

City of Gainesville

*City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601*



Minutes

May 22, 2019

5:30 PM

34 SE 13th Road, Room 5264

Regional Transit System Advisory Board

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Black called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

ROLL CALL

Staff Present: Jesus Gomez, Barbara Sleep, Mildred Crawford, Patricia Wiig, Steve Mays and Krys Ochia

Present 5 - Chair Black, Member Nelson, Member Hauck, Member Haven, and Chou

Absent 2 - Member Scott, and Member Miller

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Adopted

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regional Transit System Advisory Board Minutes of March 27, 2019 (B)

RECOMMENDATION

The Regional Transit System Advisory Board approve the Minutes of March 27, 2019.

Approved by Consensus

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

Regional Transit System Advisory Board Staff Updates (B)

ADA – Complaints increased in April due to extremely late runs caused by a shortage of drivers. Action is being taken to remedy the situation by continuously advertising for new drivers.

Customer Service – March commendations increased because of the National Transit Operators’ Recognition day. The drivers were very appreciative of the recognition received by riders. The committee members discussed several types of complaints that were received. One committee member remarked that inebriated people loitering at the Rosa Parks Transfer Station are increasing in both frequency and intensity. Transit personnel stated that immediate action would be taken by contacting the Gainesville Police Department to request an increased presence in the area during nighttime hours.

Marketing – Transit personnel discussed some new marketing endeavors, including the two, new Express Service routes to Trenton and Lake City. Committee members were very interested to hear about the new routes and anticipate hearing more on ridership data in the months to come. Committee members also discussed including additional RTS introduction material in housing packets given to new UF students in the hopes of encouraging ridership.

Planning – Transit personnel presented part of the Transit Development Plan (TDP) to the committee members, describing the new Transit Demand Zone concept, the east side Micro Transit and the Dockless Scooter ordinance on the agenda for the June 6, City Commission Meeting.

Director’s Report – The committee members discussed several of the director’s topics briefly. One member questioned why the unlimited access plan could not gain more support with the city commission. Transit personnel explained that it is difficult to fund an unlimited access program. Add to that amount the cost of the associated ADA requirements and the expense is insupportable in the current environment.

RECOMMENDATION *The Regional Transit System Advisory Board receive the update from staff.*

Discussed

Regional Transit System (RTS) Draft Program of Projects (POP) FY 2019 (B)

This item is to present the Draft Program of Projects (POP) FY 2019 to the RTS Citizen Advisory Board.

The Transit Director explained the need for the Program of Projects (POP) List. The committee members briefly discussed some of the wish-list items.

RECOMMENDATION *The Regional Transit System Advisory Board discuss the draft Program of Projects for FY 2019.*

Discussed

Regional Transit System Advisory Board Annual Workplan (B)

The committee chair asked the other committee members to generate some fresh ideas to add to the work plan. He explained that official proposals are not necessary; committee members are welcome to present ideas in an informal manner. The Transit Director stated that he would be willing to relay suitable information to the TDP Group for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION *The Regional Transit System Advisory Board discuss an annual workplan for 2019.*

Discussed

PUBLIC COMMENT

A citizen attended the meeting with a request. He noted that the first run of the Route 13 bus is on a slightly later schedule, which means that regular riders do not arrive at the Rosa Parks Transfer Station in time to make connections; he requested that the run begin at 6:00 AM as it had previously. Transit personnel stated that the schedule will be reviewed for revision.

MEMBER COMMENT

One of the committee members stated that she is working on a long-term project to design and build better bus shelters. She and the other project participants are just waiting until a new supervisor is hired for their department. Her announcement was met

with much enthusiasm from the group.

Another committee member stated that he hopes to complete his ADA Campus Map project and even expand the map beyond the UF Campus.

With the passing of Vice-Chair William Breeze, the current committee chair asked if any committee member, currently representing the city, would be willing to act as interim vice-chair until the next annual meeting. Elizabeth Hauck volunteered and was accepted unanimously by the other members present.

NEXT MEETING DATE - July 24, 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Black adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:57 PM.

** These Minutes provide a summary of actions taken at the meeting; a recording of the meeting can be provided upon request.*