



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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**TRANSIT RIDERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES – JUNE 14, 2016**

The Transit Riders Advisory Committee (TRAC) of the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) held a meeting in the Auditorium at PSTA Headquarters at 4:00 PM on this date. The purpose of the meeting was to approve the May 17, 2016 meeting minutes and recommend approval of the October 2016 service improvements and the wheelchair restraint system contract. The following members were present:

Elaine Mann, Committee Chair
Gloria Lepik-Corrigan, Committee Vice-Chair
Richard McDaniel
Alejandra Mesa
Elisabeth Olden
Kimberly Rankine
G.W. Rolle
David Schneider
Dave Stanton
Carson Zimmer

Absent:

Catherine Baranowski
Julie DiPietrantonio
David Kovar
Vivian Peters
Robyn Pierce
Chelsea Schneiter
William Vincent

Also Present:

Brad Miller, CEO
PSTA Staff Members
Members of the Public

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Mann opened the meeting at 4:10 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Committee Chair Mann reported on the May Board meeting stating that PSTA passed its annual audit successfully. Mr. Miller said that the Board had a long discussion about the purchase of replacement buses and it is his hope that there will be a decision made at the June Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Minutes – Mr. Rolle made a motion, seconded by Ms. Olden to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2016 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

October 2016 Service Improvements – Cassandra Borchers, Chief Development Officer, spoke about the recent service changes and the planned October service improvements in North and Mid-County. She presented maps showing the planned service changes on Routes 61, 62, the Dunedin/Palm Harbor Connector, Route 66, the Jolley Trolley, and the Oldsmar/Tampa Connector. Ms. Borchers said that Route 18 will be streamlined to reduce travel time and improve on-time efficiency and Route 19 will be split into two separate routes. She also spoke about the service changes affecting the Mid-County routes. Committee Chair Mann expressed her concern about the route changes on Douglas Avenue in Dunedin.

Ms. Borchers stated that there will be one more public hearing on the services changes, which is scheduled for June 18th. She also outlined the public outreach planned for July through October. Ms. Lepik-Corrigan asked about service to the Countryside Library and Ms. Borchers explained that route. Ms. Lepik-Corrigan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rankine to recommend approval of the October service improvements. There were no public comments. Motion passed (9:1) with Committee Chair Mann dissenting.

Committee Chair Mann introduced and welcomed Richard McDaniel, TRAC's new member representing the alternate student position.

Wheelchair Restraint System – Debbie Leous, Chief Financial Officer, indicated that PSTA applied for and was awarded discretionary grant funding under the state-allocated Federal Section 5310 Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Capital Assistance Program. She noted that the basis of the grant application was to upgrade 46 2006 Gillig buses wheelchair restraint systems.

Henry Lukasik, Director of Maintenance, explained the upgrades to the buses. He indicated that staff is recommending approval of a contract for seat/securement equipment upgrades for 46 buses with Gillig, LLC for a total cost not to exceed \$242,000. Mr. Lukasik stated that the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) share would be \$193,600, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) \$24,200, and PSTA local share \$24,200.

The Committee had questions relating to the latching system and the riders' mobility devices latching system. Mr. Lukasik confirmed that every latching system is different on mobility devices. There was discussion about the storage area on the bus being replaced by fold-down seats and the need for a place to store baby strollers and shopping carts. It was suggested that some type of cargo net restraint system could be used for these items. Mr. Lukasik indicated that he will speak with other transit authorities across the country on how they store items. Mr. Stanton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Olden to recommend approval of a contract with Gillig, LLC. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE MEETING SUBJECTS

The Committee was provided with a list of upcoming meeting subjects.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM. The next meeting will be held on July 19th at 4:00 PM.