

TRANSIT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Summary
Thursday May 8, 2014

PRESENT:

Rick Sanderson, Charlotte
D. Evans Charlotte
Christine Bryant, Huntersville
George Schaeffer, Charlotte
Scott Jernigan, Charlotte
Mike Warner, Charlotte
Anthony Wesley, Charlotte
Walter Horstman, Matthews
Rob Cornwell, Davidson

STAFF: Pamela White, Paulus Ford, Olaf Kinard, Tom Reynolds, Debra Franklin, Duretta Weicken, Hillary Ryan,

Meeting Time 4:00-5:30 PM

I. Call to Order and Approval of the April Meeting Summary

Chairman Rick Sanderson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., The April meeting summary was approved as written.

II. Public Comment on Agenda Items:

There was no one from the public to give comment.

III. Information Item:

A. Blue Line Capacity Extension

Bong Vang_CATS senior engineer gave review of the Blue Line saying the light rail Blue line gave History which made a grant possible for the expansion of three light rail stations into three car stations. A Tiger III grant will provide enough funds to expand the Stonewall, I-485 and 7th Street stations.

George Schaeffer asked if the train would be non-stop between the 2 expanded stations. Bong stated yes the line will have the ability to provide non-stop service during special events.

Anthony Wesley asked in the future will there be three car stops along the whole line. Bong stated it is the ultimate goal to have three car stops along the whole line but for now it will be three - three car stations on the Blue Line and then to the University and other selective stations on the Blue line extension. Anthony asked if three car trains could run from university to 7th street then switch to two car trains to continue south. Olaf stated it would not be efficient to have customers switch trains at 7th street station.

Walter Horstman asked if there could be a three car train that came from I-485 and only stopped at the newly redone Blue line three car stations and then it could be called an express. Olaf stated CATS has not looked at that yet.

Michael Warner asked how long it takes to get to the Stonewall station from I-485. Olaf stated it takes twenty-three minutes. Mike asked if the regular train and the special event three car trains would run up on each other. Olaf stated the ATV system has an alarm system that goes off when trains get to close to each other. Bong stated CATS is doing studies on how to regulate the schedule when running three car trains.

B. Marketing Survey Update

Hillary Ryan CATS Marketing & Communications presented the research, process and methodology for Marketing surveys, how it relates to the 2030 service plan and the feedback from the Transit Funding Working Group.

Anthony suggested CATS do advertising at the new ballpark and Time Warner Arena to reach larger crowds of people. Olaf stated that CATS has explored those venues and has found most of the time there has been a fee for CATS to advertise in those venues. But if CATS can do something that is reasonable that is cost effective that is always an option. CATS' is currently exploring opportunities with event tickets.

C. Bus Videos from KRG Productions

The committee watched short transit public announcement videos.

IV. Service Issues

George Schaeffer asked if the GPS on buses is working as when the call center receives a call about the where a bus is and when it can be expected at a certain stop, the call center does not have the information. Pamela stated yes the buses are on GPS but the call center is in a different place than the people that run the bus. Pamela stated she will bring this issue up with the BOCC.

D Evans stated the DOT detour sign "Road Closed" on Elizabeth Street is not working properly and is causing traffic and pedestrian hazards. Also when the bus is stopped on Randolph @ Sharon Amity near Chic-fil-a cars going to Chick-fil-a form a long line on Randolph causing a one lane back-up that does not move.

Walter Horstman stated on occasion Route 65 at Village Lakes has a detour sign and some drivers are getting confused whether to turn there or not. Drivers need information on the detour. Tom Reynolds stated that drivers receive a detour printout every morning but when a detour flip flops frequently it can be confusing so the flip flop makes it difficult to keep drivers updated.

Tom also reminded the committee that starting on May 27 Trade street will be closed due to the construction of the Streetcar project between Caldwell and the rail line and there will be delays in service as the CTC will only have one end open with no access to Trade & Brevard streets.

Christine Bryant asked how drivers get traffic information so they know when to bypass an accident or not. Pamela stated NCDOT or CDOT provides information about wrecks on the highway also some CATS Supervisors or actual drivers. Tom stated in the future operators will have more access to information to determine whether to bypass an accident or not. These types of situation are always a challenge. CATS' is trying to get access to the 511 cameras along the corridors to help with these types of situations.

V. Chairman's Report

Rick was not at the April MTC meeting there for Scott Jernigan attended and reported that MTC approved the 20 cent fare increase.

Rick asked what the committee wanted to do as far as meeting in July the usual month TSAC takes off. There was a motion that TSAC not meet in June and July 2014. Pamela stated concern that if CATS needed TSAC to vote on any changes during that time, what could be done.

Rick suggested the committee vote electronically should anything come up that needed committee vote during the time off. The motion was passed. TSAC will not meet in June and July 2014 and should the committee need to vote on any business during the two months off, they will vote electronically. The TSAC agenda setting committee will meet June 5 to determine if there is any business that needs the committee vote in June. The Next scheduled TSAC meeting will be August 14, 2014

VI. Manager of Operation Report

Pamela reported about the Speed Street evening express route detours, each member was provided a map of the routing. Pamela stated at the last meeting the committee received information about the Tryon Route 11 closure and recently the closure has been postponed until August. Also CATS has been asked to provide a shuttle to the airport during construction since the parking will be limited to employees and other airport parkers. The service will be 100% funded by the airport. The service will be a demo route for June & July then it will be re-evaluated to determine whether to continue the route.

Walter Horstman asked if there will be a fare for this service. Pamela stated the airport will make that decision soon.

Next TSAC MEETING: THURSDAY AUGUST 14, 2014