

## **STAFF REPORT**

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**DATE:** May 8, 2023  
**TO:** Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Tabetha Smith, Clerk to the Board  
**SUBJ:** APPROVAL OF THE ACTION SUMMARY OF APRIL 10, 2023

### RECOMMENDATION

Motion to Approve.

**SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
BOARD MEETING  
April 10, 2023**

**ROLL CALL:** Roll Call was taken at 5:29 p.m. PRESENT: Directors Budge, Daniels, Kozlowski, Maple, Serna, Singh-Allen, Valenzuela, and Chair Kennedy. Director Hume arrived at 5:32 p.m. Absent: Directors Jennings and Loloee.

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 2.1 Motion: Approval of the Action Summary of March 27, 2023
- 2.2 Resolution 2023-04-029: Authorizing the General Manger/CEO to Release the Sacramento Regional Transit District Preliminary Fiscal Year 2024 Operating and Capital Budget, and Set a Notice of a Public Hearing for May 8, 2023 (J. Johnson)
- 2.3 Resolution 2023-04-030: Approving the First Amendment to the Personal Services Contract with Staly Chin (L. Ham)
- 2.4 Resolution 2023-04-031: Delegating Authority to the General Manager/CEO to Negotiate and Execute the First Amendment to the Agreement with the City of Sacramento for Peace Officer Agreement to Include Security Operations Center Video Wall Replacement and In-Car Camera Maintenance (L. Hinz)
- 2.5 Resolution 2023-04-032: Approving Contract Change Order No. 5 to the Contract for Rail Modernization 15-Minute Service to Folsom with Aldridge Electric, Inc. (L. Ham)
- 2.6 Resolution 2023-04-033: Approving the Memorandum of Understanding for Public Transit Route Between Davis and Sacramento with UC Davis and Yolo County Transportation District (L. Ham)
- 2.7 Resolution 2023-04-034: Approving the First Amendment for the Sheriff's Work Project Agreement for Landscape Maintenance and Light Rail Station Cleaning (L. Ham)
- 2.8 Resolution 2023-04-035: Delegating Authority to the General Manager/CEO to Approve Contract Change Order No. 4 to the Contract for Low Floor Vehicle Platform Conversion Phase 1 with PNP Construction, Inc. (L. Ham)

**ACTION: APPROVED - Director Serna moved; Director Singh-Allen seconded approval of the consent calendar as written. Motion was carried by voice vote. Ayes: Directors Budge, Daniels, Kozlowski, Maple, Serna, Singh-Allen, Valenzuela and Chair Kennedy. Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Directors Hume, Jennings and Loloee.**

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

### **4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 4.1 Motion: Authorize the General Manager/CEO to Pursue a Legislative Amendment to SacRT Enabling Legislation Relative to the Board's Composition and Voting Structure (C. Flores)

Chris Flores explained that at the last board meeting, an Ad Hoc Committee recommendation was presented to pursue an additional Board seat for the City of Elk Grove and Sacramento County to address equity and representation concerns. Mr. Flores stated that Assemblymember Nguyen prefers a unanimous vote to prevent the chance of receiving an opposition letter from a member jurisdiction and the unanimous vote aligns with Assemblymember Cooley's position. Should a consensus not be reached on one or both motions, Assemblymember Nguyen indicated her willingness to carry legislation in a future cycle should that be the will of the Board.

Motion was made by Director Hume and seconded by Director Singh-Allen to add an additional seat on the SacRT Board for the City of Elk Grove.

**ACTION: APPROVED - Motion was carried by roll call vote. Ayes: Directors Budge, Daniels, Hume, Kozlowski, Maple, Serna, Singh-Allen, Valenzuela and Chair Kennedy. Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Directors Jennings and Loloee.**

Chair Kennedy thinks it is important to have on the record a clear vote whether unanimous or not.

Director Daniels stated it bothered him that the County did not already have a fourth vote. As a matter of fairness, representation is important and the only way to get closer to representation is to have the votes sync with the amount of people you are representing. The vote may end up influencing how the Board votes on items in the future.

