



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, May 28, 2021
7:45 a.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Governing Board Member Delgado.

3. ROLL CALL

Chair Sternquist welcomed newly appointed Governing Board Member for the City of Covina, Councilmember John King.

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, Member John King, Member Gary Boyer, Member Albert Ambriz, Member Dario Castellanos, Member Richard Barakat, Member Tzeitel Paras-Caracci, Member Becky Shevlin, Member Felicia Williams, Member Steve Tye, Member Jessica Ancona, Member Cory Moss, Member Valerie Munoz, Member Hector Delgado, Member Sam Pedroza, Member Jimmy Lin, Member Cynthia Sternquist

Absent: Member Roger Chandler, Member Fernando Vizcarra

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA BY CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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



5. REMARKS BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR KATHRYN BARGER

Chair Sternquist introduced Kathryn Barger, L.A. County Supervisor, Fifth District. Supervisor Barger thanked the Governing Board, Chair Sternquist, and Chief Executive Officer Doran Barnes for their leadership. She also reported on Metro's fareless initiative, ridership, and she highlighted San Gabriel Valley initiatives.

6. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes for the Governing Board Meeting of April 30, 2021.

Motion by Member Shevlin, second by Vice Chair Calaycay, the minutes for the Regular Meeting of April 30, 2021 were approved. Motion carried 22-0, Member Muñoz abstain.

7. INTRODUCTION OF FOOTHILL TRANSIT BUSINESS PARTNERS

Ibrahima Toure, Vice President Southwest Region, Transdev addressed the Governing Board. Mr. Toure stated that the Transdev family's thoughts and prayers are with the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) mass shooting victims in San Jose, California. He also reported that they have reached a 58 percent vaccination rate for the drivers and for the overall workforce it's at 55 percent at the Arcadia/Irwindale operations and maintenance facility.

8. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Cornelius, ATU, stated that negotiations continue with Transdev and he reported that several critical issues have been resolved. One issue still to be resolved is the issue of mandatory overtime. Mr. Cornelius stated that driver fatigue is a real issue. Lupe Carranza, ATU 1756, stated that members of ATU enjoyed assisting with the vaccination clinic at the Covina Transit Center. Mr. Carranza also expressed concern over a rise in accidents, mandatory overtime, and the availability of fare probers at the Pomona operations and maintenance facility. He also stated that a tree stump located at Mills and First Street in Claremont has caused accidents and it needs to be addressed. Lorence Bradford, ATU 1756, stated that mandates are a big concern and driver fatigue is a big issue. Carey Ellis, ATU 1756, thanked the Governing Board for what they do for their community and for the workers at the Arcadia/Irwindale operations and maintenance facility. Mr. Ellis also stated that the issue of mandates needs to be addressed. Yvette Trujillo, ATU, shared her concerns with mandates and driver fatigue. Rose, stated that her mother is a driver at the at the Arcadia/Irwindale facility, and asked



that mandates be stopped so her mother could come safely. Santiago Gomez, ATU 1756, stated that mandates need to be stopped for the safety of drivers.

8.1. Chief Executive Officer Response to Public Comment

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

REGULAR AGENDA

9. **LAW ENFORCEMENT COORDINATION**

Recommendation: Receive and file a report on Foothill Transit's coordination with local and federal law enforcement.

John Curley, Chief of Safety and Security, presented this item.

Mr. Curley reported on Foothill Transit's coordination with local and federal law enforcement. He reviewed the duties performed by the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) and the deployment of Homeless Outreach Services Team (H.O.S.T) officers on several Foothill Transit bus lines during the month of May 2021. He presented an overview of an UCLA Institute of Transportation study on Homelessness in Transit Environments and reported on Foothill Transit's response to the issue, which includes training, utilizing the services of H.O.S.T. who are specially trained officers that are paired with mental health professionals helping to address the homeless population, LASD deployment, and enforcement efforts to maintain standards and preserve order and safety. Mr. Curley clarified that the LASD are traditionally the supplemental law enforcement presence in the system. The H.O.S.T component is being added to give an outreach component to help address the homelessness issue.

On federal coordination, Mr. Curley reported on the continued efforts on building Foothill Transit's relationship with the Department of Homeland Security and Transportation Security Administration. Members of Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) were invited to the Foothill Transit offices for a tour of the offices. Foothill Transit has joined a cyber-threat sharing program offered by the FBI. He reported that Foothill Transit team members have identified a transit security grant program and a submission for \$2.4 million was put together. Foothill Transit will be notified by the end of summer if funds will be received.



Mr. Cornelius, ATU, stated that law enforcement did an exceptional job in handling the incident at the Valley Transportation Authority in San Jose. He also reported that police are reporting over 100,000 fatigue related crashes, with over 1,050 fatalities. He stated that Transdev needs to stop mandates. Lorrence Bradford, ATU 1756, thanked Mr. Curley for his efforts. He also stated that the driver fatigue issue and mandates need to be addressed. Lupe Carranza, ATU 1756, stated that there is a rise in customer complaints due to driver fatigue. Noemi Navarro, ATU 1756, stated that she is a driver and that mandates are a concern. She stated that fatigue puts a drivers life at risk.

Vice Chair Calaycay, stated that Tri-City Mental Health Center serves Pomona, Claremont and La Verne and that the Chief for Claremont has set-up a program to address persons experiencing homelessness. Mr. Curley stated that he is familiar with Tri-City and it would be beneficial to get Tri-City involved with H.O.S.T program. Member Shevlin inquired about the deployment of officers that took place in May and if they encountered any criminal activity. Mr. Curley clarified that the H.O.S.T team is specifically designed for outreach. Member Crosby, thanked Mr. Curley for his efforts on behalf of the City of La Verne.

