

**RALEIGH TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
OCTOBER 22, 2018  
MINUTES**

The Raleigh Transit Authority met on Thursday, October 22, 2018 at 3:30 p.m in the Council Chamber, Raleigh Municipal Building, 222 W. Hargett Street, with the following present:

Jason Horne, presiding  
Sherita McCullers  
Tony Pecoraro  
Nathan Spencer  
Michael Stevenson  
Linda Wire

Staff present: David Eatman, David Walker, 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**

Mr. Horne reported there would be add on items to the agenda. Mr. Eatman explained the City Council requested an update on the Wake Transit Plan noting the authority has seen everything provided to the Council regarding BRT. The authority also has a general idea of the status of the Downtown Plan but there is an update on that. If there is enough time at the end of this meeting he will go through the Downtown Plan and wanted everyone to be aware of where we are with the Downtown Plan and upcoming meetings for public input on November 7. Chairman Horne indicated the update will be provided following the Committee Report items.

Mr. Williams indicated he would like to add a question for the Marketing Committee during the meeting.

Without objection, the agenda was approved as amended.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### ROUTE COMMITTEE – REPORT RECEIVED

#### ROUTE 16 OBERLIN – PUBLIC HEARING SET

Mr. Walker reported Route 16 Oberlin had some time performance issues and the Blue Ridge Road route will be implemented in January. Staff recommends dropping the duplicated route. Most of the service is on Blue Ridge Road and staff feels it would unnecessary to duplicate service on Blue Ridge Road with the new route. This change will be brought to public hearing at the November public hearing. There have been several meetings and there will information provided at Crabtree ahead of the hearing. Mr. Spencer felt this accomplishes what we have been trying to do for the entire program by creating a way for people to get there faster and better. He urged approval of this change.

Mr. McCullers moved approval of setting the public hearing on this change for the November authority meeting. Her motion was seconded by Mr. Spencer, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

#### JANUARY SERVICE CHANGES – PUBLIC HEARING SET

Mr. Walker reported the Northwest and Southeast route changes as funded by the WTP has been through public meetings, surveys, etc. Staff recommended that the authority authorize a public hearing at the November authority meeting. These changes have been discussed for the last 6-8 months. Mr. Eatman explained the hearing on the Route 16 Oberlin and January Service Changes will be publicized for the 4:00 pm hearing on November 8. These are services coming from the WTP and has come out for hearing. There have been dozens of meetings regarding these changes and this is the formal citizen participation process which is required by law. So far TPAC feels these changes would be implemented unless there is overwhelming opposition. Mr. Walker noted there had been concern expressed regarding a change to Route 4 and for a citizen living on Creedmoor Road and working at NCSU, a transfer will be required and staff has agreed to interim #36 with one of two routes coming out of Crabtree up to Rex Hospital which would require a transfer at Rex. Pros and cons of the proposed changes were discussed. Mr. Spencer referred to the Southeast changes noting he had no problems with the proposed changes but needed to go to the areas involved and see them. He stated he had received some comments from District C citizens. Mr. Walker explained the Southeast changes are to be implemented in January and there have been public meetings, etc. Staff has gone into the communities and discussed the changes and will be going next Monday to Worthdale and a couple more information meetings are scheduled. On a map available at the meeting, Mr. Walker pointed out the streets that would be

removed from service. Grantland and Lunar Drives are being removed since they are very narrow and parking is allowed and with the new routing, it will be impossible to cover them without looping. Ridership on those roads are very low in the morning and on Peyton Street is very high. Mr. Spencer indicated he had talked with the Route Committee and is in favor but realizes because a lot of changes are being made that we need to go into the neighborhoods out of respect and be sure everyone understands the need for the changes. Chairman Horne suggested sending out to authority members when the visit will take place and if anyone is interested they can join Mr. Spencer. Chairman Horne stated he will go with Mr. Spencer.

