



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, April 30, 2021
7:45 a.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sternquist at 7:54 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Governing Board Member Paras-Caracci.

3. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Christina Lopez, Board Secretary.

Present: Member Corey Calaycay, Member Rick Crosby, Member Victor Preciado, Member Emmett Badar, Member Linda Freedman, Member Edward Alvarez, Member Daniel Damian, Alternate Member John King, Member Gary Boyer, Member Albert Ambriz, Member Roger Chandler, 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 Dario Castellanos, Member Valerie Muñoz

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA BY CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

After discussion, by Common Consent, Chair Sternquist and Chief Executive Officer Doran Barnes confirmed the agenda as presented.



5. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes for the Governing Board Meeting of March 26, 2021.

Motion by Vice Chair Calaycay, second by Member Moss, the minutes for the Regular Meeting of March 26, 2021 were approved. Motion carried 22-0, Member King abstention.

6. INTRODUCTION OF Foothill TRANSIT BUSINESS PARTNERS

Ibrahima Toure, Transdev Vice President Southwest Region, introduced the new General Manager for the Arcadia/Irwindale Operations and Maintenance Facility, Brian Otchis. He also thanked Denise Murphy, Assistant General Manager, for her efforts while they conducted a search to fill the General Manager position.

7. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Cornelius, ATU, expressed his concerns in regards to ongoing negotiations with Transdev and driver safety. Lorrence Bradford, ATU 1756, commended Foothill Transit for its partnership with Albertsons and the City of Covina in putting together the vaccination clinics at the Covina Transit Center. Mr. Bradford also expressed his concerns in regards to negotiations with Transdev and driver safety. Lupe Carranza, ATU 1756, stated that negotiations with Transdev have been ongoing for over a year. Mr. Carranza also expressed concerns over driver fatigue and the availability of restrooms for drivers on routes.

7.1. Chief Executive Officer Response to Public Comment

There was no response to Public Comment by the Chief Executive Officer.

8. COVID-19 VACCINATION UPDATE

Recommendation: Receive and file the COVID-19 Vaccination Update.

John Curley, Chief of Safety and Security, and Felicia Friesema, Director of Marketing and Communications, presented this item.

Mr. Curley provided an update on the collaboration between Foothill Transit, Albertsons, and City of Covina. The collaboration contributed to approximately 4,000 vaccinations at the Covina Transit Center. Updates were also provided on partnerships with Cal Poly Pomona and Kaiser;



Supervisor Hilda Solis, First District; Access Services; and Western University. Ms. Friesema reported on communication efforts in regards to vaccine availability. She reported on community outreach, social media advertising, and e-notice and website updates. Mr. Curley reported that May 15th would be last vaccine clinic held at the Covina Transit Center in collaboration with Albertsons and the City of Covina.

Michael Cornelius, ATU, expressed his concerns about the 2 minute limit for public comment. Lupe Carranza, ATU 1756, restated his concerns about the availability of restrooms for drivers, specifically in Pasadena. Lorrence Bradford, ATU 1756, stated that there are major issues that need to be addressed related to driver safety and availability of restrooms.

Member King stated that the City of Covina was thankful to partner with Foothill Transit and Albertsons. Vice Chair Calaycay stated that the vaccination clinics were held to partner with the community, but to also provide an opportunity for the drivers to get vaccinated. Vice Chair Calaycay also mentioned that the restroom issue needs to be looked into. Member Shevlin thanked Foothill Gym in Monrovia for allowing drivers to use their restrooms. Doran Barnes, Chief Executive Officer, stated that staff will prepare a report on the restroom situation, which he indicated is an industrywide issue. Mr. Barnes also stated that the vaccination clinics were held to help transit riders, the community, and for those on the frontlines. Member Lin indicated the restroom issue is not a policy item and more a management issue. Mr. Barnes stated that porta potties were installed at strategic locations where businesses closed due to the pandemic. Chair Sternquist requested that staff look into the restroom issue and Governing Board Members see if there are opportunities for businesses to partner with Foothill Transit.

The Governing Board received and filed this presentation.

9. **RIDERSHIP UPDATE**

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

Paulina Ruiz, Transportation Business Intelligence Analyst, presented this item.

Ms. Ruiz, provided a recap of service levels and overall ridership levels in relation to COVID-19. She presented an overview of the service adjustments that took place in March 23, 2020, June 8, 2020, and January 11, 2021.



