

**RALEIGH TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2016  
MINUTES**

The Raleigh Transit Authority met on Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 3:30 p.m in the Council Chamber, Raleigh Municipal Building, 222 W. Hargett Street, with the following present:

Jason Horne, presiding  
Yvonne Bailey  
Ray Magsonic  
Tony Pecoraro  
Craig Ralph  
Debra Rezeli  
Michael Stevenson  
Jane Thurman  
Billy Warden

Staff present: David Eatman, Marie Parker

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Horne.

The following items were discussed with actions taken as shown:

**AGENDA – APPROVED AS AMENDED**

Chairman Horne reported there would be an additional item included in the report of the Finance & Policy Committee.

Without objection, the agenda was approved as amended.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**MINUTES – AUGUST 11, 2016 – APPROVED**

Members had received the August 11, 2016 minutes prior to the meeting. Mr. Ralph moved approval of the minutes. His motion was seconded by Ms. Bailey, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### SOUTHERN GATEWAY CORRIDOR STUDY – RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

Dhanya Sandeep, Raleigh Urban Design Center, provided the presentation of the Southern Gateway Corridor Study that has been worked on for the past year. She explained there had been good response to the plan noting it will be presented to the Planning Commission at their October 4 meeting. Existing conditions, targeted community outreach as well as the scope of the planning and design efforts were reviewed. The presentation also included review of key development opportunities in Downtown South, Caraleigh/Saunders Street Area, Wilmington/Saunders Street Area and Tryon Road. Key recommendations from the study were reviewed in detail.

Don Bryson, VHB, explained there is not much east/west connectivity in this region. There is unused capacity on Hammond Road. He spoke of the large number of crashes on S. Saunders Street noting there are approximately 6 crashes per week and noted S. Saunders Street is more of an obstacle than a resource for moving traffic. He explained Wilmington Street is a cleaner corridor and could make that more of a transit oriented corridor. He spoke to possibly extending Wilmington Street and making a north/south corridor going to Garner. He reviewed the possible S. Wilmington Street Transit Corridor and various options available. The existing and potential future network in the Tryon Focus Area was reviewed noting we do not want a lot of traffic going up Wilmington Street. He pointed out the location of a potential park & ride lot on the map available at the meeting. Key transportation improvements to Downtown/Old Saunders Street area, key recommendations and implementation were explained.

Mr. Eatman stated everyone knows this is one of the top 3 performing transit corridors in the City and many months it has the highest productivity route and is also part of the Wake Transit Plan.

Mr. Pecoraro indicated the assumptions on types of vehicles is significant. Mr. Bryson indicated because not much can be done with the traffic on Saunders Street, other modes of transportation need to be used as well as drivers need to use other roads. They looked at widening Saunders Street but then the problem moves up to Chapanoke Road. Saunders from a bike/ped/transit activity will not change a lot. In response to a question, Mr. Bryson indicated there are not many options available for widening Saunders or Wilmington Streets without going through neighborhoods and cemeteries. Mr. Stevenson discussed options for the Wilmington Street/Chapanoke Road areas and whether there will be displacement of buildings.

Ms. Sandeep advised members that cost estimates for various options were included in the report and pointed out the entire report is online.

The report was received as information.

## **INTRODUCTION – MICHAEL ROGERS**

Mr. Eatman introduced Michael Rogers to the Board. Mr. Rogers is the new Transportation Director for the City. Mr. Rogers indicated it was a pleasure to attend the meeting and looked forward to meeting all members on a later date.

## **GORALEIGH STATION RENOVATIONS – UPDATE RECEIVED**

Gil Johnson, Project Manager, was present to update members on the status of GoRaleigh Station renovations. Pictures were shown of the new stairs, elevator tower, ticket office area, HVAC work area and various levels. The elevator motor is installed. External insulation is in at the ticket office and about ready for sheetrock work. Mr. Johnson reported work is moving along and nearing completion. Finishes have been approved by the Historic Development Commission. Next month they will be talking about the sprint to the finish line. Final completion is scheduled for February, 2017. The contract amount is unchanged and they are operating within the budget and contingency. Mr. Johnson indicated the project is at 45% completion.

