



Foothill Transit

**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
FOOTHILL TRANSIT GOVERNING BOARD
TELECONFERENCE VIA ZOOM**

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

**Friday, August 27, 2021
7:45 a.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sternquist at 7:45 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Alvarez.

3. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Christina Lopez, Board Secretary.

Present: Member Corey Calaycay, Member Victor Preciado, Member Emmett Badar, Member Linda Freedman, Member Edward Alvarez, Member John King, Member Gary Boyer, Member Dario Castellanos, Member Richard Barakat, Member Tzeitel Paras-Caracci, Member Becky Shevlin, Member Felicia Williams, Member Fernando Vizcarra, Member Steve Tye, Member Jessica Ancona, Member Cory Moss, Member Hector Delgado, Member Sam Pedroza, Member Jimmy Lin, Member Cynthia Sternquist

Absent: Member Rick Crosby, Member Daniel Damian, Member Albert Ambriz, Member Roger Chandler, Member Valerie Munoz,

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA BY CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mr. Barnes requested that item 13, ExpressLanes Update - I-10 ExpressLanes Busway HOV5+ Pilot Program, be presented after Item 9, Line 270 Pilot Extension.

**5. REMARKS BY LUKE H. KLIPP, SENIOR TRANSPORTATION DEPUTY FOR
LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR JANICE HAHN**



Member Lin introduced Mr. Klipp and stated that although Supervisor Hahn is unable to be present at today's meeting that she sends her regards. Mr. Klipp spoke on Supervisor's Hahn priorities which includes Metro's Fareless System Initiative, zero emission buses, and the zero emission goods movement.

6. **REVIEW & APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes for the Governing Board Meeting of July 24, 2021.

Motion by Vice Chair Calaycay, second by Member Shevlin, the minutes for the Regular Meeting of June 25, 2021 were approved. Motion carried 20-0.

7. **INTRODUCTION OF FOOTHILL TRANSIT BUSINESS PARTNERS**

Brian Otchis, General Manager - Arcadia Irwindale Facility, Transdev reported that 70 percent of staff at the Arcadia Irwindale Facility have been vaccinated. He also stated that a vaccination incentive program has been implemented and he hoped to see the percentage of those vaccinated move up. Recently, the Los Angeles County Department of Health conducted an inspection and he was happy to report that they received a 100 percent compliance rating. He thanked the Executive Board for their support.

Christopher Bryan, Vice President of Business Solutions, Transdev addressed the Governing Board. He spoke on a new tool called Command Console that is being implemented at the Arcadia/Irwindale facility that will consolidate a few dispatch functions. He thanked Foothill Transit for being a technology leader in transit.

8. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Daisey Ortiz, Coach Operator, Transdev expressed her concerns over the verbal abuse she's received from customers and concern over her safety. Lupe Carranza, ATU 1756, stated that Ms. Ortiz was recently physically assaulted. He also reported that over the past week that two operators had been assaulted. He stated that Transdev's standard operating procedures are not up to par with Foothill Transit standards. Carey Ellis, ATU 1756, stated that drivers are aware of the situation of Line 194 and they are scared for their safety. He said Foothill Transit needs to improve the safety of drivers. Christian, Coach Operator, stated he was assaulted while operating Line 194. He stated he was not allowed to take time off from work, and is very stressed and is not getting support from Transdev. Angel Ramirez, Coach Operator, expressed concern about coach operator safety. He would



appreciate anything Foothill Transit could do to help improve coach operator safety. Augustin Pantoja, Coach Operator, stated that he was attacked with a knife the day before. Mr. Pantoja stated he had to call the L.A. County Sheriff’s himself and expressed that he is very afraid to return to work. Lorrence Bradford, ATU 1756, addressed the increase in coach operator assaults and the need for a better plan on what dispatchers are to do when these incidents occur.

8.1. Chief Executive Officer Response to Public Comment

Mr. Barnes stated that Chief Curley’s is looking into the incidents. He asked Mr. Curley to make comments. Mr. Curley stated that the data is being tracked, and they are working with law enforcement on the recent incidents.

REGULAR AGENDA

9. **LINE 270 PILOT EXTENSION**

Recommendation: Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to: 1) Operate a one-year pilot to extend Line 270 to the Arcadia Gold Line Station at the October 24, 2021 service change. 2) Seek public comment and conduct a public hearing during the one-year pilot of the Line 270 extension to the Arcadia Gold Line Station.

Josh Landis, Planning Manager, presented this item.

Mr. Landis reported that Foothill Transit began operation of Line 270 in 2016 after Metro transferred Line 270 along with Lines 190 and 194. Line 270 operates every hour between the El Monte Transit Center and the City of Monrovia.

In response to feedback from the community, Foothill Transit is proposing a one-year pilot to extend Line 270 to start and end at the Arcadia Gold Line Station. The proposed extension would impact more than 25 percent of the existing line and would require a Public Hearing. Mr. Landis provided an overview of the outreach schedule, with adoption of the changes by the Governing Board in summer 2022.

