

TRANSIT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Summary
Thursday November 13, 2014

PRESENT:

George Schaeffer, Charlotte
Rick Sanderson, Charlotte
Scott Jernigan, Charlotte
James Hilsman, Charlotte
Rob Cornwell, Davidson
Anthony Wesley, Charlotte

STAFF: Pamela White, Paulus Ford, Scott Colburn, Duretta Weicken, Theron Barrino,
Debra Franklin, Brian Horton, Tonia Wimberly, Scott Colburn

Meeting Time 4:00-5:30 PM

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

Chairman Rick Sanderson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.,
The October meeting summary was not approved because there was no quorum
for the approval.

II. Public Comment on Agenda Items:

There was no one from the public to give comment.

III. Information Item:

A. Streetcar Construction Update

Tonia Wimberly Senior Engineering Project Manager gave a construction update on t
The City LYNX Gold Line Phase 1. Tonia showed the committee various slides of the
LYNX construction explaining the views and processes. Tonia continued with
upcoming road closures for Kings Dr. and Elizabeth intersection, Trade Street Brevard
to Caldwell, Elizabeth Ave. Trade Street (Caldwell to Davidson) and Trade Street
(Davidson to McDowell) Tonia also explained the final components of the construction
and Gold Line Phase 1 Start up and Testing.

James Hilsman asked when the Kings Drive construction area will be open and will the buses resume regular route there. Tonia stated the area will be open next week. Brian Horton pointed out that the bus stop has been removed to make room for the streetcar stops. Also buses will not resume on Kings Drive right away because there is still other construction in that area.

George Schaeffer asked how much control do operators have starting and stopping at traffic lights and how much power do the streetcars have to start moving again. Tonia stated operators have full control of the streetcars the line has 650 volts and when the streetcar takes off it draws a lot of power.

Anthony Wesley wanted clarification about the November 22 shut down of the Blue Line. Tonia stated the Blue Line shut down will be between Carson street station and 7th street station from Saturday 2am and reopens Monday November 24.

Robert Cerrato stated he heard there was some trouble in designing the catenary for the streetcar to go under the CTC Station and wondered if that has been resolved. Tonia replied saying there was not an issue with the design but for long term maintenance the height as the catenary should be 18 feet high and the Blue line bridge sits at 17 feet. For phase 2 we are looking at using a hybrid option that runs on battery power and electricity so there will be an ability to lower the panagraph to go under that bridge.

B. Bus Stop Enhancement

Brian Horton, Planner in Service Development presented an overview of bus stop enhancements. Horton presented background on accessibility requirements, and how CATS is improving its compliance. CATS' participates as a team member on all City capital projects. During project development, CATS regularly requests accessibility improvements for bus stops within project limits, especially where sidewalks and/or curb are part of a capital project's scope. In addition, CATS reviews all Charlotte-Mecklenburg rezoning cases and urban development submittals. During land development review, CATS regularly requests bus stop enhancements scaled to the proposed land development project's scope. Independent of public and private partners, CATS incrementally improves bus stops utilizing its own capital budget. CATS' staffs regularly evaluate customer requests for stop enhancements and prioritize spot improvements by level of activity or proximity to key destinations. Most recently, CATS has launched a Pilot Project to concentrate on upgrading entire routes. The Pilot Project focused on Route 7 – Beatties Ford north of Sunset Rd. Brian showed before-and-after photos of the recent bus stop enhancements.

Two of the stop enhancements included a pedestrian refuge islands, one on Reames Road at Perimeter Parkway, and another on Statesville Road at Spector Drive.

Scott asked how CATS gets cross walk authorization from CDOT. Brian stated as long as there are no cross walk markings CATS can build the island.

C. February Service Change

Pamela White CATS Manager of Planning and Special Operations presented the February proposed Service change explaining service adjustments to improve on-time performance to routes 4,7,8,15,21,201,204,211 and Gold Rush. Routing adjustments to routes 2, 3, 6, 10, 11, 85X, and 235.

James asked if the Gold Rush line would be running a new route. Pamela stated the Gold Rush will be running the actual detour route. Brian stated Elizabeth Street will be open on November 30.

IV. Service Issues

Scott with the closer at Belmont & 15th street, how are the buses going to be routed. Robert So. Bound will go North Davidson to Parkwood to Belmont and then take the train detour in. The No. bound will go Davidson to Belmont left on Belmont, right on Caldwell, right on 18th left on Davidson.

George out bound 61X, 62X & 45X have been running ten to fifteen minutes late on later trips out. Pamela stated she will take a look at the issue.

Anthony asked if public can use Routes 590 and 591 that goes to airport. Pamela stated those routes are open to the public and it runs an express service through December. Then CATS will be discussing continuing the routes after the trial. Also be reminded there is no overnight parking in the lots so people need to be aware of that.

V. Chairman's Report

There was no report given for MTC. Rick reminded the committee December is the month to elect a new Chairman and Co-Chairman. If anyone would like to be considered for the positions to please let Larry Kopf know by Dec. 4. Also if there are any topics the committee would like to hear about in the 2015 meetings to please let Duretta know.

VI. Manager of Operation Report

Pamela reminded the committee of the line cut on November 22 & 23, there will be a bus bridge from Carson Street Station to CTC and the line will reopen Monday November 24. Pamela also reminded the committee about the Route 11 closure.

Next TSAC MEETING: THURSDAY DECEMBER 11,, 2014