



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 28, 2020
7:45 a.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sternquist at 7:46 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Sternquist.

3. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Christina Lopez, Board Secretary.

Present: Member Corey Calaycay, Member Rick Crosby, Member Robert Torres, Member Andrew Rodriguez, Member Edward Alvarez, Member Jorge Marquez, Member Gary Boyer, Member Albert Ambriz, Member Dario Castellanos, Member Roger Chandler, Member Richard Barakat, Member Becky Shevlin, Member Margaret McAustin, Member Fernando Vizcarra, Member Steve Tye, Member Jessica Ancona, Member Cory Moss, Member Sam Pedroza, Member Jimmy Lin, Member Cynthia Sternquist,

Absent: Member Emmett Badar, Member Paul Hernandez, Member Tzeitel Paras-Caracci, Member Valerie Munoz, Member Hector Delgado

4. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes for the Governing Board Meeting of July 24, 2020.

Motion by Vice Chair Calaycay, second by Member Chandler, the minutes for the Regular Meeting of July 24, 2020 were approved. Motion carried 20-0.



5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

After discussion, by Common Consent, and there being no objection, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Laura Hendricks, President, Transdev addressed the Executive Board. She expressed her appreciation for Transdev and Foothill Transit's leadership for continuing to enhance the protocols for COVID-19. She also congratulated Transit Store General Manager Araceli Lopez for 28 years of service with Transdev and thanked her for her contributions.

6.1. Executive Director Response to Public Comment

Doran Barnes, Executive Director, thanked Ms. Hendricks for her partnership and he thanked her for everything she has done for the local Transdev team. He also stated that Araceli Lopez has served all her 28 years with Transdev serving Foothill Transit.

CONSENT CALENDAR

7. JUNE 2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INVESTMENT SUMMARY

Recommendation: Receive and file the Financial Statements and Investment Summary year-to-date report through June 30, 2020. The attached Financial Statements and Investment Report summarize Foothill Transit's unaudited operations and financial condition as of June 30, 2020, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.

Motion by Vice Chair Calaycay, second by Member Chandler, to receive and file. Motion carried 20-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET

Recommendation: In accordance with the Executive Board's recommendation, adopt Foothill Transit's proposed Business Plan, Budget, and Performance Targets for Fiscal Year 2021.

Michelle Lopes Caldwell, Director of Finance and Treasurer, presented this item.



Ms. Caldwell reported that at a special meeting of the Executive Board on May 8, 2020, the Executive Board approved preparing a three-month (July, August, September) budget for Fiscal Year 2021. This would allow more time to assess the impacts of COVID-19.

Foothill Transit has developed a budget with adequate revenues to fund all expenses. The operating expenses for FY2021 are budgeted at \$107.4 million. This represents a three percent increase over the FY2020 operating budget. The capital budget is projected at \$89.4 million. The capital program includes 53 previously approved capital projects and two new projects approved by the Governing Board in June 2020.

Foothill Transit is proposing a \$196.8 million total budget of which \$107.4 million are operating expenses and \$89.4 million in capital investments. Foothill Transit expects to operate approximately 865,000 vehicle service hours and have 7.5 million passenger boardings in FY2021.

Motion by Member Shevlin, second by Member Marquez, to adopt. Motion carried 20-0.

9. **COVID-19 TRANSIT OPERATIONS UPDATE**

Recommendation: Receive and file an update on Foothill Transit operations during the COVID-19 pandemic and Los Angeles County Safer-At-Home order.

LaShawn King Gillespie, Director of Customer Service and Operations, and Felicia Friesema, Director of Marketing and Communications, presented this item.

