

**RALEIGH TRANSIT AUTHORITY
NOVEMBER 8, 2018
MINUTES**

The Raleigh Transit Authority met on Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 3:30 p.m in the Council Chamber, Raleigh Municipal Building, 222 W. Hargett Street, with the following present:

Jason Horne, presiding
Christopher Jones
Karen Rindge
Nathan Spencer
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 stated there would be additional items discussed at the meeting, the first relating to in-kind services for First Night Raleigh. He explained the public hearing scheduled for today relating to the FY19 service changes will be deferred to the December meeting; however, anyone present to make comments would be allowed to speak at this meeting. Without objection, the agenda was approved as amended.

STAFF ITEMS

FIRST NIGHT RALEIGH – IN-KIND SERVICES – APPROVED

Mr. Eatman reported organizers with First Night Raleigh held on New Year's Eve by Artspllosure have requested an in-kind sponsorship this year similar to years past. The proposal is to provide space for 5 queens and 5 tails, including production and installation. The cost of 5 queens is \$1,625 and the cost of 5 tails is \$1,500 per month. Cost of production and installation is approximately \$100 per tail ad and \$135 per queen ad totaling \$1,175. Inventory cost for a queen ad is \$325, a tail ad is \$300, totaling \$3,125 for one month. Total cost of the campaign would equal \$4,300.

25% of the queen ad inventory for December is currently available and 100% of the tail advertising inventory is available. In return, Artspllosure will provide the following benefits:

- GoRaleigh on prominent First Night Raleigh produced signage identifying sponsored activity
- GoRaleigh identified as a sponsor in official program guide (20,000 copies)
- Rights to use First Night Raleigh logo in promotional campaign
- Opportunity to set up on site during First Night Raleigh
- Giveaways for GoRaleigh marketing campaign

Mr. Eatman stated staff recommends authorizing Transit staff to provide the in-kind sponsorship. In response to questions, he indicated this would be for December only. Ms. Rindge felt this is a great idea and a great way to market GoRaleigh. Ms. Rindge felt the services provided should be expanded for this event. Mr. Walker explained there is concern relating to the event ending and everyone dispersing at the same time and there would not be enough buses for everyone at the same time. Discussion followed regarding the use of Park & Ride which would be challenging for this particular event; however, he could come back to the Route Committee with information on if we can move forward with Park & Ride. He noted he can get information out by Tuesday of next week on how to deploy that and cost. Ms. Rindge stated we are trying to promote our services but did not want to set us up for failure either. Mr. Horne indicated staff could be authorized to do some research and develop logistics and provide that back to the authority by email in order to provide a final motion to the committee. Mr. Eatman stated this could involve operating more like a walk and ride with more pick up points.

Ms. Rindge moved approval of the in-kind service as outlined. Her motion was seconded by Ms. Wire, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

Mr. Spencer moved that staff be authorized to research for Park & Ride options for First Night Raleigh and advise the members via email if this can be done, logistics and cost. His motion was seconded by Ms. Rindge, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

PUBLIC HEARING – FY 19 CHANGES – DEFERRED TO DECEMBER AUTHORITY MEETING

Chairman Horne explained the hearing to consider the FY 19 route changes was to be held at this meeting; however, there is a need to defer the hearing to the December meeting. He indicated anyone present could provide their comments at this meeting.

Ms. Wire moved that the hearing to consider the FY 19 changes be deferred to the December meeting. Her motion was seconded by Mr. Spencer, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

INFORMATION ITEMS

WAKE TRANSIT PLAN – BRT MAJOR INVESTMENT STUDY AND RALEIGH DOWNTOWN PLAN – UPDATE RECEIVED

Mr. Eatman reported staff has been moving forward with the BRT Corridor Analysis. There was a meeting relating to the Wake Transit plan the previous evening with large participation. Mila Vega, Investment Study and Downtown Plan Manager, provided background information relating to the Wake Transit Plan that resulted from the successful referendum in 2015. She reviewed what TPAC has accomplished since then noting the plan has projects for bus service, commuter rail and BRT. The BRT began with the Major Investment Study (MIS) including 20 miles of BRT and 30+ stations, depending on the alignment chosen. There have been a number of meetings and the take away is people want to make investments to increase ridership and get the BRT done. Corridors were evaluated using 15 criteria. Funding assumptions are \$4.3 million for project development and additional funding in FY 2020. In response to questioning Ms. Vega explained each individual corridor can be a stand along project. Ms. Rindge stated 50% federal support at least would be needed and asked if that is possible under Small Start with Ms. Vega responding that is possible. The timeline was reviewed beginning with the RFQ for project development in late fall 2018 and ending with scoring and funding in September 2019.

