



**GCTD Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
10:00 a.m. - Wednesday, December 20, 2017  
Gold Coast Transit District - Board Room**

**Meeting Summary**

**TAC Members Present:** Treena Gonzalez, County of Ventura; Justin Link, City of Oxnard; Austin Novstrup, City of Ojai; Sergio Albarran, City of Ventura; Don Villafana, City of Port Hueneme; and Claire Grasty, VCTC.

**TAC Members Absent:** None.

**GCTD Staff Present:** Steven Brown, General Manager; Steve Rosenberg, Director of Finance and Administration; Vanessa Rauschenberger, Director of Planning and Marketing; Matt Miller and Beatris Megerdichian, Transit Planners; Margaret Heath-Schoep, Paratransit Manager; and James Beck, Fleet Manager.

**Members of the Public:** Wendy San, Thousand Oaks Transit.

**1. Call to Order/Introductions**

Chair Treena Gonzalez called the TAC meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**2. Public Comments (items not on the agenda)**

None.

**3. Committee Members' Comments**

Austin Novstrup reminded members that the Ojai Trolley schedule changes and fare increase will be effective January 2, 2018.

Claire Grasty informed members that VCTC experienced service interruption on the Hwy 101 service due to the Thomas Fire on two various occasions. She also informed members that VCTC offered free fares on the Hwy 126 route for couple dates. Additionally, Claire informed TAC members that VCTC is hiring Transportation Demand Manager that will focus on ride-share as well as the Congestion Mitigation/Management Plan. She requested members to inform anyone who might be interested in the position.

Sergio Albarran informed members that City of Ventura is concerned about the upcoming rainy season and what that would mean in the burn areas. The run-off may create problems. Sergio also noted that the run-off may not give residents sufficient time to evacuate. The city is working on a public map that will demonstrate problem areas. City of Ventura is also applying hydro-seed without the seeds to burn areas to stop run-off.

Claire Grasty informed members that she will be soon involved in emergency preparedness plan as it relates to providing support to the public, evacuation and agency preparedness.

Claire Grasty announced that she has started to visit cities in the east county and will be working her way towards the west county. Through this project, she hopes to gain a better understanding of transit operations from each city/agency, general transportation needs, projects on the horizon including bike and pedestrian, as well as highlighting accomplishments. The list will be beneficial to have internally and potentially share with the Commission.

#### **4. Staff Comments**

Vanessa Rauschenberger informed members that GCTD in partnership with City of Oxnard, City of Ventura, County of Ventura Fire Departments and ABC 7 News will be at “Spark of Love” Stuff-the-Bus event on Wednesday, December 20, 2018. GCTD’s “Elf on the GO” bus will be at the event assisting in collecting toys in addition to donations for Thomas Fire victims. She suggested TAC members and their colleagues stop by the event. She also mentioned that separately, GCTD staff is also collecting donations for Thomas Fire victims to donate to the Red Cross.

Vanessa Rauschenberger reminded members to submit their responses to the Bus Stop Maintenance questionnaire regarding their current processes. She mentioned that the fire took precedence the last few weeks but that Beatris Megerdichian can resend the questionnaire if necessary.

Additionally, Vanessa Rauschenberger reminded TAC members that in conjunction with VCTC, GCTD is purchasing AVL/AVA for the GCTD fleet. GCTD held a kick-off meeting and will be working within the next couple months to integrate and configure the signage throughout the fleet. Additionally, through the countywide AVL/AVA procurement, VCTC purchased 40 real-time arrival signs of which 12 have been installed at bus stops throughout the GCTD service area. She notified members that GCTD staff will be assessing the locations of the signs and may make recommendations to relocate the signs. Vanessa informed TAC members that the new real-time arrival signs are audible. Matt Miller informed members that the data on the signs may not be correct and may need revisions.

Justin Link inquired whether the signs stop talking after a certain time of day and suggested looking into city noise ordinance for noise compliance.

Additionally, Justin Link mentioned that City of Oxnard had codified “No Smoking” ordinance and asked whether GCTD will be open to coordinating sign installations with GCTD’s new Bus Stop Signs procurement. Vanessa Rauschenberger informed Justin Link that staff is open to coordinate efforts for the “No Smoking” signage installation and suggested speaking off-line about the details.

Steve Rosenberg informed TAC members that GCTD is finalizing TDA audits from the previous year. He mentioned that the GCTD auditor has few issues with some of the information from County of Ventura, City of Port Hueneme, and City of Ojai. He will speak off-line with staff about the details.

#### **5. Approval of the October 2017 Meeting Summary**

Treana Gonzalez requested a correction to the October 2017 meeting summary. Austin Novstrup made a motion to approve the amended October meeting summary. Sergio Albarran seconded the motion and it passed with 5 votes in favor, 1 abstention and no oppositions.

## **6. Election of Officers – Beatris Megerdichian**

Beatris Megerdichian informed TAC members that every December TAC elects a new Chair and Vice Chair for the following calendar year. She mentioned that there was a special election in September due to Jason Lotts departure. Sergio Albarran made a motion to re-elect Treena Gonzalez as TAC Chair and Austin Novstrup as Vice Chair. Justin Link seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **7. TAC Calendar for 2018 – Beatris Megerdichian**

Beatris Megerdichian provided the 2018 TAC meeting schedule. TAC meetings are held at the GCTD office on the third Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am. Beatris noted that the location of the TAC meetings will be contingent upon the completion of the new GCTD facility and staff will notify TAC members of the new meeting location as the new facility construction nears completion. Austin Novstrup made a motion to approve the TAC calendar for 2018. Treena Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **8. California Transit Association (CTA) Conference Recap – Jim Beck**

Jim Beck recapped his attendance at California Transit Association (CTA) and American Public Transportation Association (APTA) conferences by presenting a slideshow. He mentioned that the APTA conference was driven by vendors and technology while the CTA conference was agency driven. He mentioned that he toured Complete Coach Works (CCW) through the CTA conference where they demonstrated the repowering of buses. He mentioned that GCTD will be repowering its fleet by replacing the old engines with new low-emission engines. This will require an RFP process. Jim also attended seminars which provided helpful information on the repowers process and was invited to observe OCTA's repowers in Orange County.