The report was received as information.

## **BUS SHELTER COMPETITION FINALISTS – INFORMATION RECEIVED**

Mr. Stevenson reported the design competition was held among various area architects and the jury met the previous Friday afternoon. He reviewed the makeup of the jury. All jurors reviewed all entries online and provided comments online. Comments were compiled. Mr. Stevenson stated he was happy there was a tremendous amount of consensus noting 3 rose to the top with all jurors agreed. They are meeting with the 3 teams Monday before going to building the prototype with the hope they will be built on some locations before the Transit Bond Referendum. Mr. Stevenson reviewed the 3 finalists and their proposals noting why each was chosen by the jury. He indicated each team has a list of comments on the good and critical items to address. In response to questioning from Mr. Ralph, Mr. Stevenson indicated each of the 3 finalists were given their budget and it remains to be seen if their entry falls within the budget. The deadline will be the last Friday of October. Mr. Stevenson indicated the critical items are to be addressed while they build and they will be at risk if they don't address any concerns. Ms. Thurman indicated the finalists were impressive.

Mr. Eatman indicated as these 3 demos are developed, he would assume they would be unveiled at a single location and would we want them at an active bus stop or set up a demo scenario with all 3 in a single location and then they could be placed in another selected location. He indicated the authority should think about that. He indicated a home will have to be found for all 3; therefore, the footprint of each is important since there are standards for bus stops depending on location, right-of-way width, etc. Some stops may have tighter right-of-way requirements than others. Staff proposed once we get that data available, staff will provide the authority a list of options where the 3 demos can be placed. Mr. Eatman spoke to the need to be cognizant that this is a broad community and would want to place the shelters in a way they complement the entire system. Mr. Eatman indicated staff will put out a list of locations they could go. If there is an existing shelter at the locations selected, they can be taken down and moved. Mr. Stevenson indicated there were a couple of entries that appeared too big but felt these 3 are more in the confines of a typical shelter. It is also being emphasized the shelters need to last. Mr. Stevenson indicated if there is 1 location for the unveiling, he would suggest the AIA Building on Peace Street.

The report was received as information.

#### **STATE FAIR PARK AND RIDE – UPDATE RECEIVED**

Mr. Walter reported the contract is signed for the use of Triangle Towne Center and Cary Towne Center for park and ride lots during the fair. All stops on Hillsborough Street will be used again and staff is working on possible detours due to Hillsborough Street construction.

The report was received as information.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT – RECEIVED**

Mr. Pecoraro reported the Finance and Policy Committee met on September 6, 2016 and made the following recommendations:

##### **Budget Amendment Memo:**

Mr. Pecoraro indicated CAMPO, serving as the lead agency of a joint procurement, solicited RFQs from firms interested in four distinct areas of transit planning expertise. Those received were evaluated by the joint parties of the procurement, CAMPO, GoRaleigh and GoTriangle. Nine proposals were received and the top three firms from each transit planning area were chosen to participate in the on-call services contract. The top ranked firm from each transit

planning criteria will be offered the first opportunity to negotiate a contract for the defined scope of work. If a contract cannot be negotiated with the top ranked firm, the second and third ranked firms respectively will be given the opportunity to negotiate for the scope of work. All contract expenses will be split among the parties of the procurement not to exceed budget contribution amounts from the parties of the joint procurement. The not to exceed budget contribution amounts from the parties of the joint procurement include \$500,000 from GoRaleigh/City of Raleigh, \$1,200,000 from GoTriangle and \$175,000 from CAMPO. The memo provided to members in the agenda backup outlined the vendors and their areas of expertise as well as revenue and expense accounts affected. Mr. Pecoraro reported the committee agreed to these contracts and budget amendments, not to exceed \$1,875,000. Mr. Eatman reviewed the need for this action noting this could jump start the Wake Plan if it is successful in November. He indicated regardless we need this is needed for the 5 Year Transit Plan regardless of the referendum outcome.

