

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes - Final

January 19, 2022

5:30 PM

RTS Admin Building, 34 SE 13th Rd, Gainesville

Regional Transit System Advisory Board

Elizabeth Hauck (Member)
Barbara Scott (Member)
Christy Haven (Member)
Harrison Scoville (Member)
Daniel Clifft (Member)
Andre Soucy (Member)
Adam Livay (Member)
Logan Ladnyk (Member)
Evelyn Alfred (Student Member)

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At 5:30 pm, three board members were in attendance at the meeting. Those members agreed to wait for three other board members who confirmed their attendance in advance. By 5:50 pm, the three other board members arrived.

The last formal meeting of the RTS Advisory Board occurred on 09/22/2021 due to lack of quorum on 11/17/2021. The election of officers was scheduled to occur during the November meeting. Board Member Harrison Scoville agreed to act as meeting chairperson for the January meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:50pm by Acting Chairperson Harrison Scoville. A quorum was established.

ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Member Haven, Member Scoville, Member Scott, Soucy, Ladnyk, and Livay

Absent 3 - Member Hauck, Student Seat Alfred, and Member Clift

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[210456.](#) Regional Transit System Advisory Board Minutes of September 22, 2021 (B)

A motion was made by Member Scoville, seconded by Member Haven, that this matter be Approved as Recommended . The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

RECOMMENDATION

The Regional Transit System Advisory Board approve the Minutes of September 22, 2021

Approved as Recommended

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

[210458.](#) **Annual Election of Chair and Vice-Chair (NB)**

Harrison Scoville volunteered his service as Chairperson. Seconded by Adam Livay

Adam Livay volunteered his service as Vice Chairperson. Seconded by Harrison Scoville.

RECOMMENDATION

Accept nominations for the roles of Chair and Vice-Chair and elect members to serve in those roles for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2022.

Approved by Consensus

[210457.](#) **Regional Transit System Advisory Board Staff Updates (NB)**

RTS Staff updated the board on recent matters related to ADA Transit Services, Customer Service, Planning/Ridership and Marketing. It was noted that RTS still has many operator vacancies and continues to recruit for new drivers. Krys Ochia presented the members with the new north/south and east/west limited service routes, dubbed “Compass.” A general discussion ensued regarding the merits of the routes, stops, service and potential ridership. Jesus Gomez, Transit Director, asked the members to mull over the new service and provide feedback.

Tom Idoyaga, RTS Marketing & Community Services Specialist, introduced the new, city Department of Transportation logo concept, covering RTS, Fleet, Parking, Bike/Pedestrian and Traffic. He also shared the new logo for the Compass routes and asked members their opinion on various, preliminary designs.

Director Gomez noted that RTS was allotted \$14.5 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds. The funds may only be used for certain expenses. It’s estimated that approximately \$4.5 million will be used for capital purposes and \$10 million will be used for operational expenses such as fuel and salaries. Some facts must be verified before any final decisions are made on the use of the funds.

RECOMMENDATION

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

Discussed

[210779.](#)

Trial of All-Door Boarding on Select Routes (NB)

Vice Chairperson Livay asked the members if they thought that all-door boarding would improve service on some routes. A general discussion ensued on the merits and drawbacks of riders embarking and disembarking from the front and rear doors at the same time. Mr. Livay asked if the idea was worth testing on a specific route, such as a UF campus circulator or a route frequented by mostly free-fare passengers - under 18 and over 65. Most members were neutral or slightly against the idea at this time, based on the size of the rear doors and possible confusion the option may create for riders. RTS Staff agreed to keep this idea reserved for possible use in the future.

RECOMMENDATION

Determine whether the potential improvements to the passenger experience can outweigh concerns that fare evasion may increase; examine evidence to the contrary from other agencies' example; consider modes of proof-of-payment as a parallel and supporting endeavor.

Deferred

[210807.](#)

Detailed Timetable Expansion (B)

Vice Chairperson Livay introduced the topic of more detailed timetables and maps for RTS routes. A general discussion ensued concerning bus signs, bus stop signage, and mobile app capabilities. The group discussed several samples provided by Mr. Livay and how some of the information and designs might be utilized by RTS. Nothing was decided at the meeting, but several ideas may be revisited in the future as RTS evolves its ability to provide digital timetables and protect external displays from vandalism.

RECOMMENDATION

Assess obstacles to generating and publishing detailed timetables, and potential patron interest in the quality-of-life boost it brings.

Deferred

PUBLIC COMMENT

A guest at the meeting asked why the TransLoc mobile app was replaced recently with GNVRideRTS. Director Gomez explained that the TransLoc app was expensive to maintain and not customizable. The new app is part of a package deal, is less expensive to maintain and the programming is based on open-source code so it's customizable. RTS Staff is working with the software provider to fine-tune the functionality and end-user interface. The open-source coding model will allow RTS to switch to a different app if GNVRideRTS can't be made to work the way RTS wants it to for end-users.

MEMBER COMMENT

Barbara Scott mentioned that she was approached again by members of the public, asking when Corrine Brown's name would be removed from the sign at the RTS Administration Building. Last year, the RTS Advisory Board recommended removal of the name from the sign in a letter to City Commission dated February 9, 2021. Subsequent attempts to discuss a new sign at regularly scheduled commission meetings were sidelined. As of this writing, Ms. Brown's new trial date is scheduled tentatively for September 2022. It is unknown if the commission is willing to revisit this subject after that event whatever the outcome may be.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 23, at 5:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairperson Harrison Scoville adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.