



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
FOOTHILL TRANSIT GOVERNING BOARD
HELD IN THE 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE
FOOTHILL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
100 SOUTH VINCENT AVENUE
WEST COVINA, CALIFORNIA 91790**

Thursday, March 31, 2011

7:45 AM

CALL TO ORDER

1. Call to order. (11-1717)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chandler at 7:53 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. Pledge of Allegiance. (11-1718)

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chair Herrera.

ROLL CALL

3. Roll call. (11-1719)

**Roll call was taken by Ms. Martha Arana, Staff, Board of Supervisors
Executive Office, Commission Services Division.**

Present: Member Calaycay, Member Rodriguez, Member Lantz, Member Bader, Member Cartegena, Member Hanks, Member Garcia, Member Delach, Member Tessitor, Member Breceda, Member Touhey, Member Chandler, Member Barakat, Member Fasana, Member Shevlin, Member McAustin, Member Sternquist, Member Herrera, Member Parriott, Member Delgado and Member Rodriguez

Excused: Member Ishigaki, Member Mendoza, Member De La Torre and Member Wallach

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

4. Approval of the minutes for the Special Governing Board Meeting of October 14, 2010. (11-1510)

On motion of Member Calaycay, seconded by Member Parriott, unanimously carried, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

5. Public comment. (11-1726)

No members of the public addressed the Foothill Transit Governing Board.

III. PRESENTATIONS

6. BUS STOP ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (BSEP)

Recommendation: 1. Approve FY 2011 budget appropriation of \$500,000 for the Bus Stop Enhancement Program; and 2. Increase FY 2011 estimated revenue, Excise Tax \$500,000. (11-1737)

Richard Hasenohrl, Director of Finance, presented this item.

After discussion, on motion of Member Delach, seconded by Member Lantz, unanimously carried, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

7. Foothill Transit Program Updates

FY 2012 Budget Preview

Richard Hasenohrl, Director of Finance, presented this item, responded to questions, and reported the following:

- **A Budget preview has been prepared for FY 2012. This budget is balanced; however, it does not include any possible increases for the Pomona Operating and Maintenance Facility contract which is set to expire February 4, 2012. Depending on the competition for the contract, costs could increase or remain flat, and due to this uncertainty; funding has not been included in the FY 2012 Budget.**
- **Revenue trend from FY 2009 through FY 2011 showed decreasing revenue as a result of: the economy, declining ridership, reduced service to align with reduced ridership, and anticipated declines in ridership due to the recent fare increase.**

Grant revenues have also declined due to the recession. However, revenues were budgeted higher for FY 2012 Budget, and can be attributed to previously eliminated revenues being restored such as the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Excise Tax credit and State Transit Assistance (STA) Program revenues.

- The restored CNG Excise Tax Credit is being used to backfill Transportation Development Act (TDA) funding allowing TDA funding to be used in operating expenditures. The additional TDA funding also allows for Urbanized Area Formula (Section 5307) Federal funding, once used for operating expenditures, to be used for capital expenditures again.
- Capital Project included in FY 2012 Budget are as follows: 1) Azusa Park and Ride - \$5.0 million, 2) City of Industry Park and Ride - \$10.0 million, 3) West Covina Park and Ride - \$12.9 million, 4) Bus Layover Property Acquisitions - \$6.5 million, 5) West Covina Transit Center - \$5.0 million, 6) Electric buses - \$10.2 million
- While the FY 2012 Budget is higher than the FY 2011 Estimate Actual, FY 2012 Budget includes increases for contractual obligations, anticipated cost increases, and the inclusion of expenditures that were previously eliminated.

Member Touhey recommended that Foothill Transit Staff review sales tax, generated from purchases by Foothill transit, that is going to the Los Angeles County tax poll and the 88 cities of which 66 are not Foothill Transit participants.

Ecoliner Update

Ms. Lauren Cochran, Senior Operations Analyst, presented this item, responded to questions, and reported the following:

- The Ecoliner program is progressing as anticipated. All three Ecoliners are cycled through the route daily and are using the fast charge system at the Pomona Transit Center (PTC).
- Specific Ecoliner highlights include the daily operation of the fast charge system at the PTC, regularly-scheduled bus maintenance, and more than 8,000 in service miles accumulated.

