

FOOTHILL TRANSIT

MINUTES

The special meeting of the Foothill Transit Executive Board was held on Friday, May 28, 2010, at the Foothill Transit Conference Room, 100 South Vincent Avenue, 2nd Floor, West Covina.

Chairman Chandler called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. The following members were present, constituting a quorum of the Executive Board:

Roger Chandler, Chairman
Carol Herrera, Vice Chair
Paula Lantz
Doug Tessitor
Pat Wallach

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 11, 2010

The minutes for the special meeting of May 11, 2010, were approved as submitted.

Motion: Vice Chair Herrera, seconded by Chairman Chandler
Vote: Unanimously carried

PRESENTATIONS:

5.1. Contractors' Employee Recognition

Wayne Fritz, General Manager, MV Transportation, recognized the following employees:

- Richard Jimenez, MV Transportation Employee of the Quarter; for providing excellent support in the Maintenance Department with a near-perfect attendance record.
- Myrna Castillo, MV Transportation Operator of the Month – April; she has scored perfect ride checks.
- Christopher Esparza, MV Transportation Operator of the Month – May; he has won many awards and citations throughout his career.

Peter Greenberg, General Manager, First Transit, recognized DeJuan McCullers, First Transit Operator of the Month – April. He has been an operator with Foothill Transit for over ten years. This is the third time he has earned the honor of Operator of the Month, and in addition has earned the title of Master Driver due to his excellent driving record (no preventable accidents, no absences, and never missed a safety meeting in ten years).

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

The Executive Board adopted the Consent Calendar items 7-10.

Motion: Member Lantz, seconded by Member Tessitor

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Documents\)](#)

REGULAR AGENDA:

FOOTHILL TRANSIT ECOLINER UPDATE

Lauren Cochran, Senior Operations Analyst, reported the following:

- The first Ecoliner arrived at Foothill Transit's Pomona facility on May 3, 2010. Members of the Foothill Transit team were given the opportunity to ride the Ecoliner from the Pomona facility to the Pomona Transit Center throughout its first week at home in Pomona.
- The Ecoliner was also driven to the Southern California Edison (SCE) Advanced Vehicle Technology Center in Pomona where Proterra staff members gave the SCE electric transportation team a tour of the bus and had a preliminary discussion on a special rate case for the project's charging.
- Last week the Foothill Transit Ecoliner project was awarded \$200,000 and a supplemental grant proposal approved by the California Energy Commission through the Alternative and Renewable Fuel & Vehicle Technology Program. This supplemental funding will be used to offset the cost of the charging infrastructure.
- An advice letter addressed to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will request modification of the TOU-8 Option A for inclusion of Electric Bus Fast Charging. If approved, the "best case" rate structure from SCE would be a 75% discount reduction.
- The Ecoliner was sent back to the Proterra factory in Golden, Colorado for final debugging, and should be in operation by late June 2010.

The Executive Board received and filed the Foothill Transit Ecoliner Update.

Motion: Member Herrera, seconded by Member Wallach

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Documents\)](#)

ECOLINER SERVICE ON LINE 280

George Karbowski, Director of Operations & Maintenance, reported the following:

- The Department of Transportation (DOT), through the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA), issued several Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) announcements for discretionary funding available for capital investments that will reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gases from public transportation systems.
- In the notice, the FTA specifically states that it seeks to fund projects with technologies of national significance such as electric drive buses, composite primary-structured buses, and clean fuel bus recharging infrastructure. As such, staff anticipates that a funding request for ten additional Ecoliners to expand service to Line 280 will be rated highly.
- Based on preliminary surveys, the next target line for implementation of the electric bus technology is Line 280, which operates from the Foothill Transit Arcadia/Irwindale operations and maintenance facility. It spans from Azusa to Rowland Heights, traveling through Covina, West Covina, La Puente, and the City of Industry.
- The 30-mile round trip operating profile for Line 280 closely matches the technical capability of the Ecoliner, the ridership is substantial, and deployment on this line would allow construction of in-route fast chargers in a strategic location for possible use in future electric bus projects.

Doran Barnes, Executive Director, commented that purchasing additional coaches would entail a competitive procurement process which is consistent with Foothill Transit's procurement guidelines and with FTA requirements.

