction that would have alternates, the members of those jurisdictions would pick the alternates for their seated representation on the SacRT Board commensurate with the number appropriated for service on the SacRT Board. The selection of those alternates is not restricted to elected individuals – it would be at the discretion of individual jurisdiction and their membership to select them. The 5<sup>th</sup> member of the Board of Supervisors would no longer be considered the alternate explicitly. The Board must revisit seat allocation no less than every 10 years, but it must happen if/when Yolo/West Sacramento annex to SacRT or whenever a member jurisdiction has had a significant population increase or decrease or change to their landscape. The maximum size of the SacRT Board will be 13 members.*

4.2 Resolution 22-02-0006: Delegating Authority to The General Manager/CEO to Negotiate and Execute a Lease with The City of Sacramento for Use by City of the Franklin Light Rail Station as a Safe Parking Site (C. Flores)

Chris Flores shared that after the Board was updated at the last meeting and because of the approval process timeline for the Roseville Road Light Rail station safe parking program, the Board instructed staff to move forward with the process of implementing a safe parking program at the Franklin Light Rail station.

Mr. Flores mentioned that after the January Board meeting, SacRT staff reached out to the City of Sacramento (City) to coordinate details. The City is currently coordinating with the Councilwoman's office and then will be sending additional details to SacRT. Mr. Flores shared a potential site map for Franklin safe parking program, with a footprint of 92 parking spaces. He then pointed out a staff draft proposal with 148 parking spaces based on the Board's comments last meeting, requesting staff look at an expanded footprint.

Mr. Flores informed the Board if the item is approved, there are a few outstanding items that will need to be performed prior to launch. Community outreach will be an integral part of the process moving forward. The City will agree to a Good Neighbor Policy with the surrounding community. The City will establish a Public Safety Priority Zone that prohibits camping and storing personal property within a designated boundary. The City and SacRT will agree to a Lease Agreement, Site Plan and Program Guidelines for operations and once plans are finalized, SacRT will seek FTA concurrence for a one-year pilot.

Director Hume suggested a possible change to the plan but due to a storage unit that needs to be accessible and an entrance and outrance issue, it is not an option.

Director Jennings stated he remains committed to project even though this is no longer in his district. He thinks this is the perfect parking lot and asks his colleagues to consider moving this item forward.

Director Kennedy supports this and would like to be in direct consultation as this moves forward being the only SacRT Board member that currently represents that location.

Director Serna applauds the work that has gone into this and supports the item. With regards to this being a one year long pilot program, he asked since this is a SacRT asset if the Board could be kept apprised about the collective understanding and the parameters of the site.

Director Valenzuela is very supportive of this project.

Chair Miller asked what the term of the lease is.

Mr. Flores stated the term is a one-year pilot with the option to extend.

Public Comment was taken by phone from Jeff Tardaguila and Nick Bryant.

Mr. Tardaguila mentioned that due to delays, an eighteen-month period was necessary he also mentioned there should be a direct telephone number for safe parking.

Mr. Bryant expressed concern of an unhoused individual sleeping on the bench at the Louis and Orlando bus stop.

***Director Jennings moved; Director Kennedy seconded approval of Item 4.2. Motion was carried by roll call vote. Ayes: Directors Budge, Hume, Jennings, Kennedy, Nottoli, Schenirer, Serna, Valenzuela, and Chair Miller. Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Directors Harris and Howell.***

## **5. PUBLIC HEARING**

## **6. PUBLIC ADDRESSES BOARD ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

The Clerk read a written public comment into the record from Jeff Tardaguila.

Mr. Tardaguila was concerned about canceled trips and the process of notifying the public of cancellations.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Resolution 22-02-0004: Repeal and Amend Resolution No. 09-02-0026, Recognizing Rosa Parks (D. Selenis)**

The Clerk made note of a correction to the Resolution that was made to the spelling of modern which was reflected as modem.

Devra Selenis provided a summary and history of the Resolution Recognizing Rosa Parks.

Public comment was taken by phone from Jeffery Tardaguila.

Mr. Tardaguila acknowledged that various transit riders and companies across the country recognized this important event.

***Director Schenirer moved; Director Hume seconded approval of Item 7.1. Motion was carried by roll call vote. Ayes: Directors Hume, Jennings, Kennedy, Nottoli, Schenirer, Serna, Valenzuela, and Chair Miller. Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Directors Budge, Harris and Howell.***

### **7.2 Information: Short Range Transit Plan – SacRT on the Move (L. Ham)**

Laura Ham explained that a presentation on the Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) is required as a condition of receiving federal funding and the purpose is to plan out SacRT operations for the next five years. It is a cost constrained plan and considers stable as

well as potential funding sources. The SacRT On the Move plan consists of a current overview of the transit system and a plan to move the agency forward. It considers the impacts of the pandemic upon travel patterns in the region, future growth, and equity. The update includes impacts to service in relation to the nationwide labor shortages and how it influences the services that SacRT provides to the community. The plan will be introduced for a thirty-day public comment period. There has been initial public outreach conducted to seek input and feedback is encouraged. Ms. Ham thanked the planning and operations team that has been closely monitoring service and resources and continuously planning to meet current and future needs.

James Boyle gave a brief update on some proposed service changes. The hope is to be able to get ahead of cancellations, so SacRT riders have a more consistent schedule and a more reliable network. The changes will be temporary and will allow SacRT to restructure, restore and grow the public transit service. Mr. Boyle then shared some ridership details and figures.

Mr. Boyle provided a brief introduction of the SRTP, SacRT On the Move. He then went over the highlights of the plan. He explained that SacRT created a network frequency could be built into and then showed additions of those frequencies and the spans of service that will be increased. Mr. Boyle shared SacRT's envisioned network of the future and a timeline of the steps that would be taken.