Mr. Eatman explained one issue relates to passenger amenities on Poole, Barwell and Rock Quarry Roads. DOT requires us to have curb and gutter with 45 mph speed limit and some sections do not have curb and gutter. We will be installing temporary pads mostly on Barwell Road. There are also 3 locations where the sidewalks have to be finished. Where there are sidewalk issues, there will be bus stop signs and large concrete pads with no vertical elements. These will be temporary and are the only things that can be done to meet DOT specifications in the interim. This will be communicated to the community and the City Council.

Ms. McCullers indicated she lives on Barwell Road and people are excited to be getting transit service.

Ms. McCullers moved that a public hearing be set for the November meeting on these proposed changes. Her motion was seconded by Mr. Stevenson, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

### **ROUTE COMMITTEE INFORMATION ITEMS:**

#### **Route 12 Method – Administrative Route Change – Information Received**

Mr. Watson reviewed this item noting it is an administrative change as a result of Hillsborough Street improvements. He reviewed the previous route as compared with the route changes. Ridership on Route 12 has increased and wanted to make this a permanent change. Notices have been posted and no comments have been received. Clark Avenue has not been served for the last 2 years.

#### **RLine Revisioning – Information Received**

Mr. Watson reported the first stakeholder meeting on this matter was held on September 24 and outlined what was reviewed at that meeting. The next meeting will be October 29 with the main purpose to review with everyone the redefined goals and objectives for RLine. Stakeholders involved were reviewed including Campbell Law School, Shaw University, DRA, Chamber of

Commerce, William Peace University, etc. Mr. Eatman indicated we are getting to the point of thinking about what options are available and there will exercises on any options that can be thought of.

#### NC State Fair – Report Received

Ms. Parker indicated there were 84,000 riders during the State Fair which broke the record for the 18 years of reporting.

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

Mr. Pecoraro reported the Finance and Policy Committee met on October 3, 2018 and made the following recommendations:

#### **TPAC Concurrence Policy (Draft)**

Mr. Eatman explained this item is on the agenda for adoption and provides staff with framework as we move through major projects. This is much like DOT concurrence projects and makes sure all stakeholders are involved. This does not mean others can't provide input. The policy can either be adopted at this meeting or brought back to the December meeting. Mr. Spencer likes the idea behind the policy noting there are so many voices in these overall plans.

It was agreed to hold action on this item until the December meeting.

#### **Workforce Development**

Mr. Eatman reported this is a replay from last year when it was agreed to provide transportation to a work force development event at the Convention Center. We work with the group to provide bus passes. This involves the Wake County Hospitality Fair and they are asking for us to do it again this year. This is for only one day and at most the total is 137 passes. Mr. Pecoraro reported the committee voted to recommend approval. Mr. Pecoraro moved approval of this request. His motion was seconded by Mr. Spencer, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

#### **FY20 GoRaleigh Work Plan**

Mr. Eatman explained this item represents capital items related to the FY20 Work Plan. Staff will be bringing forward some operating items as well soon. This item is an effort to assure authority members are aware of what will be hitting the CIP. Mr. Walker indicated some numbers had been tweaked and several have changed. Staff went for extra funds for the maintenance facility and

transit center to procure land so we can have land ready in order to start building in FY21. Mr. Eatman stated this will show up again as we move forward to FY20 but staff wanted members to see these numbers. Mr. Stevenson asked what is the Transit Center and what will be improved. Mr. Eatman indicated the location is in Midtown and involves up front money to search for a new transit center that would be similar to the ones at Crabtree and Triangle Towne Center. Discussion followed regarding the various items included in the work plan. Mr. Spencer moved endorsement of the FY20 Work Plan. His motion was seconded by Mr. Pecoraro, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS:**

### **Fare Technology – Fare Box Upgrades, Mobile Fare Payment, Fare Capping, Low-income Options**

Mr. Eatman reviewed the various technologies that will be coming forward. Fare options relates to mobile fare payments which will allow smart cards. Fare capping makes all fares equal across fare categories. He explained a monthly pass is \$45.00 but if you are low on funds and get paid weekly, it will allow someone to ride free with the card or phone technology. All details have not been worked out but those are things staff is looking at. The City Council has asked that staff look into mobile technology on work being done on development of fares regionally and making sure all policies are the same. Mr. Walker reported staff may be bringing before the Finance and Policy Committee a draft of suggested fares in November that will be adopted at all agencies so we will have similar fare structures. Mr. Eatman explained in looking at base fare changes, there could be small changes for larger and pre-paid fares but any changes will be modest. Mr. Walker indicated the only proposed changed fare would be the 30 day pass and has very minimal impact for us. Mr. Spencer stated daily riders who can't afford it will be on the same level playing field.