Mr. Pecoraro moved approval of the contract negotiations and budget amendments. His motion was seconded by Ms. Bailey. Mr. Stevenson requested that he be recused from voting as he works for one of firms involved. Mr. Pecoraro moved that Mr. Stevenson be recused from the vote. Ms. Bailey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

A vote on the motion was taken and passed with Mr. Stevenson recused from the vote. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

### **Interlocal Agreement between GoTriangle and the City of Raleigh:**

Mr. Pecoraro explained CAMPO wishes to enter into a shared procurement and cost sharing Inter-local Agreement with GoTriangle and GoRaleigh allowing for the joint procurement of professional services. Revenues required for the payment of services will be split among the parties of the agreement. Initial shared revenues expected from the agreement include \$500,000 from GoRaleigh, \$1,200,000 from GoTriangle and \$175,000 from CAMPO. The funds will be used to perform a variety of professional services associated with the Wake Transit Plan On-Call Services Contract. Mr. Pecoraro reported the committee recommended approval of the Interlocal Agreement and on behalf of the committee so moved.. His motion was seconded by Ms. Bailey, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

### **MARKETING COMMITTEE REPORT – RECEIVED**

Ms. Rezeli reported the Marketing Committee met on September 8, 2016 and made the following recommendations:

### **Park and Ride Sign:**

Members received in their agenda backup the proposed park and ride sign. Ms. Rezeli indicated as other signs need replacing, the new one will be used.

Ms. Rezeli moved approval of the design for the park and ride signs. Her motion was seconded by Ms. Thurman, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

### **State Fair Bus Advertisement:**

Ms. Rezeli reported the committee recommended approval of State Fair advertisement for Park and Ride locations on 10 busses beginning September 25, 2016 and ending October 24, 2016. The cost for this installation is \$950.00. Ms. Rezeli moved approval of the advertisement. Her motion was seconded by Ms. Thurman, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

### **University GoPass Partners – Press Conference:**

Ms. Rezeli reported a press conference was held on August 31 announcing that WakeTech, Shaw and St. Augustine's are now GoPass partners. Mr. Eatman reported there was great turn out from the universities.

### **GoRaleigh Goes Bluegrass:**

Mr. Eatman reported just before the Bluegrass Festival there will be GoRaleigh Goes Bluegrass. The Pinecone Association will be playing during peak times on September 28 and September 29. There will be no cost involved.

Ms. Rezeli indicated the next committee meeting will be on October 6 at noon.

### **STAFF REPORTS – RECEIVED**

Members received in their agenda packets the following staff reports:

1. Statement of Income (July 2016)
2. Variance Analysis (July 2016)
3. Go PASS Ridership Summary (July 2016)
4. Go PASS Ridership by Agency (July 2016)
5. Accessible Raleigh Transportation Summary (July 2016)
6. Operating Statistics (July 2016)
7. Route Statistics (July 2016)

8. Ridership Percentage by Time Period (July 2016)
9. Evaluation by Route (July 2016)
10. Advertising Update (August 2016)
11. On time Performance Report (August 2016)
12. Monthly Talking Points (August 2016)

## **CONCLUDING REMARKS**

Ms. Thurman noted RLine ridership is down. Mr. Eatman indicated there have been two studies and staff analysis has been done. The biggest change is Downtown itself. RLine started in 2009 in Valentine's Day and at that time the Convention center was opened for 6 months and the only restaurant was The Big Easy with everything else being at Glenwood South. The greatest ridership occurred in 2009 – 2012 between 4:00 p.m. until 1:00 or 2:00 a.m. That ridership was steady. Since then Fayetteville Street has matured and the dynamics of Downtown have changed tremendously with no route changes. Staff knows there are a couple of key initiatives that will unfold in the next couple of months. There are alternatives available and at some point will have to pick which one.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Hunt