



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
3201 SCHERER DRIVE, ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716  
[WWW.PSTA.NET](http://WWW.PSTA.NET) 727.540.1800 FAX 727.540.1913

## PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES MAY 17, 2017

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Committee Vice Chair Gerard called the May 17, 2017 Planning Committee meeting to order at 10:32 AM. Members present: Pat Gerard, Joe Barkley, Darden Rice and Patricia Johnson. Member absent: Bill Jonson. Also present were: Brad Miller, CEO; and members of the public.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

### ACTION ITEMS

Elect Committee Officers – Ms. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rice, to nominate Ms. Gerard as Chair and Mr. Barkley as Vice Chair. The motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment.

January 18, 2017 and April 19, 2017 Meeting Minutes – Ms. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barkley, to approve the January 18th and April 19th meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment.

Federal Sandbox Grant Project – Christopher Cochran, Senior Planner, provided a hand-out and brief summary of the innovative transit model project that increases efficiency and cost effectiveness of paratransit services. Mr. Cochran described PSTA's unique partnership with Lyft, the University of South Florida (USF) Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR), United Taxi, CareRide, and Goin' Software. The Committee had a few questions relating to the cost savings for the paratransit rider and PSTA, and how the partner company drivers are compensated. Mr. Barkley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to authorize the PSTA CEO to authorize the CEO to approve all key partner contracts for the Mobility on Demand (MOD) Sandbox Grant Program. The motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

Public Engagement Outreach - Bob Lasher, External Affairs Officer, presented a comprehensive overview of the various public engagement activities conducted over the past six months. Mr. Lasher explained how the outreach arm of the Planning Department is involved in a myriad of agency activities from teaching people how to ride PSTA buses, promoting programs such as Direct Connect, Free Spring Break Rides, Flamingo Fares and Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Late Shift. PSTA Public Engagement also conducts surveys, communicates service changes, and promotes special promotions in schools, neighborhood associations and Chambers of Commerce meetings. The Committee had several comments about PSTA's outreach efforts and expressed concern for the disadvantaged and low income residents that desperately need transportation.

## **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 11:20 AM. The next Planning Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 21 at 10:30 AM.