Director Kennedy mentioned he hopes that SacRT will be more forward in fusing the SacRT planning into the County of Sacramento's Climate Action Plan, and he asked for staff to get in touch with Todd Smith. He commended staff on being true to the community and then thanked Mr. Li and Mr. Boyle for continuing the evolving process.

Director Serna concurred with Director Kennedy on the invitation to work with the County on the Climate Action Plan. He then asked about the timing of the route to the airport in 2027.

Mr. Boyle mentioned SacRT currently has the 142 airport bus route. There is also the possibility of moving things up on the timeline especially as Air Metro Park and North Natomas continue to build out. He explained there will be opportunities to fine tune what should be done with the airport in terms of fixed route service.

Director Serna suspects activity at the airport will go up as the region comes out of the pandemic. Pre-pandemic, the airport system was estimating a healthy number of employments in the near future. He hopes by taking data from 142 and working closely with the airport system that the timeline would pivot to sooner than 2027 or when it makes sense.

Public comment was taken by phone from Jeffery Tardaguila and Nick Bryant.

Mr. Tardaguila expressed concerns with bus routes 15, 33, 86 and 88. He recommended that a bus cancellation policy be in effect. He is concerned about two variants that will be

upon us soon and the need to find a way to increase ridership while making riders feel safe.

Chair Miller recognized comments will be submitted for the 30-day public comment period.

Mr. Bryant is concerned about cancellations, specifically the 25 bus route, and stated that there is graffiti on the schedule at Watt/I-80 and in the brand-new elevators. He would like to receive an email with regards to what bus routes are being cancelled.

The Clerk read written public comment from Angela Herring into the record.

Ms. Herring shared concerns with regards to the lack of transportation options especially on the weekends, undependable transit with the current Smart Ride as an on-demand service, and the fact that the nearest bus stop is a mile away in North Natomas. Ms. Herring provided a significant detailed list of specific concerns and questions and requested a response. She would like for the Board to examine the 10 pages of unmet needs that are listed in Item #7.2 beginning at page 81.

## **8. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

- 8.1 General Manager's Report
  - a. Major Project Updates
  - b. Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority – Meeting of November 17, 2021
  - c. San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority – November 19, 2021 (Hume)
  - d. SacRT Meeting Calendar

Mr. Li wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and then gave a brief COVID update stating that the recent surge of the Omicron variant has had an impact on SacRT's operations including cancellations and service delays. SacRT has been full service during a difficult time while peers across the country have reduced services significantly. If SacRT reduced services by around 10%, passengers would probably not see cancellations. SacRT is trying to find a balance. SacRT continues to aggressively recruit employees.

Mr. Li acknowledged SacRT's outstanding workforce who has worked extremely hard during the pandemic. SacRT has been working with Union leaders and looking at peer agencies across the country. Mr. Li announced that SacRT will be issuing a onetime payment of \$1,500 to all SacRT employees except for the Executive Management. He hopes this added measure will help keep the current workforce, customers, and community safer and healthy. Mr. Li added that year to date financials showed a \$3M surplus this fiscal year which makes this onetime payment possible.

Mr. Li shared that Sacramento Metro Advocates for Rail and Transit (SMART), received a \$10,000 grant from the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) and the Women in Transportation (WTS) Sacramento Chapter announced their 2021 Annual Award winners. Mr. Li is excited to share that SacRT will be receiving the Innovative

Transportation Solutions Award at the upcoming Scholarship event on March 24<sup>th</sup>. WTS is honoring SacRT's groundbreaking Social Service Practitioner Program. SacRT is a committed community partner that believes there is a social responsibility to provide safe, clean, and convenient public transit to all members of the community. With homelessness on the rise, SacRT is proud of its in-house Social Service Practitioner program. The program connects individuals living along SacRT's right-of-way and transit facilities with regional services. He congratulated the SacRT team on this groundbreaking program.

Mr. Li stated that at the end of January, Vice Chair Kennedy and SacRT were delighted to host Congresswoman Doris Matsui at the Siemens Mobility facility in South Sacramento where SacRT celebrated a milestone in light rail modernization. Siemens is currently in production for 28 new low-floor light rail cars. These new vehicles support hundreds of high-skilled manufacturing jobs in Sacramento. The contract with Siemens allows for the purchase of up to 72 new vehicles and Mr. Li thanked Congresswoman Matsui for her support of the federal bipartisan infrastructure law.

Mr. Li mentioned at the last Board meeting there were some questions regarding the project summary and timeline for the light rail modernization projects. He then shared a slide that showed the construction schedule and various cost estimates for projects.

Mr. Li reminded the public that SacRT is currently conducting an online rider survey to get feedback of rider experience and willingness to take public transit to help plan for future system priorities. The survey is open through February 25<sup>th</sup> and the feedback helps SacRT refine the Short Range Transit Plan. Based on needs and frequency, SacRT is then able to review and revise routes as needed. As of Friday, of last week, there were more than 300 responses to the survey.

Mr. Li had the pleasure to speak in front of the City of Sacramento's Counsel workshop on transportation and looks forward working with the County staff on the climate change plan.

Public comment was taken by phone from Jeffrey Tardaguila and Nick Bryant.

Mr. Tardaguila thanked Mr. Li for attending the workshop and thanked staff for putting out more cancellation messages.

Mr. Bryant expressed concerns about information on cancellations. He also thanked Mr. Li and Mr. Boyle.

Mr. Li responded that staff will be in touch with Mr. Bryant.

**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 7:16 p.m.

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STEVE MILLER, Chair

A T T E S T:

HENRY LI, Secretary

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tabetha Smith, Assistant Secretary