



**GCTD Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
10:00 a.m. - Wednesday, October 16, 2019
Gold Coast Transit District - Board Room**

Meeting Summary

TAC Members Present: Treena Gonzalez, County of Ventura; Sergio Albarran, City of Ventura; Ryan Kim, City of Oxnard; and Aaron Bonfilio, VCTC

TAC Members Absent: Don Villafana, City of Port Hueneme; Ellen Debord, City of Ojai

GCTD Staff Present: Vanessa Rauschenberger, Director of Planning and Marketing; Matt Miller, Planning Manager; Cynthia Duque, Marketing Manager; Beatris Megerdichian and Austin Novstrup, Transit Planners; Margaret Heath-Schoep, Paratransit Manager; Cynthia Duque, Communications and Marketing Manager

Members of the Public: Rachel Wagner, SCAG

Call to Order/Introductions

Chair Sergio Albarran called the TAC meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

1. Public Comments (items not on the agenda)

None.

2. Committee Members' Comments

Treena Gonzalez announced that there was a schedule change to the Kanan Shuttle schedule that took effect on September 30th, 2019. The service reductions were due to increasing operating costs. The service reductions lowered operating costs and maintained the service for free.

3. Staff Comments

Vanessa Rauschenberger announced that GCTD will be hosting the Transportation Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting at GCTD's Administrative office today, at 2:00 pm. Thirty (30) participants are expected from various Ventura County agencies to meet and discuss emergency preparedness related to transportation.

Vanessa also announced that the LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency Joint Powers Authority meeting will be held at GCTD's Administrative office next Monday, 10/21. Twenty (20) to thirty (30) participants are expected to attend this meeting. The meeting is usually held at OCTA but the October meeting was planned to be held at the GCTD for the committee to tour the new GCTD facility.

Vanessa mentioned that TAC members may request to hold meetings at GCTD's Administrative office.

Beatris Megerdichian announced that the Building Transit Supportive Communities project is underway. She reminded members that the project will identify tools and strategies for transit supportive land use decision making. The workshop will be held on November 19th, 2019 and invitations for the workshop have been sent to city planners and stakeholders.

Margaret Heath-Schoep informed TAC members that the Cal Act Fall conference will be held in Santa Barbara. She mentioned that on Tuesday, October 29th, the conference will hold a session on FTA and Caltrans reporting. The cost of the session is \$25.

5. Approval of the September 2019 Meeting Summary

Ryan Kim made a motion to approve the September meeting summary. Treena Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. Update on GCTD Organizational Changes – Vanessa Rauschenberger

Vanessa Rauschenberger announced that Steve Rosenberg, GCTD Director of Finance, continues to be out on leave and Daniel Amaro is no longer an employee at GCTD. She announced that Diana DeCoste, consultant and Acting Director of Finance, will oversee the Finance department. Vanessa informed members that city contacts can reach out to Vanessa for audit and other questions when necessary.

7. Fixed-Route & Paratransit Services update – 1st Quarter FY 2019-20 – Matt Miller and Margaret Heath-Schoep

Matt Miller mentioned that fixed-route ridership decreased by 0.6% over the same period last year. He informed members that routes 15 and 22 continue to decrease in passenger per revenue hour. Matt added that route 22 has been operating without CMAQ funding for approximately six months and reductions to the service were made last year. GCTD staff has been working closely with the County of Ventura on bus stop construction for route 22 and further discussion is needed on future bus stop construction on this route. Route 22 service will be evaluated as part of the 2020 service changes.

Margaret Heath-Schoep informed that TAC members that GO Access ridership has decreased 1.4% over the same period last year. She mentioned that GO Access has implemented the thirty (30) minute pick up window pilot. The thirty-minute pick up window was expanded from the twenty-minute window as recommended by the previous year FTA auditors. The thirty-minute window was implemented once the advanced notice call was in place to notify passengers to be ready to meet the vehicle's arrival and reduce the uncertainty of the wait times.

Margaret also mentioned that GCTD made it on the cover of Cal Act's member's directory for the second year in a row.

8. Update on Planning for 2020 Service Changes – Matt Miller

Matt gave an update on the planning of the upcoming 2020 service changes. Matt stated the City of Oxnard has received proposals on the bus stop construction for route 23 bus stops. The proposals were significantly higher than budget allowed. The CMAQ funding for bus stop construction allocated \$500,000 for the construction of bus stops. Additional funds as well as a timeline on the construction of the stops will have to be determined. The 2020 service changes are contingent on the implementation of route 23 to move forward with other changes.

Matt mentioned that outreach efforts will continue, and a meeting is scheduled to be held at the Oxnard Community Center on October 24th, from 5 pm to 7 pm. Flyers are being sent to the Neighborhood Councils to inform the community of the October 24th meeting. The flyer informs neighborhood councils that GCTD staff is available to provide a presentation at the neighborhood council meetings.

9. Provide Input on Draft MOU with Camarillo for Direct Paratransit Service to the City of Camarillo Pilot – Margaret Heath-Schoep

Margaret Heath-Schoep presented on the Direct Paratransit Service to the City of Camarillo Pilot. The pilot program will improve service and provide a direct one-way trip between the GCTD service area and the City of Camarillo. She informed members that one of the suggestions is to change the GCTD GO Access fare from five dollars to six dollars each way, to be consistent with the ECTA fare for one way trips taken during the pilot program. She described the direct service area in Camarillo and informed members that the pilot program is expected to begin January 2nd.

Aaron Bonfilio suggested GCTD staff include FTA requirements and federal provisions in the pilot MOU as 5310 funds fund this project.

10. Recommend GCTD BOD Approve Microtransit Pilot Project – Margaret Heath-Schoep

Margaret Schoep gave a presentation on the Microtransit Pilot project. She mentioned that the GCTD staff is working on a draft agreement with TransLoc. TransLoc provides software for microtransit services, an on-demand rideshare service that requires passengers to use a smartphone app or call in to reserve a ride. She mentioned that the project would encompass a proposed six square mile service area in south Oxnard. The pilot would increase access to transit, be an opportunity to gain new customers, provide transit to underserved neighborhoods, and improve access to employment.

She mentioned that GCTD staff visited Bakersfield to learn about the Golden Empire Transit District's microtransit pilot program and gain insight on their experience and lessons learned.

Margaret informed members that after an agreement has been signed, TransLoc will undertake a thorough needs assessment and provide simulations of various service options to determine the specifics of the service operations as well as operational cost. The agreement is for twelve months of service with a contract amount of \$27,000. The contract will begin when vehicles enter into revenue service.

Treena Gonzalez inquired about the service fare rate.

Margaret mentioned that the fare for the service is to be determined but it would be a premium fare.

Vanessa Rauschenberger added that the various service options will be brought back to TAC and the Board for discussion and approval.

Aaron Bonfilio inquired about the operator of the service.

Margaret mentioned that the operator would be the GCTD GO Access contractor as the microtransit service operations model is similar to GO Access.

Sergio Albarran made a motion to approve the recommendation that the GCTD Board approve the Microtransit Pilot project. Treena Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

11. Future Agenda Items

To be determined.

12. Adjournment

Chair Sergio Albarran adjourned the meeting at 10:49 am.