- **The in-route charging system sets this project apart and is why the Ecoliner has the capacity to operate on its route, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Ecoliner charges in less than ten minutes, while at a layover, utilizing the in-route infrastructure at the PTC. This system can charge two Ecoliners simultaneously.**
- **Foothill Transit continues to work with Proterra to complete charging station validation testing and to develop long-term charging station maintenance plans. The validation process is anticipated to wind down in the April 2011.**
- **One highlight of the validation process includes electromagnetic interference or “EMI” testing that was conducted at the PTC in February 2011. The test determined that it is safe for passengers and operators to be onboard the Ecoliner, while it is charging.**
- **International interest continues to surround Foothill Transit’s Ecoliner Project. Over the past few months, Foothill Transit has been visited by a number of interested parties from around the world. Most recently, Foothill Transit was visited by several representatives from Veolia’s Research and Innovation Department in Paris, France. The representatives are interested in deploying electric drive technologies in the near future.**
- **In late January 2011, U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and Federal Transit Administrator Peter Rogoff toured the floor of the Proterra manufacturing facility in Greenville, South Carolina. Director of Operations and Maintenance, George Karbowski, and Deputy Executive Director, Kevin McDonald, were present in the audience at the Greenville plant as Executive Director, Doran Barnes, presented the Foothill Transit Ecoliner Project and the importance of clean transportation.**
- **Due to the successful implementation of the first three Ecoliners, and the administration’s belief that the Foothill Transit Ecoliner program will be replicated across the transit industry, Foothill Transit was awarded \$10.2 million in Transit Investments in Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions (or TIGGER II) funding for the purchase of nine additional electric buses. This was, not only the largest TIGGER II grant in the state of California, but was the largest in the nation and in Foothill Transit’s history.**

- Action taken by the Executive Board at the March 25, 2011 regular meeting, reaffirmed action taken at the February 2011 Board Retreat, and authorized the Executive Director to exercise an existing option order with Proterra for the purchase of nine battery powered electric buses, funded by the TIGGER II Grant Program. The buses will match the three Ecoliners currently in service, and will fully electrify Line 291.

Legislative Update

Mr. David Reyno, Director of Government Relations, presented this item, responded to questions, and reported the following:

- Assembly Bill (AB) 105 was the most important bill for Foothill Transit because it re-enacted the gas tax swap. AB 105 passed the Senate with 39 votes and the Assembly with 66 votes. AB 105 provides the State Transit Assistance (STA) program with \$330 million in funding for FY 2011-2012.
- On March 24, 2011, Governor Brown signed the 13 major budget trailer Bills, including AB 105. The Bills include \$8.2 billion in spending cuts, \$300 million in revenues, and \$2.6 billion in internal borrowing and transfers, for a total of \$11.2 billion in budget solutions. The Governor did not sign the main budget bill because both Houses of the Legislature for strategic reasons related to the ongoing negotiations over the tax extensions are holding Senate Bill (SB) 69 at their respective desks. The STA funds are at risk if the tax extensions are not approved.
- On February 14, 2011, President Obama released his proposed FY 2012 budget request. The Administration prioritizes infrastructure spending, and calls for significant increases for public transportation. The FY 2012 budget requests \$129 billion in funding for the Department of Transportation, including \$22.4 billion for public transportation programs.
- FY 2012 proposed funding would represent the first installment of a proposed \$556 billion six-year authorization bill that includes an up-front investment of \$50 billion in highway, rail, transit, and aviation systems to jumpstart economic growth.
- On March 18, 2011, President Obama signed H.J. Res. 48, a Continuing resolution (CR) for FY 2011 appropriations to fund the

federal government's operations through Friday, April 8, 2011. The resolution cuts another \$6 billion in federal spending from FY 2010 enacted levels. This CR is the sixth such short-term spending resolution enacted for FY 2011.

- The House passed H.R. 662, a measure to extend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) through the end of the fiscal year by a vote of 421 - 4. The bill authorizes funding for surface transportation programs, including transit programs, at FY 2010 levels through September 30, 2011.
- The transit commuter pre-tax benefit (Commuter Benefits Tax Credit) was raised from \$120 to \$230 per month. No action by Congress on this credit would have reverted the benefit to \$120 per month on January 1, 2011.
- The Alternative Fuels Tax Credit expires December 31, 2011. This tax credit allows transit agencies that use compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquefied natural gas (LNG) to receive a fifty-cent credit per gallon equivalent tax refund. The tax credit equates to approximately \$2 to \$3 million per year for Foothill Transit.

