



## **GCTD Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

10:00 a.m. - Wednesday, April 15, 2020  
Gold Coast Transit District - Board Room

### **Meeting Summary**

**TAC Members Present:** Treena Gonzalez, County of Ventura; Sergio Albarran, City of Ventura; Debbie O'Leary, City of Oxnard; Ellen Debord, City of Ojai; and Claire Grasty, VCTC

**TAC Members Absent:** Don Villafana, City of Port Hueneme

**GCTD Staff Present:** Vanessa Rauschenberger, Director of Planning and Marketing; Beatris Megerdichian and Austin Novstrup, Transit Planners; Matt Miller, Planning Manager; Cynthia Torres Duque, Communications and Marketing Manager; James Beck, Fleet Manager; and John Kelly, Operations Manager

**Members of the Public:** Juan De Haro

#### **1. Call to Order/Introductions**

Chair Sergio Albarran called the TAC meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

#### **2. Public Comments (items not on the agenda)**

None.

#### **3. Committee Members' Comments**

Sergio Albarran announced that the Wells Center construction is nearing completion. Treena announced that the Kanan Shuttle service has been suspended.

#### **4. Staff Comments**

Vanessa Rauschenberger announced that GCTD has 195 active employees of which 20 are on leave due to self-quarantine or Covid-19 related. There have been no confirmed positive cases. Six other employees are on leave due to other reasons. She added that GCTD has implemented a daily Sunday Service schedule and is ready to implement further service reductions if necessary. Due to staff shortages, some trips have been missed. Vanessa mentioned that GCTD is encouraging everyone to wear a mask but is not enforcing it to a point of denying boardings. She mentioned that GCTD's approach is to minimize interaction and practice social distancing. Additionally, signs have been posted on buses to remind passengers to wear a mask. GCTD is taking other measures including limiting the number of riders on buses depending on the size of the bus and deploying buses where overcrowding happens.

Vanessa informed TAC members that there has been an increase in loitering at the OTC due to closures throughout the cities. She mentioned that Jim has been reaching out to Oxnard Police Department for increased enforcement. Vanessa added that additional sanitizing measures have been put into practice including sanitizing buses day and night. GCTD has also suspended fare collection and implemented rear door boarding to eliminate interaction with bus operators.

She informed members that GCTD is continuing to advise the public as the District receives updates from public health experts. Lastly, she added that the reduced service hours will continue until May.

Treana Gonzalez inquired if GCTD has had overcrowding on buses.

Jim Beck informed members that there has been no overcrowding. GCTD has a standby bus ready to deploy if overcrowding occurs.

## **5. Approval of the February 19, 2020 Meeting Summary**

Treana Gonzalez made a motion to approve the February meeting summary. Sergio Albarran seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **6. 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Service Performance Report – Matt Miller & Margaret Heath-Schoep**

Matt Miller informed TAC members that fixed route boardings are down 66 percent as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. He mentioned that approximately \$8,800 is lost a day through fares and pass sales. Additionally, he noted that the GCTD staff is continuing to plan for July service changes including implementing the new Route 23 and south Oxnard restructure.

Vanessa Rauschenberger reported to members that the GO ACCESS has been providing service for essential trips only. She mentioned that ACCESS has been delivering meals to seniors that are home bound. Each box delivered contains two weeks of food. GO ACCESS has applied for a waiver through FTA to provide this service.

Claire Grasty mentioned that Metrolink has also reduced service.

Treana Gonzalez inquired about January and February boardings on Route 15 and transit service to JJC.

Matt Miller informed members that route 15 ridership increased in the months of January and February and passengers are also utilizing routes 11 and 6. No further requests have been received for service to JJC.

## **7. Update on CARES Act – Vanessa Rauschenberger**

Vanessa Rauschenberger announced to members that a draft budget will be available in June. She mentioned Michelle Pierret, GCTD Finance Manager, will be leading the budget process. Vanessa informed TAC members that GCTD is expecting to receive between twelve to thirteen million dollars in CARES Act funds. VCTC will be providing more details on the CARES Act funds in May. She added that the suspension of fare collection and the decrease in state LTF funds have reduced operating revenues. GCTD expects that the CARES Act funds will support operations for the next year.

**11. Future Agenda Items**

Budget

**10. Adjournment**

Chair Sergio Albarran adjourned the meeting at 10:45 am.