

Committee for Transportation Mobility & Accessibility

Thursday, May 14, 2020

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Committee for Transportation Mobility and Accessibility (CTMA) was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Chairperson Morrow via video and teleconference.

1. ROLL CALL

Title	Attendee Name	(P)resent/(A)bsent
Member	Kathy Bonilla	Present
Member	Rowan Fairgrove	Present
First Vice Chairperson	Christine Fitzgerald	Present
Member	Cheryl Hewitt	Absent
Member	Jeffery Jokinen	Present
Second Vice Chairperson	Tricia Kokes	Present
Member	Lupe Medrano	Present
Member	Laura Michels	Absent
Alternate Member	John Macon	Absent
Chairperson	Aaron Morrow	Present
Member	Dilip Shah	Absent
Member	Chaitanya Vaidya	Absent
Member	Lori Williamson	Present

* Alternates do not serve unless participating as a Member.

A quorum was present.

2. INTRODUCTION OF AUDIENCE MEMBERS

Michelle Oblena, Advisory Committee Coordinator; Reyne Jimeno, Board Assistant, Rachele Tagud, Sr. Management Analyst; Jason Tyree, Transportation Planning Manager; Laura Corona, MV Transportation; Laura Rosiles, Management Analyst; and Franklin Wong, Deputy Director, Finance, Budget & Program Management.

3. ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no Orders of the Day.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Member Fairgrove commented on tie down policy for securement of a wheelchair on the bus.

First Vice Chairperson Fitzgerald inquired who would provide rides to passengers going to COVID-19 testing sites.

Andrew Burke, Regional Transportation Services Manager and Committee Staff Liaison, addressed the public comments: 1) VTA policy to provide reasonable accommodation to secure mobility devices on buses upon request and Paratransit drivers need to secure every mobility device in the vehicle for any trip; and 2) VTA is not transporting people tested positive for COVID-19 or presumed positive, however VTA is working with the County and other organizations and agencies for guidelines.

Member Medrano thanked and congratulated VTA for providing free ride service to everyone during the pandemic.

Member Bonilla joined the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

Second Vice Chairperson Kokes inquired about the frequency of sanitizing vehicles between each ride.

5. Committee Staff Report

Mr. Burke provided a report, highlighting the following: 1) summary of actions the VTA Board of Directors (Board) took at their May 7, 2020, meeting; and 2) 2016 Measure B Update – March 2020 placemat.

COVID-19 Update to Advisory Committees

- VTA Response to COVID-19

Mr. Burke informed the Committee of the following: 1) VTA continues to provide COVID-19 updates to the public and its employees using communication tools and on the VTA homepage; 2) paratransit ridership decreased by 85 percent; 3) VTA and MV Transportation are working together on strategies once shelter-in-place is lifted; 4) implementation of safety, sanitation on vehicles, and social distance protocol on buses and paratransit vehicles; 5) face shields are provided to paratransit drivers for their protection only during close encounters with passengers but not when operating the vehicles; 6) limit of 1-2 passengers per minivan eliminating the use of the Prius; 7) limitation of flexi glass on vehicles; 8) eligibility applications are handled through the telephone.

Jason Tyree, Transportation Planning Manager, provided a report in response to COVID-19, highlighting: 1) discontinuation of school tripper service and reduction of car trains to one car train due to decrease in ridership but added five routes to serve hospitals in the county; 2) suspended fare collection, blocking entrance to the front door of the bus except for riders on mobility devices; 3) suspension of Rapid 500 and Express 181 service after 9:00 p.m.; 4) two-week suspension of light rail service in March 2020 for deep cleaning and sanitation due to a light rail operator testing positive

for COVID-19; 5) two car train service, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday – Friday complying to social distancing mandate; 6) an advisory for face covering was enforced beginning May 4, 2020; and 7) evening bus service and weekend service on light rail will be restored on June 8, 2020.

Public Comment

Member Medrano strongly suggested using paratransit minivans since it also provides free rides and wearing face masks.

