



**GCTD Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
10:00 a.m. - Wednesday, May 16, 2018  
Gold Coast Transit District - Board Room**

**Meeting Summary**

**TAC Members Present:** Treena Gonzalez, County of Ventura; Sergio Albarran, City of Ventura; Justin Link, City of Oxnard; and Aaron Bonfilio, VCTC

**TAC Members Absent:** Austin Novstrup, City of Ojai; Don Villafana, City of Port Hueneme

**GCTD Staff Present:** Steve Rosenberg, Director of Finance and Administration; Vanessa Rauschenberger, Director of Planning and Marketing; Matt Miller, Planning Manager; Beatris Megerdichian, Transit Planner; Margaret Heath-Schoep, Paratransit Manager; Andy Mikkelson, Director of Operations; and Cynthia Torres Duque, Marketing and Communications Manager

**Members of the Public:** Michelle Woomer, City of Thousand Oaks

**1. Call to Order/Introductions**

Chair Treena Gonzalez called the TAC meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

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

None.

**3. Committee Members' Comments**

Sergio Albarran mentioned that City of Ventura has ordered power-wash truck and is expected to arrive within the next six weeks. Additionally, Sergio mentioned that the second phase of the bus stop consolidation is moving forward.

Vanessa Rauschenberger requested that GCTD staff meet with City of Ventura to discuss the second phase of the consolidation. Sergio mentioned that he or Jeff will be in contact with GCTD to discuss timeline and further details.

Additionally, Sergio Albarran informed members that Bike to Work week is this week and Friday is bike to work day.

Justin Link informed members that bus stop on 4<sup>th</sup> Street between A and B Street will be out of commission for a week due pavement work and may cause service interruptions. City of Oxnard staff has notified GCTD staff.

Justin Link announced that the High-Quality Transit Area (HQTA) study, as mentioned previously, is initiated by SCAG. Justin informed members he recently met with the consultants working on

this project and learned more detailed about the project. The purpose of the study is to investigate downtown street and how they can improve walking, biking and transit within quarter to half mile radius around Oxnard Transit Center. He added that this study will essentially provide a toolbox for improvements within this study area. He explained that the study will incorporate outreach including surveys and getting the public involved in the process.

Vanessa Rauschenberger recommended that, if available, the consultants attend a TAC meeting and give an overview of the project to TAC members.

Furthermore, Justin mentioned he requested that the current GCTD facility (301 E. Third Street) be included in the study area. He noted that the current facility was not incorporated into the study area.

Matt Miller mentioned that SCAG will release the RFP for Building Transit Supportive Communities study in September. He noted that it might be beneficial for both studies to be aware of one another. He informed members that he will communicate with SCAG regarding coordination of these two studies.

Justin Link added that City of Oxnard coordinated efforts with GCTD on SCAG's GO Human campaign. He mentioned that A-signs were placed along Saviers Road and Rose Ave. Justin informed members that additional ads will be installed in various places.

Furthermore, Justin Link requested an update on VCTC amending the FTIP for the CMAQ grant for Route 23. Matt Miller mentioned that they submitted an amendment and he had asked if they would contact City of Oxnard to inform the city of the amendment. Matt will follow up to confirm this was done.

Treena Gonzalez informed members that County of Ventura is holding Public Works week event on May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8:00am to 2:00pm at the Ventura Government Center. She noted that GCTD, City of Oxnard and Ventura will be participating. She wanted to thank members for participating.

Justin Link mentioned that City of Oxnard's Public Works department will be at the Farmers Market next Thursday for Public Works week.

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

Vanessa Rauschenberger reminded members of the minor service changes for this upcoming service change. The changes will be effective Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup>. Route 19, a loop route that serves Rice Ave, 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Victoria Ave and Gonzales Road, will have Saturday and Sunday service eliminated. She informed members that the same destinations will be served by route 20. Route 19 was selected because of low ridership on weekends as well as having an alternate route to serve the same destinations.

Matt Miller added that route 20 offers more direct service to high ridership destination.

Additionally, Vanessa informed members that route 15 will have the first half weekend trip eliminated due to low ridership. Route 5 will have the first two morning trip on weekends eliminated as a result of low ridership. Vanessa informed members that GCTD will do doing outreach in Oxnard since the changes are in this area.