The projected capital cost for Ecoliner service on Line 280, including coaches and associated charging infrastructure, is approximately \$16.5 million. It is anticipated that 90% of this project could be funded through DOT's FY 2010 Discretionary Sustainability Funding Opportunity Program. The procurement of additional all-electric coaches will be presented to the Executive Board for approval prior to a contract award.

The Executive Board directed staff to seek federal grant funding to assist with the capital costs of purchasing additional Ecoliner coaches for deployment on Line 280.

Motion: Member Tessitor, seconded by Member Lantz

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Document\)](#)

MCI COACH DEMONSTRATION

George Karbowski, Director of Operations & Maintenance, reported that many buses in the Foothill Transit fleet will be retired soon due to overuse. Motor Coach Industries (MCI) is considering the manufacture of a CNG-powered version of its transit coach. Last month, representatives from MCI visited Foothill Transit to seek the agency's interest in testing one of its 45-foot, 58-passenger, over-the-road coaches to conduct testing on service Lines 493, 497, 498, 499 and 699, at no cost to Foothill Transit.

During the month-long demonstration period, feedback will be gathered from customers and coach operators related to comfort, ride quality, noise level, heating and air conditioning, ease and speed of boarding and disembarking, and the ease of wheelchair loading, etc.

The pros of operating this coach are:

- Superior ride quality;
- Excellent operator field of view;
- First class passenger seats;
- Low interior noise; and,
- Excellent passenger visibility.

The disadvantages of operating this coach are:

- Maneuverability issues, as the bus is 45-feet high;
- Very high floor with multiple steps;
- Single door in the front, creating loading issues;
- Narrower aisles; and,
- A complex wheelchair boarding process. Where most current buses have rear door loading for wheelchair-bound passengers, this coach would require loading from the front door, and require front seat dismantling.

A coach was stationed at the Foothill Transit Office parking structure to allow the Board to view at their leisure.

The Executive Board received and filed the report on an upcoming month-long demonstration of an MCI over-the-road coach in service on Foothill Transit's commuter lines.

Motion: Chairman Chandler, seconded by Vice Chair Herrera

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Documents\)](#)

TRANSIT ACCESS PASS (TAP) SYSTEM UPDATE

Richard Hasenohrl, Director of Finance, referenced that at the May 11, 2010, Special Executive Board meeting, Mr. Matt Raymond, Chief Communications Officer, LA Metro, recommended that Foothill Transit delay conversion to the GFI System 7 system for six to 12 months allowing the TAP program to become more established. The Executive Board directed the administrative team to prepare a list of operationally crucial items to be addressed by the Regional TAP System within the next six months. The Board also requested a release from Metro to pursue a stand-alone fare collection system and directed that they be given regular updates regarding progress on the list.

The draft list of items has been classified into four categories:

- Equipment/Maintenance/Reports
 1. Reconcile farebox revenue to the NextFare system.
 2. Security enhancements regarding fare acceptance.
 3. Hummingbird report interface, which necessitate specific revisions.
- System Modifications
 4. Agency separation: a software update to accommodate data specific to both agencies (Arcadia and Pomona).
 5. Handheld Validators (HHVs) needed to enable rear-door boarding and “proof of payment” on Silver Streak service.
 6. Farebox stalling problems which need to be corrected.
- Regional Business Rules
 7. Update/Change/Modify Fare Tables.
 8. Electronic TAP transfers which require universality for multiple transit agency usage.
 9. Notification of software configuration changes: Regional Business Rules will be modified to include formal alerts to all TAP agencies when any modification is initiated that could affect a TAP agency’s operations.
- Fare Media
 10. Proof of Payment: A process/procedure is needed to issue POP receipts that can be reviewed by Safety and Security staff. Metro will jointly develop with Foothill Transit a deployment plan using Limited Use Smart Cards as a method of POP.

Doran Barnes commented that a letter of release was received from Metro, however, Darold Pieper, General Counsel, advised that changes to the letter were needed to add clarity to the items and to eliminate any ambiguity. Mr. Raymond has consulted regularly with Foothill Transit during the letter drafting process.