Mr. Reyno congratulated the following members of the Governing Board on their recent elections/reelections to City Council:

- Councilmember Peggy Delach, Covina
- Councilmember Cynthia Sternquist, Temple City
- Councilmember Emmett Badar, San Dimas
- Councilmember Margaret McAustin, Pasadena
- Councilmember Doug Tessitor, Glendora
- Councilmember Robert F. Rodriguez, La Verne

Marketing Campaign

Ms. Linda Somilleda, Director of Marketing and Communications, presented this item, responded to questions, and reported the following:

- Gas prices continue to rise, and like in the past Foothill Transit has experienced ridership growth during dramatic gas increases. In 2006, Pulsar Advertising produced Foothill Transit cable commercial spots. In 2008, the advisements from 2006 were updated, and may be updated again in 2011 for a media campaign.

- **Advertisements in addition to other forms of commercials are being developed. This advertising campaign will target San Gabriel Valley and Pomona residents, as well as visitors directing them to the Foothill Transit website.**
- **The campaign will combine traditional media, cable and print along with non-traditional social media marketing, which will provide the most amount of exposure with the least amount of cost.**

TSA (Transit Safety Administration) Presentation

Ms. Jaime Becerra, Director of Safety and Security, presented this item, responded to questions, and reported the following:

- **Foothill Transit has had a long standing tradition of being on the leading edge of innovation and collaborative partnerships in its approach to delivering excellent public transit services to the communities it serves.**
- **The alliance that Foothill Transit has with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Transportation Security Administration dates back to 2007, with our agency BASE review of Homeland Security policies, procedures, and practices.**
- **The latest collaboration between Foothill Transit and the TSA is the Visible Intermodal Prevention and Response Team, or VIPR. VIPR teams work with local Transit Agencies, security and law enforcement officials to supplement existing security resources, provide deterrent presence and detection capabilities, and introduce an element of unpredictability to disrupt potential terrorist planning activities.**

Federal Air Marshals Joseph Trujillo and Decatur Thornton, representative for the Los Angeles Area VIPR program presented an overview of VIPR operations. (11-1743)

After discussion, on motion of Member Fasana, seconded by Member Sterquist, unanimously carried, this item was received and filed.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENT

- 8. Comment by Doran Barnes, Executive Director, Foothill Transit Authority. (11-1744)**

Mr. Barnes reported the following:

- **Veolia Transportation provides management services for Foothill Transit. Veolia is part of a worldwide transportation, management and operations organization. Recently, Veolia was honored to be awarded a contract to provide similar management services in Savannah, Georgia. As such, a vacancy in a CEO position needed to be filled quickly for that location. Veolia, with the approval of the Executive Board, tapped Deputy Executive Director Kevin McDonald to fill that role on an interim basis for 63 days. While Mr. McDonald was in Georgia, Ms. Linda Somilleda, Director of Marketing and Communications, assumed responsibility for Mr. McDonald's duties and responsibilities, and kept everything moving in the right direction at Foothill Transit. Mr. Patrick Lendal, a member of Veolia's international Strategic Marketing Group from Paris, France took over Ms. Somilleda's duties; Mr. Lendal brought an international perspective to Foothill Transit. It was a great experience for employees take on different roles and to learn new skill sets.**
- **On April 30, 2011, Foothill Transit will hold its Annual Bus Rodeo at the Arcadia Operating Facility. Members of the Congressional delegation were invited to participate at this event.**
- **The Annual Governing Board meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2011 at 7:45 a.m. Unlike prior years, this year's meeting will be held in the morning. There are two important items on the agenda, the presentation of the Annual Business Plan and Budget for consideration and approval, and the election officers and election of representatives to Clusters two and three.**

After discussion, this item was received and filed.

V. GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

- 9. Comments by Members of the Foothill Transit Governing Board. (11-1745)**

There was none.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

- 10. Adjournment of the March 31, 2011, Foothill Transit Governing Board Meeting. (11-1746)**

There being no further business, the Foothill Transit Governing Board adjourned at 9:06 a.m.