

TRANSIT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Summary
Thursday February 14, 2013.

PRESENT:

D. Evans, Charlotte
Rick Sanderson, Charlotte
Rob Cornwell, Davidson
Anthony Wesley, Charlotte
Terry Lansdell, Charlotte
Christine Bryant, Huntersville
Marvis Holliday, Van Pool
George Schaeffer, Charlotte

STAFF: Duretta Weicken, Paulus Ford, Theron Barrino, Larry Kopf, Kirk Scott, Pamela White, Judy Dellert-OKeef, Brian Horton, Shannon Dabney, John Fitzgibbon, Dee Pereira, Tina Votaw, Mike Haddad, Zettie Phillips

Meeting Time 4:00-5:30 PM

I. Call to Order and Approval of the January Meeting Summary

Chairman Rick Sanderson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., the January meeting summary was approved as written.

II. Public Comment on Agenda Items:

There were no comments from the public.

III. Information Item

A. Bus Stop Committee update

Zettie Phillips gave an update on the bus stop committee. Reporting the committee met On January 29TH attached are 11 recommendations for review.



Bus Announcement
Committee Recommen

The recommendations will be reviewed by CATS legal and then brought back to TSAC in March for committee approval.

Rick asked if the new shorter announcements were currently in use. Larry stated the shorter announcements are in use in the uptown stops only, but there have already been positive comments.

B. CATS Budget

Dee Pereira CATS CFO gave an update on CATS FY14 -15 Operating budget and the FY14 -18 Capital Investment Plan. reviewing the history, the impact of the sales tax gap how that affects the 2030 plan and maintaining safe, reliable core mass transportation services while costs continue to rise.



TSAC - 2-14-2013 vs
2.pptx

Terry Lansdell asked why there is a 7% utility cost projected in the 2014/2015 budget. Dee stated the 7% projection is based on current patterns of rising costs.

Terry asked if there were any special agreement for utility costs in the beginning of the rail project. Dee answered no because it was a new system there was no real knowledge of costs but now both the rail and the utility companies have become aware of costs.

Terry stated he has heard the topic of fareboxes come up and now is in the budget. Larry stated CATS does have a group that is meeting to address the farebox issues. Dee stated the committee will look at the whole range of farebox collections and determine where CATS lays in that area.

Anthony Wesley said he would like to know what the Street Car project and the Blue line were in the news about. Dee stated the streetcar project is a City CIP program that is responsible for \$119 million and is not related to the transit system right now.

C. Poindexter

Tina Votaw, Transportation Planner for CATS, provided an update on three (3) projects that are underway between the New Bern Light Rail Station and the East/West Light Rail Station. The projects are attached.



Poindexter TSAC Feb
2013.pptx

Tina stated that the Crossing Project and the Ballast Curb Project are underway and should be completed by mid-April. The Crossing Project involved a temporary shutdown of a portion of the light rail system on 3 weekends and Tina and Larry Kopf discussed the “bus bridge” that will be used to transport rail customers during those weekends.

Tina discussed the new sidewalk that will be constructed by the City to provide better access to both rail and bus patrons between New Bern and East/West Stations. The new sidewalk will fill in gaps that exist currently. The new sidewalk should be completed in the spring of 2013.

Marvis Holliday asked if this is the first time rail had a stoppage in service and if this is the longest time the rail line has been shut down. Larry answered the rail line had been shut down for a long period of time when the silo fell across the track and CATS had bus bridges then as well as other times of a shorter period for maintenance and catenary work.

D. June Service Change

Larry stated the June service change is an information item this month and will be brought back to TSAC next month as an action item.

Pamela White CATS Service planning and development reviewed the June service change click Icon below to see the June service changes.



June Service Change
TSAC Updated.pptx

Dee asked if the park and ride at the old BJ's was going to be relocated. Pamela stated CATS is interested in relocating the park and ride but there is little opportunity to do that along the Independence corridor at this time.

Terry asked if routes 29, 23, and 222 open for public comment. Pamela stated yes. Judy Dellert-OKeef stated that all the public meetings are listed on the CATS website and the in a press release.

Marvis Holliday asked where the airport Sprinter bus stops along the way. Pamela stated the Sprinter has limited stops along Moorehead, Wilkerson Boulevard. Marvis asked if the limited stops were to get people to the airport faster. Pamela answered the Sprinter is like an express bus service.

Larry CATS is working with Center City Partners and contributions are dwindling to keep the Gold Rush Orange line operating. So it is in jeopardy for the June service change if another source of funding is not found.

IV. Service Issues

Christine Bryant stated that the Huntersville Gateway park and ride had the parking lines repainted which was great but the way the lot was closed off with trucks was very confusing as the entry way was not completely closed so drivers did not know where they could go. Larry stated he will point out the confusion to the facilities group and perhaps they can work with the contracted company to resolve the issue.

Chairman's Report

Rick stated MTC had CIP Budget discussions for the whole meeting and that this next month will be the Operations Budget. Also John Woods was re-elected to MTC. Rick reminded the committee that Carolyn Flowers will be giving the CEO's report to TSAC next month.

V. Manager of Operations Report

Larry Kopf CATS Manger of Operations reported that the contract for the Regional Express will be presented to MTC for approval.

NEXT TSAC MEETING: THURSDAY MARCH 14, 2013 4:00 PM