Director Serna asked how the legislation will move forward if both votes are not unanimous.

Mr. Flores said there is language drafted for adding both seats meaning one could move forward without the other.

Chair Kennedy stated the Assemblymember indicated to him today that should only the Elk Grove seat go forward that she would be interested in bringing back the Sacramento County seat in the future.

Public comment was taken by phone from Jeffery Tardaguila.

Mr. Tardaguila recommended including what if scenarios in the future to help the public to understand the reasons for changes that have been made in the past five years.

Director Serna feels obligated to point out that the unanimity aspect provides one member with the ability to hold the Board hostage, and that is undemocratic.

Chair Kennedy, Director Budge and Director Singh-Allen agreed with Director Serna.

Motion was made by Director Hume and seconded by Director Daniels to add an additional seat on the SacRT Board for the County of Sacramento.

***ACTION: DID NOT PASS, Unanimous vote required to move forward - Motion failed by roll call vote. Ayes: Directors Budge, Daniels, Hume, Kozlowski, Serna, Singh-Allen and Chair Kennedy. Noes: Directors Maple and Valenzuela; Abstain: None; Absent: Directors Jennings and Loloee.***

Director Serna noted that the voting matrix shared on the screen was incorrect, having Board members associated with jurisdictions they do not represent.

## **5. PUBLIC HEARING**

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

Speakers:

Robert Coplin questioned why the inactive bus stop on Capitol Avenue between 30<sup>th</sup> Street and Alhambra was still there and stated buses should run later and more frequently.

Kristin Lopez, Sacramento ACCE Action is concerned about safety and feels \$7/day or \$100/monthly is not affordable and is concerned about routes being canceled and buses not running late enough.

Helen O'Connell stated all bus drivers, whether driving a large or small bus, should receive the same pay and benefits which will help retain drivers in the areas that are experiencing driver shortages.

Case Fritz complimented the light rail and those that ride it as it is safer and helps climate initiatives. He thinks public transit should be free and available 24/7.

Public comment was taken by phone from Jeffery Tardaguila and Barbara Stanton.

Mr. Tardaguila stated more needs to be done regarding bus cancelations and is hoping for more consistency and involvement with the 51 project. He hopes SacRT can figure out how to get better input from operators and riders and recommended that Board members ride public transit more often.

Ms. Stanton, Ridership for the Masses, is also concerned with trip cancelations.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

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

- 8.1 General Manager's Report
  - a. Major Project Updates
  - b. SacRT Meeting Calendar
  - c. Strategic Plan Update
  - d. Light Rail Service Improvement Plan

Mr. Li thanked the speakers for their comments. He explained that lower/no fare and more service has been SacRT's goal for a while. He shared that SacRT was the first transit agency to offer free rides for all students and currently there are only two public transit agencies conducting a pilot program with free transit for all. Compared to other major transit agencies, SacRT is underfunded by six times receiving only 1/6 of a cent. SacRT would love to work towards achieving these goals.

Mr. Li acknowledged April Board member birthday celebrations which included Directors Budge, Kozlowski, Jennings, and Serna.

Mr. Li shared some photos from the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kick-Off Celebration. He thanked the many community leaders, members, dignitaries and all the former and current SacRT Board members that attended the event. A special 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition bus and light rail train was rolled out and as part of the celebration, SacRT is offering Free Ride Transit Tuesdays on fixed-route bus and light rail in April.

Mr. Li provided a light rail modernization update. The project is a big undertaking, and as the federal government begins its Fiscal Year 2024 appropriations process, SacRT is thankful for the strong support of the federal delegation. SacRT is thankful to have heard from Congressman Bera that he will be submitting a \$4 million request to support SacRT's light rail modernization program, specifically the station renovation effort to accommodate new cars.

Mr. Li was delighted to join the Sacramento Air Quality District, along with Chair Kennedy, on a trip to Southern California to learn how SacRT can further progress the region's zero emission goals. He thanked the Air Quality district for providing a financial match for SacRT's federal low and no emission grant, which will be submitted this week.