Ms. Gillespie reported on safety practices, complexities of service level changes, operations practices, and customer communications. Service levels resumed to 99 percent of pre-COVID-19 levels. The average daily ridership is 61 percent of pre-COVID-19 ridership. Express service ridership is 19 percent pre-COVID-19 ridership. The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) issued a report on the impacts of COVID-19 on public transportation, and it reports that Foothill Transit had the lowest drop in ridership in April and May 2020. Staff believes that maintaining high levels of service, instead of cutting service was a contributing factor for that indicator. Installation of driver barriers will begin in August 2020. Fare collection resumption is scheduled to begin on Sunday, October 18. The suspension of fares during the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in rides without destinations. It is



anticipated that this practice will diminish with resumption of fare collection.

Ms. Friesema provided an update on communications. With school starting and all campuses converting to distance learning for the fall semester, Class Pass campaigns have been adjusted to focus on safe riding protocols and maintaining public trust. School websites have Foothill Transit information available. Quality, customized, and safety tested face masks have been distributed to all bus operators, front line teams, customer service representatives, and administrative team members. She reported that Foothill Transit has had a total of 23 confirmed COVID-19 cases among the two operating facilities and the administrative office. Eleven have recovered and returned to work and there have been no fatalities.

Received and filed.

10. **AUGUST 2020 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**

Recommendation: Receive and file the August 2020 Legislative Summary.

David Reyno, Director of Government Relations and Jan Powell, Foothill Transit's advocate in Washington, DC, presented this item.

Mr. Reyno reported on the Federal response to COVID-19. Foothill Transit received \$33 million in CARES Act funding. This provided enough funding to cover farebox revenue, sales tax revenue, and COVID-19 related costs that will allow Foothill Transit to maintain service over the next fiscal year. Pending bills include house bill H.R. 6800 Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES Act), which would provide \$11.75 billion for transit and \$4 billion in transit grants. The senate Health, Economic, Liability Protection and Schools (HEALS) Act would not provide any funding for transit. The Fixing America Surface Transportation (FAST) Act is the current bill that funds transportation. It is scheduled to expire on September 20, 2020. Advocacy in Washington, DC has included requests for an on time surface transportation bill.

Ms. Powell provided information on the INVEST in America Act. The bill would provide \$494 billion over five years. Transit would receive \$105 billion in funding. She also reported that the FAST Act will likely be extended. She reported that there is substantial increases for zero emission buses and in general there is an emphasis on transit as a necessity in the economy.

Received and filed.



11. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENT**

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

Mr. Barnes reported the following:

- Reported that Member Castellanos had a technical issue during the approval of the FY2021 Budget vote. Mr. Castellanos restated his vote as a “yes” vote.
- Foothill Transit’s electric double decker buses are about 90 percent complete. Buses should arrive in November 2020. Foothill Transit has received six Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) articulated buses, these buses are scheduled to replace Silver Streak buses.
- Positive discussions continue with Cal Poly Pomona in regards to Class Pass. The program launch has been delayed due to COVID-19 and discussions continue on constructing a Transit Center on the Cal Poly Pomona campus.

12. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENT**

Comments by Members of the Foothill Transit Governing Board.

- Member Barakat stated that the electric bus program needs to be evaluated. Recently, the state suffered rolling blackouts. Foothill Transit needs to think about having enough CNG buses as back up to provide minimum service. He understands that the agency is being forced to go zero emission, but it needs to be communicated to people in Sacramento that it’s not realistic if the power grid is not upgraded.
- Member Lin asked for clarification on riders that are riding the bus with no destination. Mr. Barnes stated that these riders are riding Foothill Transit’s longer routes. Staff has tried to reach out to social service and law enforcement partners to assist.
- Member Tye asked how Mr. Barnes’ granddaughter Olivia was doing. Mr. Barnes thanked Member Tye for asking and reported that Olivia just celebrated her 100-day birthday.
- Member Moss wished Member Ancona a very happy birthday.



13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment for the August 28, 2020 Foothill Transit Governing Board Meeting.

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

Prepared by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christina Lopez".

Christina Lopez, Board Secretary

Approved on: 09/25/2020