## **5. Approval of the April 2018 Meeting Summary**

Justin Link made a motion to approve the April meeting summary. Sergio Albarran seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **6. TDA Budget Discussion – Steve Rosenberg**

Steve Rosenberg gave a presentation and provided details on the budget. He reviewed the revenue sources and allocation of those revenues. The operating budget for FY 2018-19 is 9.7% higher than the FY 2017-18 operating budget, attributed to increases in operating expense including relocating service to start from new facility, new positions to support operations of the new facility, insurance increase among increases in other areas within the budget. The budget has been reduced and revenue assumptions have increased since the May Board report.

## **7. Review of Unmet Transit Needs Comments Received – Matt Miller**

Matt Miller provided members a copy of the Unmet Transit Needs comments.

Vanessa Rauschenberger provided a brief overview of the Unmet Transit Needs process. She explained that the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC) leads the effort and the process is required for cities below a certain population. Vanessa informed members that in order for cities to use some of their transit funds on city streets and roads there has to be an annual Unmet Transit Needs process. The process collects feedback from the community on transit needs. If there are no transit needs that are reasonable to meet then the city may use the transit funds for city streets and roads. Through the annual process, GCTD receives feedback from the community although GCTD is not included in that process. The process is a good opportunity for GCTD to receive comments on overall transit needs.

Matt Miller informed members that after evaluating the comments received through Unmet Transit Needs, the comments regarding GCTD service had three common themes. The three common themes were request for increased frequency, faster service and more direct service with less transfers. Matt mentioned that it is imperative to keep in mind these comments as we decide what type of system we would like to see, a coverage based or frequency based system.

Vanessa Rauschenberger noted to members that Margaret Heath, GCTD GO Access manager, has communicated with Thousand Oaks Transit regarding comments on transfers at Camarillo between GCTD and ECTA. She mentioned that this is an ongoing effort to resolve some of the connections coming from Thousand Oaks.

Additionally, Vanessa noted that some comments received were regarding service to Market Street and Kaiser. Vanessa informed TAC members that Matt and she met with representatives from Kaiser to discuss their transit needs. After meeting with them, it was concluded that at this time the level of use would not generate enough ridership to warrant a full route. Vanessa mentioned that they informed the representatives of the GCTD Zone Base service as an option for them and their clients. They agreed that the Zone Base service will meet their current needs.

Treana Gonzalez inquired about the transfer point between GCTD, Camarillo and ECTA.

Margaret Heath informed members that the transfer point between GCTD and Camarillo is at the Camarillo Target. The transfer point between GCTD and ECTA is at the Camarillo Metrolink station.

Treana Gonzalez inquired about the timeline of GO Access' direct service to Camarillo project.

Margaret Heath informed members that the timeline of the direct service to Camarillo is predicated on Go Access' new operating contractor. Margaret explained that GCTD will need to release an RFP and determine who the new contractor will be. The new contractor will then operate the direct service to Camarillo. She anticipates the service to begin Spring of 2019.

Treana Gonzalez inquired about performance of express trips on Route 16.

Matt Miller informed TAC members that the two early morning express trips on Route 16 are at 4:38am and 5:08am. The first trip has one to two riders per day and the second trip average around ten riders a day. Both trips were opportunistic and used existing deadhead trips to provide express trips to Ojai.

## **8. Facility Update – Cynthia Duque**

Cynthia Duque announced that the new facility construction is making progress. She mentioned that she is working on the ribbon cutting date that is likely to take place on either October 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>. Cynthia is working with elected officials to confirm a date and working around Congresswomen Julia Browley's schedule. The ribbon cutting will be on a Saturday and be open to the public. Cynthia added that she is working on releasing proposals for an event manager. She requested that if any member is aware of a firm or an individual who specializes in event managing to let her know.

Vanessa Rauschenberger informed members that Transit Intercity Rail Capital Program grant announcements were made for the State of California. Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) was awarded around \$9 million for coastal express service which include several electric buses that will be charged at the new GCTD facility. SBCAG is meeting with GCTD staff to discuss how the charging facility would work in the new facility.

Furthermore, Vanessa added that GCTD is also looking into making its fleet as low emission as possible. She informed members that GCTD is applying for Low-NO grant to purchase electric buses that would replace some of the current buses.

## **9. Development Updates – Beatris Megerdichian**

Beatris Megerdichian informed members that the Wagon Wheel closure that was anticipated to reopen to the public in April has now been extended to July.

Additionally, she informed TAC members that residential development on Thompson & Santa Cruz in Ventura could provide an opportunity to add new buses stops. GCTD staff will be reviewing development site plans and working with City of Ventura as the project progresses.

## **10. Future Agenda Items**

High Quality Transit Area presentation by consultant

## **11. Adjournment**

Chair Treena Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.