The Governing Board received and filed this presentation.

10. **SUMMER SALE: HALF OFF, ALL GO UPDATE**

Recommendation: To receive and file the Summer Sale: Half Off, All Go Update.

Felicia Friesema, Director of Marketing and Communications, presented this item.

Ms. Friesema reported that overall ridership is at 54 percent of pre-pandemic levels, and fare revenue is approximately 12 percent of pre-pandemic. She reported that transit agencies across the nation are considering new fare pricing options to rebuild customer confidence in public transit. Foothill Transit will be launching a first ever pass sale on July 1. Prices on passes will be cut 50 percent for limited time.

She reported that communications will be robust with a heavy digital focus on Foothill Transit's most populous commuter communities. She also reviewed the communications strategy and tactics. She stated that it is hoped that there will be a bump in fare revenue in first quarter for Fiscal



Year 2022.

Member King requested that the Instagram ready artwork be provided to the Governing Board.

Lorence Bradford, ATU 1756, asked for information on when Foothill Transit will be returning to full service.

The Governing Board received and filed this presentation.

11. **MAY 2021 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Recommendation: Receive and file the May 2021 Legislative Update.

Yoko Igawa, Manager of Government Relations and Jan Powell, Foothill Transit Advocate, presented this item.

Ms. Igawa introduced Jan Powell who provided a federal legislative update. Ms. Powell reported on funding requests that have been submitted for Foothill Transit's Zero Emissions Bus Program. She also reported on the American Jobs Plan and Freedom to Move Act.

Ms. Igawa provided a state legislative update and reported on Governor Newsom's released updated Fiscal Year 2022 budget. The updated budget includes significant transportation and zero emission vehicle investments.

There was no Public Comment on this presentation.

The Governing Board received and filed this presentation.

12. **CLUSTER 1 AND 4 ELECTIONS**

Recommendation: Receive and file an update on Cluster 1 and 4 elections.

Christina Lopez, Board Secretary, presented this item.

Ms. Lopez provided an overview of the upcoming Cluster 1 and 4 elections that will be held on June 25, 2021. She reported that each cluster would be electing an Executive Board Member and Executive Board Alternate. Those elected to the Executive Board will serve a term that runs from June 2021 through May 2024.

She also reported on the Notification of Interest Form, which is an optional



form that can be used by Governing Board Members to notify other members of their cluster that they are interested in an Executive Board seat.

There was no Public Comment on this presentation. Member Tye asked what happens if no Notification of Interest Forms are received. Ms. Lopez responded that since the form is optional, the elections would proceed as scheduled on June 25th and would be conducted by caucus.

The Governing Board received and filed this presentation.

13. **CONTINUED GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

14. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT**

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

Mr. Barnes reported the following:

- A preview of the Foothill Transit's Double Deck Bus will be held on Saturday.
- The vaccination clinics held at the Covina Transit center have been a great service to the community. He thanked ATU 1756 for their assistance at the last clinic.
- He reported that the Metro board directed staff to develop a financial plan on how the fareless initiative can move forward and how other municipal operators can participate.
- Foothill Transit continues to encourage Transdev and ATU 1756 to come to a mutually agreeable conclusion to the negotiations.
- The Foothill Transit Fiscal Year 2022 Business Plan and Budget will be brought forward in June for adoption.
- There has been no decision on how Foothill Transit board meetings will be conducted after June 15. More details will be provided as the June 15 date approaches.

15. **GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENT**

Comments by Members of the Foothill Transit Governing Board.

- Member Barakat expressed his disappointment over the low vaccination rate for the Arcadia/Irwindale operations and maintenance facility.



- Vice Chair Calaycay acknowledged the representative from the ATU that earlier in the meeting had stated a concern over a safety issue with a tree at Mills and First in Claremont. He stated that he believed the issue had been addressed, but he emailed the city manager to check into the matter and if needed to follow-up with Foothill Transit staff.
- Member Lin asked for an update on the issue of restroom availability for drivers. Doran Barnes, Chief Executive Officer, stated that the item is primarily the responsibility of the contractors. Staff is looking at the contractors to address the issue as they are the employer.

Prior to adjournment Chair Sternquist deferred to Doran Barnes, Chief Executive Officer, for comments. Mr. Barnes stated that it was a very difficult week for the transit industry due to the mass shooting at the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) in San Jose. Foothill Transit's thoughts and prayers are with the VTA family. Chair Sternquist stated that today's meeting will be adjourned in the memory of the victims.

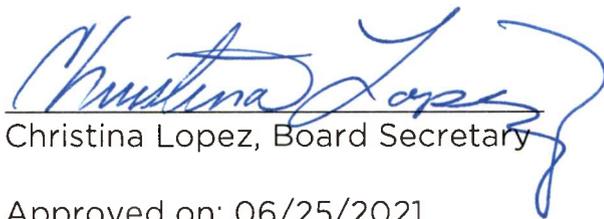
Mr. Barnes also acknowledged the passing Raul Arevalo due to COVID-19 complications. Mr. Arevalo was a mechanic with Keolis at the Pomona operations and maintenance facility.

16. **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment for the May 28, 2021 Foothill Transit Governing Board Meeting.

There being no further business, the Foothill Transit Governing Board meeting adjourned in the memory of Raul Arevalo and the victims of the VTA mass shooting at 9:31 a.m.

Prepared by:


Christina Lopez, Board Secretary

Approved on: 06/25/2021