



GCTD Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

10:00 a.m. - Wednesday, February 19, 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; and Martin Erickson, VCTC

TAC Members Absent: Don Villafana, City of Port Hueneme; Ellen Debord, City of Ojai

GCTD Staff Present: Steve Brown, General Manager; Reed Caldwell, Assistant General Manager; Vanessa Rauschenberger, Director of Planning and Marketing; Beatris Megerdichian and Austin Novstrup, Transit Planners; Matt Miller, Planning Manager; James Beck, Fleet Manager; and John Kelly, Operations Manager; Margaret Heath-Schoep, Paratransit Manager

Members of the Public: Andrew C., City of Thousand Oaks

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 is under construction and the construction will not require a stop closure.

4. Staff Comments

Vanessa Rauschenberger made a correction on item 7 of the February 19th, 2020 TAC agenda. Item 7 is an informational item.

5. Approval of the January 15, 2020 Meeting Summary

Sergio Albarran made a motion to approve the January meeting summary. Debbie O'Leary seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. Receive Presentation on Fleet Management Plan – Jim Beck

Jim Beck presented on the Fleet Management Plan. He mentioned that GCTD completed the Transit Asset Management plan and the Board adopted a “zero/near zero emission policy” in 2018. In 2019, CARB adopted the Innovative Clean Transit rule that requires agencies to set a goal of zero emissions fleet by 2040. Furthermore, Jim mentioned that GCTD purchased five electric Nissan Leaf’s and four more are to be delivered soon. The Leaf’s are GCTD’s first zero-emission vehicles. Charging stations will be available for use in the next couple of weeks. Additionally, the Paratransit fleet has 26 vehicles. The Ford vans have been able to accommodate GCTD needs.

Jim informed TAC members that in the next 5 years 43 buses will have reached or surpassed the Useful Life Benchmark. Replacement of the buses will be done in phases. Jim explained that CARB’s Innovative Clean Transit Regulation rule requires that starting in 2026, 25% of all buses purchased by GCTD must be zero-emission. The regulation further requires that all transit agencies to transition entire fleets to zero emission by 2040.

Additionally, Jim explained the comparison between hydrogen and electric bus built and performance. He illustrated the technology of the hydrogen fuel cell, explained hydrogen fuel cell prices and the need for storage infrastructure.

He concluded by demonstrating the funding sources that could help fund the replacement of 43 buses. The estimated cost of replacing the 43 buses is \$36 million. Potential funding sources that will help fund this project include Federal Competitive Grants CMAQ/5339/LowNo among others.

7. Impact of AB 1350 Free Fares for Youth Under 18 and AB 2012 Seniors and Farebox Recovery – Vanessa Rauschenberger

Vanessa Rauschenberger presented a report on the potential impact of proposed AB 1350 and AB 2012. She explained that the rules would require transit agencies to provide free rides for youth age 18 and under, seniors age 65 and over as a condition of receiving state funding under Transportation Development Act. While the bills are under legislative review, GCTD has conducted a review of the impact that the bills would have on future operating budget as well as the farebox ratio. If both bills passed, the impact would be a loss in revenue of approximately 8.5% to 22% of actual fare revenue.

Additionally, she mentioned that regardless of the outcome of the proposed bills, GCTD will need to take action to address the need to increase farebox recovery in order to maintain service levels. She presented two options including reducing operating costs and fare adjustment. Prior to any changes, a Title Vi analysis will be required to measure the potential impact.

8. Update on Grant Awards & Opportunities – Matt Miller

Matt provided an overview of the grant awards and opportunities available for GCTD. He informed members about numerous state, federal and county funding opportunities and potential projects under each type of opportunity. State grant funding opportunities include the Affordable Housing & Sustainable Communities (AHSC), Low Carbon Transportation and Active Transportation Program. Federal grant funding opportunities include Low or No Emission Vehicle Program, Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program. Funding opportunities from VCTC include Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality and 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities.

9. GCTD Member TDA Budget Discussion – Reed Caldwell

Reed provided TAC members an opportunity to ask questions regarding the TDA budget. He also informed members that he will be reaching out to the jurisdictions to answer their questions.

11. Future Agenda Items

10. Adjournment

Chair Sergio Albarran adjourned the meeting at 11:30 am.