

**TRANSIT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**Thursday August 8, 2013.**

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**PRESENT:**

Terry Lansdell, Charlotte  
Rob Cornwell, Davidson  
Anthony Wesley, Charlotte  
Walter Horstman, Matthews  
Jean Veatch, Cornelius  
Scott Jernigan Mecklenburg Co.  
Michael Warner Charlotte  
D. Evans Charlotte  
Marvis Holliday Charlotte  
George Schaeffer Charlotte

**STAFF:** Duretta Weicken, Paulus Ford, Theron Barrino, Larry Kopf, Pamela White, Judy Dellert-OKeef, Debra Franklin, Catricia Hancock,

***Meeting Time 4:00-5:30 PM***

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**I. Call to Order and Approval of the June Meeting Summary**

Co-Chairman Terry Lansdell called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., The June meeting summary was approved as written.

**II. Public Comment on Agenda Items:**

There was no one from the public that gave comment.

**III. Action Item:**

**A. UNCC Service**

Pamela White, Manager of Service Development gave a brief review of last month's proposal for UNCC service stating the proposal is to schedule adjustments to improve on-time performance and asked the committee to give approval of the proposal to recommend to MTC.

D. Evans asked if there were Saturday and Sunday Schedule to UNCC. Pamela stated there is no Saturday and Sunday service with the UNCC Shuttle but the regular routes do have service.

The committee then voted in favor of the proposal and to recommend the proposal to MTC.

#### **IV. Information Item**

##### **A. October Service Change**

Pamela White stated the following proposed October service adjustments are to enhance service and to improve on-time performance. Routes with proposed modifications are:

Rt. 7 Beatties Ford Road- Rt.10 West Boulevard – Rt.13 Nevin Road- Rt.20 Sharon Road – Rt. 22 Graham Street – Rt.29 UNCC/South Park – Rt.40X Lawyers Road – Rt. 42 Carowinds – Rt.61X Arboretum Express – Rt. /221 E. WT Harris/ Idlewild Road.

Terry stated Trinity Road has been resurfaced; are there sidewalks there now. Pamela stated there are sidewalks there.

Terry asked for the route 22 hourly services will there be a route name change. Pamela stated CATS will determine how to make the hourly buses distinct so riders can tell they are hourly buses.

Terry stated streets along route 10 were closed during construction and caused schedule changes. Pamela stated the streets are reopened and routes will revert back to the schedules they had before the street closure.

Pamela reminded the committee the October Service Change will be an Action Item for the September TSAC meeting.

##### **B. BLE Construction Update**

Andy Mock CATS Transit Corridor Assistant Project Manager gave an overview of the Blue Line Extension Project saying the project is 9.3 mile, 11 stations, 4 park and ride facilities, 3100 parking spaces, 3 car trains with connection to UNC. Andy stated the project is divided into two segments A & B/C. A is the Uptown Charlotte, Railroads, Historic Districts, Industry and Residential Neighborhoods and B/C deals with NCDOT roadways, Business Coordination and Traffic Management. Andy explained the BLE expects to have revenue service in 2017 with approximately

23,000 daily riders; the line connects to UNC campuses, and will have 7.5 minute peak time frequency with connecting bus services.

Terry asked if there is pedestrian access along all of 36<sup>th</sup> St. Andy stated there is access to the 36<sup>th</sup> street station then when the NEWCO building redevelops CATS will want to get access from that side of the street.

Scott Jernigan asked if there will be pedestrian access from uptown to UNCC along the whole Blue Line Extension corridor. Andy replied no, as some of the store fronts along the corridor are too close to the street to add sidewalks.

Terry asked if the sidewalks in the B/C area would be six or eight feet wide. Andy stated the walkway widths will vary as some of the walkways are very close to buildings/ businesses but CATS will do 8 feet wide walk way around stations and other walkways will not be less than six feet wide.

Walter Horstman asked if staging rail cars for events would be possible in the UNCC area. Andy stated there are tail tracks there so CATS will be able to stage rail cars during events.

D. Evans wanted to know how people with disabilities will be able to access stops during construction. Andy stated CATS development and CATS operations are working closely together to get advance notice of moving a stop and how best to provide access to bus stops during closures. Larry stated CATS service planning is currently working on some bus stops on North Tryon where a retaining wall is going in. There are limitations as to what can be done but we are working on solutions to at least soften the inconveniences.

D. wondered if the construction plan had been presented to the Disability Rights Group. Larry stated not at this time. D. suggested CATS should start addressing the Disability Rights group now to refrain from issues arising.

Terry asked if there is any way to include the continuance of Pedestrian interface along the corridor especially over bridges and overpasses. Andy stated the NECI; hosted out of the Engineering and Property Management group is a separate project for that type of work and suggested they would be the best group to answer the question.

Judy-Dellert O'Keefe stated CATS has safety messages up on the web site for Disability Rights and resources as well as other organization to keep them updated. Also CATS will be on the Spanish radio station with the same safety information.

## **C. Travel Markets & New Federal Requirements**

Larry Kopf explained the importance of the Travel Markets policy to the committee saying CATS is making a minor recommendation to the policy changing the 2025 corridor system plan to the 2030 corridor system plan and then will be presented to MTC for acceptance. Larry continued to review the Travel Markets with the committee stating the policy also aides CATS with fare increases.

Mike Warner asked if the original five corridors were considered in the Travel Markets policy. Larry stated yes.

Jean Veatch asked if the West Corridor to the airport is considered in the policy. Larry stated yes.

Terry asked what data source was used to set the Travel Market policy. Larry replied CATS generally looks at the Census tracks and data.

## **V. Service Issues**

D. Evans explained there is an issue for going out of the Lobby in the CMGC saying when trying to go out of the building there is not exit for people with disabilities. Larry stated he will forward the issue on to building maintenance staff.

Jean Veatch stated the 77X bus at 6:15pm outbound at fourth and Tryon has been delayed a lot recently. Jean also commented on signage or publicizing park and rides needs improvement in the future.

Mike Warner stated the Route 25 bus timing is off to pick up people that work at the hospital 7AM shifts that Work at the hospital.

Rob Cornwell reported the new sandwich board at Watson and Griffith streets has been getting hit by buses and other large vehicles because there is not enough room for the vehicles because of the sign being in the middle of the roadway also the bike lane is being cut off the when buses make the turn because of the sign.

Terry asked if there was any info on the VA issue. Pamela stated CATS has been out to the VA testing buses turning and found the vehicles could not maneuver in the inside of the VA property.

## **VI. Chairman's Report**

Terry reported at the last MTC meeting the Transit Funding Work Group had been approved as an official subcommittee of the Metropolitan Transit Commission. The TFWG function is to try and develop public/private partnerships for funding solutions for the light rail and transit improvements in the future. There was also information given about the Disadvantage Business Enterprise to be involved in the funding cycle of the BLE. Also the committee received the ridership report for FY2013 YTD.

## **VII. Manager of Operation Report**

Larry reported that John Fitzgibbon CATS scheduling manager has moved on and Patrick Hoskins is now acting interim. Also Larry stated there is an RFP out to look at a new farebox system to hopefully be in use by the opening of the BLE.

Scott Jernigan asked if CATS has considered having TVM's to purchase tickets at park and rides in the future. Larry stated he would bring up the idea to marketing, And that the smart card will take a while to get implemented.

***NEXT TSAC MEETING: THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2013***