The Executive Board expressed concerns about a third party mediating on Foothill Transit’s behalf because of the potential that it may compromise Foothill Transit’s demands. In addition, the Executive Board noted all ten issues raised by Foothill Transit necessitate equal concern, as opposed to the 3-5 issues that Metro referenced in its letter.

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Following discussion, the Executive Board directed staff to track the attached list of issues as approved by the Foothill Transit Executive Board, and seek the resolution as a condition of Foothill Transit's continued participation in TAP.

Motion: Vice Chair Herrera, seconded by Member Lantz
Vote: Unanimously carried
[\(See Supporting Documents\)](#)

VEOLIA CONTRACT AMENDMENT FOR FY 2011 ADMINISTRATIVE COST REDUCTIONS

Darold Pieper, General Counsel, reported the following:

- On February 26, 2010, the Executive Board approved possible service reductions in the Veolia Transportation Services, Inc. ("Veolia") Management Services Agreement with Veolia Transportation Services, Inc.
- On April 14, 2010, The Executive Board directed General Counsel and a special sub-committee to negotiate the following cost reductions with Veolia:
 - Operations Analyst/Performance Improvement Manager
 - Transit Safety Officer (Full-Time)

Both positions are currently unfilled, and if the reductions are approved would reduce operating expenses by \$183,076 per year. On the same day, the subcommittee and general Counsel met with Ken Westbrook, Chief Operating Officer, Veolia, and successfully negotiated the requested reductions.

- On May 19, 2010, the Governing Board approved and adopted the 2011 Business Plan that confirms the negotiated cost reductions.
- In addition, the Management Agreement was also amended to formally add three ARRA-funded positions previously approved by the Board on February 19, 2009, which include:
 - Operations Analyst
 - Construction Project Manager
 - Senior Accountant/Grants Coordinator

These positions are currently filled, and sufficient ARRA funding exists to continue these positions through the end of the Fiscal Year 2011.

The Executive Board approved the First Amendment to the Management Services Agreement with Veolia Transportation Services, Inc.

Motion: Member Lantz, seconded by Member Herrera
Vote: Unanimously carried
[\(See Supporting Document\)](#)

CONTRACT AWARD – SOLAR POWER SYSTEMS

This item was deferred to the June 25, 2010, Executive Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENT

Mr. Barnes reported the next regular Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 25, 2010.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

There was none.

CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

(Government Code § 54956.8)

Property Address/Location: 100 S. Vincent Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790

Agency Negotiator(s): Doran J. Barnes, Roland Cordero, Edward J. Gill, Darold D. Pieper, Kevin McDonald

Negotiating Parties: CHASE, Terri R. Murray

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

(Government Code § 54956.8)

Property Address/Location: APN: 8474-009-009

Agency Negotiator(s): Doran J. Barnes, Roland Cordero, Edward J. Gill, Darold D. Pieper, Kevin McDonald

Negotiating Parties: Delta-JC, LLC

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

The Executive Board recessed at 8:45 a.m. to Closed Session.

The Executive Board reconvened at 9:09 a.m. from Closed Session.

Darold Pieper, General Counsel, announced that no reportable action was taken in Closed Session (Item 19).

Darold Pieper, General Counsel, announced that the Executive Board, in Closed Session voted to reject the offer from the Charles Company, referenced in a letter dated May 24, 2010, from the Charles Company to the Honorable Chairman Chandler and the Members of the Executive Board (Item 20).

Motion: Member Lantz, seconded by Member Herrera
Vote: Ayes: Lantz, Tessitor, Wallach, Herrera and Chandler
Noes: None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Executive Board adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Staff and guests present:

Doran Barnes, Executive Director
Kevin McDonald, Deputy Executive Director
Darold Pieper, General Counsel
George Karbowski, Director of Operations & Maintenance
Lauren Cochran, Senior Operations Analyst
Roland Cordero, Director of Facilities
David Reyno, Director of Government Relations
Richard Hasenohrl, Director of Finance
Gary Nehls, Director of Procurement
Linda Somilleda, Director of Marketing & Communications
Matt Raymond, LA Metro
Martha Arana, Commission Services