### **FY19 Budget Amendment - \$750,000 SMAP**

Mr. Eatman explained we are in the short term making sure we have aligned our previous maintenance allocation back to formula capital funds. When we start tapping into these dollars, our capital budget increases by the same amount. We have been able to cover 3 years of shortfall with CMAQ funds from NCDOT and will be working with the legislature at state association to replenish those funds in the future. There is no impact to service levels as a result at this time.

Mr. Pecoraro indicated there needs to be discussion on how to make additional revenue by establishing a special tax district noting all money goes into a general fund. He indicated this is something the City Council should be considering. Mr. Stevenson stated this should be coordinated with land planning. Mr. Eatman explained there have been 2 Council Work Sessions on transit oriented development led by Assistant City Manager Hayward, Planning Director

Bowers and Housing and Neighborhoods Director Jarvis. Both meetings are available on the website. He stated if members are interested on where the City is heading on initial steps the work session minutes would explain. That was the starter for this discussion. Staff is looking at doing peer analysis and have done a lot of research on best practices. Those things are underway and incredibly important for the success of transit and important for the community. With that comes the opportunity for whatever is legal in North Carolina for financing.

## **MARKETING COMMITTEE REPORT – RECEIVED**

The Marketing Committee met on October 4, 2018. There were no action items reported out of committee. The following items were for information.

### **Together Raleigh Update**

Ms. Wright reported artwork has not come in for the shelters yet and are at the printers for approval by the artists. This should be complete within the next 2 weeks.

### **RFP Update – Marketing Director**

Ms. Wright indicated Mr. Spencer worked hard on this item. Mr. Spencer stated some minor changes were added to the RFP and all had been reviewed by the Marketing Committee. The basic idea is when a future marketing director position comes up, it is desired that the RFP be ready to post. Discussion followed regarding the need for and requirements of the position. Mr. Spencer indicated a few changes have been made and he is always open to critique. He advised members to read through this information.

### **State Fair Update**

Ms. Wright reported bus ridership was about one tenth of fair attendees which breaks previous records. There were tail ads on the buses and added a social media campaign. The budget was increased \$12,000 for advertising.

### **Youth GoPass Update**

Ms. Wright reported as of October 10, 882 passes had been obtained. 94 were lost and an additional few were deactivated due to age, etc. resulting in a final total of 788 passes. Ridership is going well.

## **Committee Name Change**

Mr. Williamson requested an update on the name change for the committee previously discussed. Mr. Watman indicated he had not had an opportunity to discuss this with Councilman Branch but would do so soon. It was pointed out the proposed name would be GoRaleigh Transit Authority.

## **STAFF REPORTS – RECEIVED**

### **WAKE COUNTY TRANSIT PLAN UPDATE – DEFERRED TO DECEMBER MEETING**

Mr. Eatman indicated he would be happy to put the update presentation on line for the board's review or would go through it at this meeting if desired. It was agreed to place the presentation on the December agenda.

## **PERFORMANCE REPORTS – RECEIVED**

Members received in their agenda packets the following staff reports:

1. Statement of Income (August 2018)
2. Variance Analysis (August 2018)
3. Go PASS Ridership Summary (August 2018)
4. Go PASS Ridership by Agency (August 2018)
5. Accessible Raleigh Transportation Summary (August 2018)
6. Operating Statistics (August 2018)
7. Route Statistics (August 2018)
8. Ridership Percentage by Time Period (August 2018)
9. Evaluation by Route (August 2018)
10. On time Performance Report (August 2018)
11. Monthly Talking Points (August 2018)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Hunt