Express Service continues to operate at reduced service levels and Lines 690, 851, 853, and 854 currently remain suspended. Total ridership in Fiscal Year 2020 declined by 18 percent compared to Fiscal Year 2019. In Fiscal Year 2021, ridership between July 2020 to March 2021 represents a 46 percent decrease compared to the same period last fiscal year. Commuter Express Service ridership averaged 584 boardings per weekday in March 2021, which is 83 percent lower pre pandemic.

There were no comments by members of the Public or Governing Board on this item.

The Governing Board received and filed this presentation.

10. **ANNUAL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING AND CLUSTER 1 AND 4 ELECTIONS NOTIFICATION**

Recommendation: Receive and file an update on Foothill Transit's Annual Governing Board Meeting, and notification of Cluster 1 and 4 elections to be held on June 25, 2021.

Christina Lopez, Board Secretary, presented this item.

Ms. Lopez reported that the Executive Board adopted a change to the 2021 Meeting Schedule. The date of the Annual Governing Board Meeting which was originally scheduled for May 28, 2021 was changed to June 25, 2021. The change was necessary to allow staff additional time to prepare the business plan and budget.

She provided notification to Clusters 1 and 4 of the upcoming elections that will take place on June 25, 2021. Each cluster will be electing an Executive Board Member and Executive Board Alternate.

Sinh Ly, ATU 1756, expressed concern over contract negotiations between Transdev and ATU 1756. Michael Cornelius, ATU, stated that those running for the Executive Board seats should review the two-minute public comment rule, and that staff needs to address the restroom issue. There were no comments by members of the Governing Board.

The Governing Board received and filed this presentation.

11. **FISCAL YEAR 2021 THIRD QUARTER BUDGET UPDATE**

Recommendation: Receive and file the third quarter budget update for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2021.



Jorge Quintana, Assistant Finance Analyst, presented this item.

Mr. Quintana provided an overview of the third quarter budget results, and expenditures and revenues for the third quarter. He reported that Foothill Transit has incurred approximately \$595,000 of non-budgeted COVID-19 expenses. It is forecasted that Foothill Transit will end the fiscal year within the approved budget. Foothill Transit is currently \$3.9 million under the approved year-to-date budget of \$80.3 million.

Foothill Transit has collected \$2.2 million in fare revenues since resuming fare collection in October 2020. Fare revenues are estimated at about \$3 million less than the budgeted amount of \$6.75 million. Pre-pandemic fare revenue was estimated at about \$16 million. Foothill Transit has drawn down all \$33 million of CARES Act funding and no shortage of operating revenues is expected. Foothill Transit will be receiving approximately \$30 million in CRRSAA funding and it will be programmed in the Fiscal Year 2022 budget.

There were no comments by members of the Public or Governing Board on this item.

The Governing Board received and filed this presentation

12. **CONTINUED GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment was not reopened as the Public Comment period was concluded earlier in the agenda (Item 7).

13. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT**

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

Mr. Barnes reported the following:

- Board items for May 2021 include Metro's proposed fareless initiative and the proposed business plan.
- A preview video on Foothill Transit's Double Deck Bus was played.



14. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENT**

Comments by Members of the Foothill Transit Governing Board.

- Member Crosby wanted clarification on the 151 deaths of coach operators that was announced earlier by a member of the ATU. Doran Barnes, CEO, reported that the Foothill Transit extended family has experienced one death related to COVID-19.
- Member Pedroza inquired about the completion of construction on the I-10 Freeway. The HOV lane will run from Claremont to Downtown Los Angeles. Doran Barnes, CEO, stated that staff continues to work with Metro in terms of the operation of the HOV lane and it is anticipated that the HOV lane will have a consistent speed of 40 mph.
- Member Tye stated that Public Comment time limit should be based on the number attendees. The City of Diamond Bar adjusts the time based on the number of attendees.
- Vice Chair Calaycay stated that the City of Claremont had no time limits, and then set limits. He stated that a uniform time regardless of the type of meeting size should be considered, and that he is open to discussion on this issue.
- Member Williams reiterated prior comments that the CEO should deal with operational issues and the Board should focus on strategy and policy. The CEO should advise the Governing Board Members if assistance is needed from city staff.

Doran Barnes, CEO, clarified that there has been a second COVID-19 related death as part of the extended Foothill Transit family. There has not been 151 COVID-19 related deaths of the Foothill Transit family.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment for the April 30, 2021 Foothill Transit Governing Board Meeting.

There being no further business, the Foothill Transit Governing Board meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Prepared by:


Christina Lopez, Board Secretary

Approved on: 05/28/2021