- **COVID-19 Financial Impacts**

Mr. Wong provided a report on the financial impacts of COVID-19 to VTA.

Members of the Committee and staff discussed CARE Act funding allocations, future allocations, and loss of revenues on paratransit services before and during COVID-19. The Committee requested staff to provide the data to Committee Members.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee received the Committee Staff Report.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Regular Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2020

M/S/C (Fitzgerald/Fairgrove) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2020.

RESULT:	APPROVED – Consent Agenda Items #6
MOVER:	Medrano
SECONDER:	Williamson
AYES:	Bonilla, Fairgrove, Fitzgerald, Jokinen, Kokes, Medrano, Morrow, Williamson
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Dilip, Hewitt, Macon, Michels, Vaidya

REGULAR AGENDA

7. Conduct Voting to Determine the Committee's Chairperson, First Vice Chairperson and Second Vice Chairperson for 2020

Chairperson opened nomination from the floor for first vice chairperson.

Member Kokes nominated herself for first vice chairperson.

On a vote of 5 ayes to 3 noes the Committee failed to elect Tricia Kokes as First Vice Chairperson for 2020.

RESULT: FAILED TO ELECT 2020 First Vice Chairperson – Agenda Item # 7
AYES: Bonilla, Fairgrove, Jokinen, Kokes, Medrano
NOES: Fitzgerald, Morrow, Williamson
ABSENT: Dilip, Hewitt, Macon, Michels, Vaidya

Chairperson Morrow opened nomination from the floor for second vice chairperson.

Chairperson Morrow nominated Member Christine Fitzgerald for second vice chairperson.

On General Consensus, on a vote of 8 ayes to 0 noes to close nominations and elect Christine Fitzgerald as Second Vice Chairperson for 2020.

RESULT: ELECTED 2020 Second Vice Chairperson – Agenda Item # 7
AYES: Bonilla, Fairgrove, Fitzgerald, Jokinen, Kokes, Medrano, Morrow, Williamson
NOES: None
ABSENT: Dilip, Hewitt, Macon, Michels, Vaidya

Chairperson Morrow opened nomination from the floor for Chairperson.

Member Bonilla nominated Member Aaron Morrow for Chairperson.

On General Consensus, on a vote of 8 ayes to 0 noes to close nominations and elect Aaron Morrow as Chairperson for 2020.

RESULT: ELECTED 2020 Chairperson – Agenda Item # 7
AYES: Bonilla, Fairgrove, Fitzgerald, Jokinen, Kokes, Medrano, Morrow, Williamson
NOES: None
ABSENT: Dilip, Hewitt, Macon, Michels, Vaidya

8. **Paratransit Technology Update**

Mr. Burke provided an update on Paratransit Technology, highlighting various modules utilized in managing paratransit service focusing on the new features of the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) Call Backs.

Members of the Committee and staff discussed the issues on voice recognition, and permanent and temporary disability eligibility application required by the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).

Chairperson Morrow thanked past and present VTA staff for their efforts in rolling out these modules in the most efficient way for paratransit.

Mr. Burke noted the removal of voice notification due to some concerns coming in thereby customers are advised to contact Customer Service for assistance.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee received presentation on paratransit's new customer focused voice notification system and overview of all implemented modules.

REPORTS

9. Chairperson's Report

There was no Chairperson's report.

OTHER

10. CTMA Work Plan

Chairperson Morrow noted setting up meetings with staff liaison to discuss changes tailored for CTMA work plan.

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Work plan.

5. COVID-19 Update to Advisory Committees (continued)

- **VTA Response to COVID-19**

Members of the Committee and staff continued discussion on the following: 1) schedule of fixed routes and paratransit service; 2) timeline when VTA can provide service to COVID-19 testing facilities.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Morrow thanked everyone for attending the virtual meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Morrow and there being no objection, the Committee meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reyne Jimeno, Board Assistant
VTA Office of the Board Secretary