There was no Public Comment on this presentation. Member Shevlin thanked staff for addressing this situation, specifically with the unsafe bus stop.

Motion by Member Shevlin, second by Vice Chair Calaycay, to approve.



Motion carried 18-0. Member Williams and Member Tye temporarily absent.

10. **BUS STOP ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM**

Recommendation: Receive and file the Bus Stop Enhancement Program update.

Lourdes Álvarez, Transit Planner, presented this item.

Ms. Álvarez, presented an overview of Foothill Transit's Bus Stop Enhancement Program. She reported that there are 1,809 bus stops and 99.9 percent of them are owned by city and county entities. The program provides funding for Foothill Transit bus stop improvements. Qualified applicants can be reimbursed up to \$40,000 for their bus stop improvements.

City and county entities must submit an application. Applications will be reviewed by staff and graded on a point system. Applications will be accepted starting September 1, 2021 and grant award decisions will be made by March 2022.

There was no Public Comment or Governing Board comment on this presentation.

The Governing Board received and filed this presentation.

11. **RIDERSHIP AND SERVICE LEVELS UPDATE**

Recommendation: Receive and file an update on our ridership and service levels.

Joe Raquel, Director of Planning, presented this item.

Mr. Raquel reported on how the pandemic has affected ridership and service levels. When comparing Fiscal Year 2021 to Fiscal Year 2019, ridership levels in Fiscal Year 2021 were 51 percent of pre-pandemic levels. By the end of Fiscal Year 2021 local ridership was slightly over 50 percent pre-pandemic levels. Express ridership at the end of Fiscal Year 2021 was at 20 percent pre-pandemic levels. Weekly ridership for May 2, 2021 through August 1, 2021 show local ridership is trending up and express ridership has remained flat.

In July, the Summer Sale was launched. Passes sold during the summer months outsold the months of May and June combined. There is anticipation



that the increase in pass sales will translate to higher ridership.

There was no Public Comment or Governing Board comment on this presentation.

The Governing Board received and filed this presentation.

12. **COMPREHENSIVE OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS (COA) UPDATE**

Recommendation: Receive and file the Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) Update.

Joe Raquel, Director of Planning, presented this item.

Mr. Raquel reported that Foothill Transit's Comprehensive Operations Analysis will now be known as Foothill Transit Forward. Foothill Transit received funding from CalTrans through the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant to help fund the study. The study will include a detailed review of existing service and include robust community outreach. The outcome of Foothill Transit Forward will guide Foothill Transit service improvements over the next five years.

The study is anticipated to be completed by August 2022. Staff will provide updates to the board throughout the process.

There was no Public Comment or Governing Board comment on this presentation.

The Governing Board received and filed this presentation.

13. **EXPRESSLANES UPDATE - I-10 EXPRESSLANES BUSWAY HOV5+ PILOT PROGRAM**

Recommendation: Receive and file the ExpressLanes Update on the I-10 ExpressLanes Busway HOV5+ Pilot Program.

Yoko Igawa, Director of Government Relations, introduced Mark Linsenmayer, Deputy Executive Officer, Metro Congestion Reduction, and Alice Tolar, Senior Manager, Transportation Planning, HOV5+ Pilot Project Manager, and Daniel Tran, Transportation Planning Manager, who made this presentation.

Ms. Tolar reported on the pilot program and the implementation plan that



had been developed. In January 2020, the Metro Board approved a phased pilot implementation plan for the program. The pilot objectives include keep transit moving in the ExpressLanes, move people more efficiently in the ExpressLanes, and reduce occupancy misrepresentation in the ExpressLanes. The estimated cost for the pilot is \$7.7 million.

Mr. Tran reported on the strategies to promote carpool, vanpool, and transit use along the I-10 corridor. He also reviewed the timeline for implementation and indicated that Phase 1 is expected to go live in June 2022.

There was no Public Comment on this presentation. Member Preciado expressed interest in learning more about this project and requested a meeting to learn more.

The Governing Board received and filed this report.

14. **CONTINUED GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment was not reopened as the Public Comment period was concluded earlier in the agenda (Item 8).

15. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT**

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

Mr. Barnes reported the following:

- COVID continues to be ongoing daily topic for Foothill Transit. TSA has extended the mask mandate for transportation vehicles.
- Foothill Transit's Summer Sales continues through the end of September 2021.
- September's board meetings will be held on October 1, 2021.
- Introduced Mike Lewis, a founding Foothill Transit Board Member, who spoke on the recent passing of former L.A. County Supervisor Pete Schabarum's and his impact on Foothill Transit.

16. **GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENT**

There were no comments by Members of the Foothill Transit Governing Board.



17. **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment for the August 27, 2021, Foothill Transit Governing Board Meeting.

There being no further business, the Foothill Transit Governing Board meeting adjourned in the memory of Pete Schabarum and the soldiers and civilians that lost their lives in Afghanistan at 9:28 a.m.

Prepared by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christina Lopez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The name "Christina" is written above "Lopez", and both are connected by a long, sweeping underline.

Christina Lopez, Board Secretary

Approved on: 10/01/2021