Mr. Li announced that SacRT is offering systemwide free rides in celebration of Earth Day on April 22, 2023. Earth day is an important reminder that fossil-fuel powered transportation is the single biggest source of air pollution in California and public transit is the greener choice for moving around the region.

Mr. Li concluded his remarks by introducing Sarah Kerber, Senior Manager of Strategic Projects and Performance who provided an update on Quarterly Strategic Plan Scorecard

results and then Ron Forrest, VP of Light Rail who shared SacRT's Light Rail Service Improvement Plan.

Ms. Kerber shared a one-page summary of SacRT's overall performance scorecard which included metrics on ridership, operating cost per vehicle revenue hours, bus and light rail on time performance, fare evasion rate, and customer service. The overall score in Quarter 2 was 94.25 out of 100 points. Ms. Kerber then shared overall results broken down by strategic pillar which included operational excellence, community value, employee engagement, and customer satisfaction.

Mr. Forrest focused on what SacRT is doing to achieve Operational Excellence and identified 4 core objectives:

- 1) Develop tactical goals
- 2) Key Performance Indicators (KPI) with measurable outcomes
- 3) Measurable outcomes to drive the decision-making process
- 4) Future-proof the light rail system

Mr. Forrest shared that due to a lack of funding, many of the key technology initiatives that ensure a safer and more flexible light rail system have been placed on hold.

Mr. Forrest explained that data is collected for nearly 30 performance indicators that fall under four KPIs which are safety, reliability, accessibility, and efficient use of resources. He shared a chart with results for reliability that indicate on average, SacRT has completed nearly 99% of scheduled trips. The safety scorecard showed a 43.6% decrease in all collisions in the past four years and an 80% reduction in "squeeze by" collisions in the highest traffic density corridor.

Mr. Forrest provided a brief update on the concern of the use of audible alerts and covered the regulatory requirements that dictate the use of audible alerts.

Director Serna wanted to make the distinction between the gong, or the bell, which is used when a train is leaving a station or entering an intersection and not the horn.

Mr. Forrest confirmed the gong is a lower decibel and the most common occurrence.

Mr. Forrest went through the steps the department is taking to reduce unauthorized audible alerts.

Mr. Serna thanked Mr. Forest and offered his office as a monitoring location.

Public comment was taken by phone from Jeff Tardaguila.

Mr. Tardaguila recommended using the 7<sup>th</sup> Street location to see what is creating the horn issue and that the horn is used inconsistently at Stockton Blvd. and Folsom Blvd. Mr. Tardaguila asked if there is a procedure for train derailments and recommended having

a holding area for disabled passengers while the trains are being dislodged.

**9. REPORTS, IDEAS AND QUESTIONS FROM DIRECTORS, AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- 9.1 San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Meeting Summary of March 24, 2023 (Hume)

Director Hume mentioned there was decommissioning of a station in Pittsburgh.

Director Hume stated he was approached by Reignite Hope who does a mobile vocational training program to teach welding to unhoused, recent parolees and other marginalized communities. They need a place to set up a trailer, have funding and would like to start enrolling people in early May. Director Hume is wondering if the back parking lot at Franklin or Watt I-80 could be an option for them and was hoping to work with SacRT Staff to pursue the idea.

Mr. Li agreed that this is worth pursuing.

**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 6:28 p.m.

PRESENT: Directors Budge, Daniels, Hume, Kozlowski, Maple, Serna, Valenzuela and Chair Kennedy. Absent: Directors Jennings, Loloee and Singh-Allen.

**13. CLOSED SESSION**

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

- a. Jennifer Lackey v. SacRT  
Case Number 34-2023-00334262

**14. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

**15. CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

There was no Closed Session Report.

**16. ADJOURN**

As there was no further business to be conducted, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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PATRICK KENNEDY, Chair

A T T E S T:  
HENRY LI, Secretary

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