Additionally, Jim Beck attended the APTA conference which focused on electric buses. The latest electric buses are economical and reduce overhead costs. APTA conference also had vendors with new equipment that may be useful to GCTD. He provided photos of new engines, break turners, and equipment lifts.

Jim Beck also spoke with Genfare to resolve farebox issues that GCTD has been experiencing. Through meeting Genfare at the conference, GCTD was able to resolve the issues.

Treena Gonzalez thanked GCTD staff for recapping the two conferences and said that this information is beneficial for TAC members.

## **9. TDA Projects Status Update – Steve Rosenberg**

Steve Rosenberg presented a handout that listed TDA projects as budgeted in FY16-17 and Capital Improvement Projects for FY17-18 and requested the TAC members provide an update for each project.

Treena Gonzalez informed members that the "Bus Stop Upgrades" project will involve placing amenities at bus stops in the Oak Park area, part of the Kanan Shuttle route. They have identified bus stops in the GCTD service area that may require a build out but will require coordination with GCTD staff to confirm details on. The project also includes improvements to Woodland and Hwy

33 bus stop for the Ojai Trolley. The funds are expected to be expended by the end of this fiscal year.

Sergio Albarran confirmed that the “Remodel VTC Bathrooms” project is complete.

Steve Rosenberg informed Don Villafana that GCTD auditors notified GCTD that the “Bus Stop – Ventura Rd. & Bard” project was not listed on the City of Port Hueneme audit as being a funded project. Steve Rosenberg suggested discussing the details off-line.

Austin Novstrup informed members that the “Trolley Washpad and Collection System” and “Vehicle Storage Area Soundwall” projects are in progress. The engineering phase of both projects is complete, and the RFP will be released soon. Austin Novstrup said that he expects the projects to be complete by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Steve Rosenberg informed members that the FY16-17 capital improvement projects should be complete by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Steve Rosenberg requested members to provide updates on the FY17-18 capital improvement projects.

Sergio Albarran informed members that the pressure washer truck has not yet been purchased and is expected to be part of the next city vehicle procurement.

Treana Gonzalez informed members that the FY17-18 “Bus Stop Upgrades” project may be approached differently. Previously, bus stop upgrades were assessed based on ridership. She mentioned that the FY17-18 “Bus Stop Upgrades” project will potentially look at solar lighting as well as consistent parking restrictions at bus stops throughout the unincorporated county.

Steve Rosenberg mentioned that GCTD and GCTD auditors would like to see specific projects itemized for the TDA projects.

Treana Gonzalez informed members that the “Route 22 Bus Stops” project is underway. Treana mentioned that she has submitted the bus stop plans to GCTD and is waiting on GCTD staff for their feedback. The County has initiated the Caltrans review process and is anticipating the construction to begin in the fall.

Don Villafana and Steve Rosenberg agreed to talk off-line regarding the “Bus Stop Amenities” project.

Steve Rosenberg mentioned portion of the funds is swapped money and is now under “Bus Stop Capital Improvement Program” project. A portion of the funds were used for the “Relocate Bus Stop at Victoria & Gonzales” project which is now complete.

Steve Brown suggested that GCTD Planning staff coordinate a meeting with Justin Link to review the Route 23 bus stop locations.

Treana Gonzalez informed TAC members that the County of Ventura will be doing planning studies that will be relevant to transit. She mentioned that one of the studies will be “Safe Routes to School” and the second will be “Multimodal Hwy 33 Corridor” study. Treana mentioned that the studies will be assessing pedestrian connectivity to transit stops. Vanessa Rauschenberger suggested coordinating with Matt Miller for both studies.

## **10. Facility Update – Steve Brown**

Steve Brown mentioned that the new facility construction is on schedule and is expected to be complete by September 2018. The construction was impacted by the high winds and delayed some of the work. They have been pouring concrete, installing parking for the vehicles and the canopy is up for the bus wash.

Vanessa Rauschenberger informed TAC members that tour of the new facility is available to the TAC members and their city staff. She noted that tours will be available to small groups preferably in the afternoons. She mentioned that they could contact her if they are interested.

Claire Grasty announced that VCTC will no longer be moving to the Camarillo location. VCTC has signed a new lease at the existing facilities.

## **11. Development Updates – Matt Miller**

Matt Miller updated TAC members on the Wagon Wheel bridge closure. The construction and closure are expected to be complete by the end of January 2018. The closure was originally expected to last between April 2017 to July 2017.

Additionally, Matt Miller informed members that GCTD has received complaints regarding the bus stop on Main St at Laurel by the Rubicon Theater. The theater has experienced vandalism and homeless issues. He noted that GCTD staff along with Sergio Albarran met in the field to discuss placement of stops. It was noted that a consolidation plan will be necessary after conducting public outreach. City of Ventura and GCTD will be discussing details soon.

## **12. Future Agenda Items**

FY18-19 TDA Budget

## **13. Adjournment**

Chair Treena Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 11:19 a.m.