The Downtown Plan was then discussed which is being done by Kimley Horne. The history of the plan was reviewed which involves a multi-modal plan resulting in the development of an implementation plan. The overview and key themes were reviewed including implementation, vision for multi-modal transportation and balancing tradeoffs. The plan will be wrapped up by February or March, 2019. A public engagement meeting was held the previous day including the Advisory Committee, the Technical Team, Stakeholder Group and the City Council. Advisory Committee representatives were reviewed as well as the purpose of the committee.

The 4 multi-modal scenarios were reviewed in detail (A through D) including highlights and potential considerations included such as providing the highest coverage for Downtown, jobs access, provides direct connection to both GoRaleigh Station and Union Station, etc.

Scenario B was pointed out on the east side of Downtown and goes to GoRaleigh Station directly with no access to Union Station. Patrons will have to walk 5 blocks to Union Station or bus connection. This has the highest access to jobs today.

Scenario C is on the west side of Downtown in McDowell Street area. If this route is taken, impacts on traffic will be significant and does not serve the two stations requiring patrons having to walk or take bus connections. It has moderate access to current and future jobs.

Scenario D is a hybrid of Scenarios B & C and minimizes the effects of traffic and DOT construction impact. It does not serve Union Station but does have access to GoRaleigh Station.

Project future outcomes were discussed including recommended BRT routing scenarios and conceptual street cross sections. Next steps were reviewed briefly.

Mr. Spencer asked if there is any reason the study has to stop at GoRaleigh Station or Union Station. Mr. Eatman indicated today we have 6,000-7,000 boardings daily at GoRaleigh Station and 500 boardings per day at Union Station. There is a bus component for Union Station and GoTriangle. Connecting modes at Union Station is important and GoRaleigh Station is 3 times larger than any other single boarding location and for us to make pedestrian connections those modes is very important. Ms. Vega indicated it would be very difficult to bypass that area.

It was noted the Plan is on the City's website at [GoRaleigh.org/Downtown Plan](http://GoRaleigh.org/DowntownPlan)

The survey closes next week and staff will then begin refining the scenarios. The Plan will be presented to the Council in January, 2019.

Mr. Eatman stated Downtown is complex with many modes and lots of competition for right-of-way. This will take over one year to determine what is right for a small area of the City but the most technical service area. We want people to be able to get Downtown quickly but want them to be able to get through Downtown quickly also and want radial connections to be frequent and convenient Downtown. Ms. Rindge stated Kimley Horn are experts and have to weigh all this noting these are tough decisions. Ms. Vega indicated the service area is small but very difficult and there is a large list of things we are trying to compare and the study provides options to think about.

This report was received as information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ROUTE COMMITTEE REPORT – RECEIVED

Mr. Spencer reported the Route Committee met on November 6, 2018 with the following actions taken:

Wake Bus Plan – 10 Years Operating and Capital Plan

Mr. Spencer reported the Committee reviewed the 10 Year Operating and Capital Plan in detail which were included in the agenda packets. He indicated he had suggested some word changes which were included. The Committee recommended endorsement of the Plan. He reviewed the difference in the 10 year and short term plan. The next time the 10 year plan will come before the authority is 2020. Endorsement of the plan will send it forward to the Wake Transit Team for moving forward. He felt the 10 year plan is a good plan and includes purchasing diesel buses, changing technology, implementing 4 new transit facilities,, etc. He stressed this is developing a transit system that we really need. The Committee recommended that the authority endorse the plan.

Mr. Eatman stressed this is just a plan and will be reassessed annually and updated every 3-5 years. It is a living and guiding document.

Mr. Spencer moved adoption of the 10 Year Operating and Capital Plan as presented. His motion was seconded by Ms. Rindge, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

Wake Transit Plan – Short Term Transit Plan

Mr. Spencer reported the Committee reviewed this document that is based on changes to be made before 2025. He indicated staff did an incredible job on the document that goes into plans for specific routes, etc. Each of these items will be seen again. He indicated this is a good and solid plan.

Ms. Jones asked how much the public is involved in the planning. Mr. Eatman stated all of the Wake Transit Plan was developed through a series of planning processes and the Wake Plan involves a 78 member community wide effort. There were many public meetings held in every community and in all 12 municipalities in Wake County.

Mr. Spencer moved approval of the Short Term Transit Plan. His motion was seconded by Ms. Wire, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

RLine Re-Visioning

Information: Mr. Spencer explaining currently stakeholders are being identified. He reviewed upcoming meetings. He noted this project is progressing timely. Discussion followed regarding the purpose of RLine which is to service Downtown.

STAFF REPORT – RECEIVED

Members received in their agenda packets the following staff reports:

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Hunt