



Foothill Transit

**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
FOOTHILL TRANSIT GOVERNING BOARD**

**FOOTHILL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
2ND FLOOR BOARD ROOM
100 S. VINCENT AVENUE
WEST COVINA, CALIFORNIA 91790**

**Friday, September 18, 2015
7:45 a.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Herrera at 7:51 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Herrera.

3. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Christina Lopez, Board Secretary.

Present: Member Corey Calaycay, Member Paula Lantz, Member Emmett Badar, Member Antonio Cartagena, Member Cruz Baca, Member Peggy Delach, Member Roger Chandler, Member Richard Barakat, Member Tzeitel Paras-Caracci, Vice Chair Becky Shevlin, Member Cynthia Sternquist, Chair Carol Herrera, Member Juventino Gomez, Member Valerie Munoz, Member Hector Delgado, Member Michael De La Torre, Member Sam Pedroza, Member David Rodriguez

Alternates: Member Gene Murabito

Absent: Member Charlie Rosales, Member Uriel Macias, Member Gary Boyer, Member Mark Breceda, Member Corey Warshaw, Member Margaret McAustin

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

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



5. **FOOTHILL TRANSIT PROGRAM UPDATES**

- **CALIFORNIA TRANSIT ASSOCIATION (CTA) UPDATE**

Katie Gagnon, Special Projects Manager, presented a verbal report on the following:

The California Transit Association's 50th Annual Fall Conference & EXPO will take place November 18-20, 2015 at the Pasadena Convention Center. This year Foothill Transit will be co-hosting the conference & EXPO with Pasadena Rapid Transit System.

Foothill Transit's Governing Board Members are encouraged to attend the conference if available.

In response to questions posed by the Governing Board, Doran Barnes, Executive Director, informed the Governing Board that those interested in attending should contact Christina Lopez and Foothill Transit Line 187 provides service from Montclair to Pasadena for those interested in taking the bus.

After discussion, by Common Consent, and there being no objection, the Governing Board accepted Ms. Gagnon's report.

- **SEAT VANDALISM ISSUE**

Ali Showkatian, Safety Compliance Coordinator, presented a verbal report on the following:

Over the last several months there has been a significant increase in incidents of vandalism on Foothill Transit buses. When vandalism occurs on a Foothill Transit bus it is removed from service and the issue is fixed, which in turn can cause a shortage of buses.

Some examples of recent vandalism on Foothill Transit buses include graffiti, seat slashing, and objects thrown at buses. The slashing of seats has caused over \$80,000 in damages incurred by Foothill Transit's contractors. Since April 2014 over 1,200 seats have been slashed. The routes that have been most affected are the Lines 185, 187, and 486.

Staff has reached out to local law enforcement for help and is currently pursuing supplemental law enforcement services for these



types of incidents. A safety themed campaign has been launched, which includes customer communications via interior cards, blog posts, and Footnotes. A text tip hotline is being developed for passengers, where passengers will be able to text a description of an incident. An educational campaign has begun for operators and dispatchers will be contacting local law enforcement to respond to these incidents as they occur.

In response to various comments made by the Governing Board, Executive Director Doran Barnes, thanked the Governing Board for their ideas and indicated that staff would follow-up on those. Chair Herrera requested that an update be presented at the October 16th Governing Board Meeting.

After discussion, by Common Consent, and there being no objection, the Governing Board accepted Mr. Showkatian's report.

- **FARE RESTRUCTURING**

Michelle Caldwell Director of Finance & Treasurer presented a verbal report on the following:

A comprehensive review of Foothill Transit's fare structure will take place as recommended in Foothill Transit's Comprehensive Operational Analysis. Foothill Transit last raised fares in 2010.

The policy discussion issues for the governing board include fare increases indexed to inflation; impacts of fare changes on ridership; paratransit pricing; regional fare pricing versus local fare pricing; and implementing fare collection technology.

At the August 2015 Executive Board Meeting, the Board authorized staff to issue a RFP to solicit a consultant to conduct a fare restructuring study. The RFP was issued on September 17th. A contract will be awarded at the December 2015 meeting. The consultant will begin work in January 2016. The plan is to bring back a policy recommendation to the Board by fall 2016.

In response to various comments made by the Governing Board, Executive Director Doran Barnes, indicated that the consultant will assist with the process, technical support, and policy questions framed for the Board. Questions regarding fare restructuring will be posed during the cluster break-out sessions just to spark conversation and



get some thinking going.

After discussion, by Common Consent, and there being no objection, the Governing Board accepted Ms. Caldwell's report.

- **CLUSTER 4 EXECUTIVE BOARD ALTERNATE VACANCY**

Christina Lopez, Board Secretary, presented a verbal report on the following:

On August 26th, Jeff Parriott stepped down from the City of Industry council. This created a vacancy on the Foothill Transit Executive Board for Executive Board Alternate for Cluster 4.

Notification of Interest forms will be sent out September 21, 2015 to all Cluster 4 Governing Board Members. Completed forms must be submitted by September 30, 2015. On October 2, 2015 completed forms will be emailed to Cluster 4 Governing Board Members. A Special Election will be held at the October 16, 2015 Governing Board Meeting to fill the Cluster 4 Executive Board Alternate seat.

After discussion, by Common Consent, and there being no objection, the Governing Board accepted Ms. Lopez' report.

6. **CLUSTER BREAK-OUT SESSIONS**

Each cluster met individually to discuss involvement in public service, what Foothill Transit's primary focus for fare restructuring should be; and should the agency focus on trying to balance fares with the rest of the region or only focus on adjusting fares to fit the San Gabriel Valley/Pomona Valley communities.

7. **CLUSTER BREAK-OUT SESSIONS REPORTS**

The clusters reconvened at 9:15 a.m. Each cluster reported on their group discussions. Governing Board comments included their involvement in public service; the need for customers to be educated about the fare restructuring process; the agency needs to stay competitive with other transit agencies as far as fares, but that the San Gabriel Valley population should be considered first; and the importance of Gold Line interface.

After discussion, by Common Consent, and there being no objection, the



Governing Board accepted the cluster break-out session reports.

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENT**

Comments by Mr. Doran J. Barnes, Executive Director, Foothill Transit.

Mr. Barnes reported the following:

- Today's cluster break-out sessions were intended to start the thinking on fare restructuring. Once a consultant is on-board, staff will begin to add additional details and this will continue to shape how the Governing Board wants Foothill Transit to move forward.
- Service adjustments will be considered at the October 16, 2015 Governing Board Meeting. Adjustments are primarily tied to the introduction of the Gold Line. In addition, a presentation on regional ridership trends will be presented.

9. **GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENT**

Comments by Members of the Foothill Transit Executive Board.

- Vice Chair Shevlin stated that the cluster break-out sessions should continue at future governing board meetings.
- Member Delach commented on the great Foothill Transit shuttle service to the Rose Bowl for the UCLA football games.
- Member Baca commented that she found the cluster break-out session very informative.
- Member Sternquist thanked Doran Barnes and staff for the weekly report.
- Member Cartagena, suggested that a CD with information regarding the bus vandalism issue and fare restructuring be provided to cities to present at council meetings.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment for the September 18, 2015 Foothill Transit Special Governing Board Meeting.



There being no further business, the Foothill Transit Special Governing Board meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.