



**GCTD Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
10:00 a.m. - Wednesday, September 18, 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 Ellen Debord, City of Ojai

TAC Members Absent: Don Villafana, City of Port Hueneme

GCTD Staff Present: Steve Brown, General Manager; Vanessa Rauschenberger, Director of Planning and Marketing; John Kelly, Operation Manager; James Beck, Fleet and Facilities Manager; Matt Miller, Planning Manager; Cynthia Duque, Marketing Manager; Beatris Megerdichian and Austin Novstrup, Transit Planners; and Patrice Ruzicka, Temporary Operations and Paratransit Assistant

Members of the Public: Jennifer Singer, Thousand Oaks; Michelle Woomer, City of Thousand Oaks

Call to Order/Introductions

Chair Sergio Albarran called the TAC meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

1. Public Comments (items not on the agenda)

None.

2. Committee Members' Comments

Treena Gonzalez announced that there would be an upcoming schedule change to the Kanan Shuttle schedule that would take effect September 30th, 2019.

3. Staff Comments

None.

5. Approval of the May 2019 Meeting Summary

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

6. 2020 Service Change – Matt Miller

Matt Miller presented on route concepts and recommendations for the January 2020 service change. Matt explained that concepts to be implemented in the January 2020 originated from GCTD's 2015 Short Range Transit plan and are being implemented with both capital grant funding for the purchase of expansion vehicles and stop construction and operational grant funding for the new route 23.

Matt showed TAC members a before and after contrasting GCTD's current system map with a modified system map with the routes that are being restructured, new routes, areas where service is being discontinued and an area that is being considered for a micro-transit project. Matt detailed the changes to each of the effected routes including routes 1, 2, 3, 4A, 4B, 7, 8, 9, 17, and 23.

Matt noted that the purpose of the redesign is to improve service by reallocating resources to faster, more frequent and more direct routes. Steve Brown noted that areas where service is being discontinued currently have very low ridership.

Ryan Kim asked how and when the changes would be communicated to the public.

Matt informed members that the outreach plan was still under development but would likely include hosting a meeting in South Oxnard, attending neighborhood council meetings, social media and traditional printed materials.

Sergio Albarran asked about challenges constructing stops along Ventura Road. Austin Novstrup stated that conditions along Ventura Road make stop placement difficult for several reasons, but enough locations had been identified along to the corridor to serve the area.

Ryan noted that with consideration for construction costs, bus stops along the corridor were designed to avoid unnecessary and expensive modifications to traffics signals.

Sergio suggested that more detail on route 23 bus stop construction be considered for a future agenda item.

7. NBVC Study Update – Austin Novstrup

Austin Novstrup gave a presentation on the status of the NBVC First-mile Last-mile Connectivity Study. Austin explained that the purpose of the study was to assess current condition of transit access to the base, assess the transportation needs of the NBVC Community, and make recommendations for solutions to improve transit access to meet the needs of the NBVC Community.

Austin outlined the outreach efforts that were conducted in July 2019 including, an e-survey, on-base workshops, intercepts surveys and stakeholder meeting. Austin reviewed some of the preliminary findings from the outreach efforts including demographic, employment and current commute information.

Austin presented some of the service concepts that were considered during the outreach and provided a timeline for the study's completion.

Sergio inquired about current transit service on the base and whether the base command staff had expressed interest in improving mobility options to the base.

Austin mentioned that mobility services onto the base are very limited and that route 23 will be significant improvement for service to the base. Austin stated that command staff had been receptive to the study and provided significant assistance in setting up outreach efforts.

Steve Brown noted that the base commander is a career position that turns over every two years and that support for services may not be sustained.

Margaret Heath-Schoep and Matt both mentioned challenges to providing transit service onto the base. John Kelly noted that he was surprised at how few veterans had responded to the survey and Matt added that there would be additional outreach off base to reach out to veterans.

8. BTSC Study Update – Matt Miller

Matt gave a brief presentation on the upcoming Building Transit Supportive Communities Study. Matt stated the general purpose of the study is to raise awareness about how the built environment can influence the success of public transit. Matt added that the primary goal of the study is to develop long term strategies for reducing vehicle miles traveled in our service area by influencing land-use decisions.

Matt notified members that the study will consist of three meetings with public works and planning staff from jurisdictions within the district to develop a tool kit that can be used to encourage jurisdictions to adopt transit supportive policies and make decisions that encourage transit use in the development process.

Matt also reviewed the timeline for the study and encouraged TAC members provide contacts for staff and stakeholders that TAC members think would be interested in participating.

Treena Gonzalez asked if the study could be used to support grant applications for Transit Oriented Development projects. Matt stated that though that was not the primary purpose of the study, jurisdictions could draw upon the tools the study produces for that purpose.

9. Micro Transit Visit – Margaret Heath-Schoep

Margaret Heath-Schoep reported on a site visit GCTD staff made to Golden Empire Transit (GET) to learn about GET's new micro-transit service. Margaret stated that the visit was very productive, and that staff learned a significant amount from GET staff. Margaret explained that Micro-transit is a shared ride accessible on demand service that operates within a fixed service area. Margaret stated that micro-transit could serve the neighborhoods that are proposed to lose service and provide another option for passengers currently using the Go Access service. Margaret emphasized that a micro-transit service can be an efficient way to serve low transit demand areas where fixed route service is too expensive to operate.

Sergio asked how passengers would arrange a ride.

Margaret stated there would be a mobile application, but passengers would also be able to call in as well.

Cynthia Torres-Duque added that micro-transit is becoming increasingly common and is a creative solution that enables the improvement of fixed route services while still providing service transit dependent individuals. Cynthia also noted that micro-transit can also serve introduce new passengers to more traditional transit services.

Treena Gonzalez asked what the fare would be.

Margaret indicated that the fare would likely be a premium as the service is more tailored to the individual passenger.

11. Future Agenda Items

Matt stated the January 2020 Service Changes would be a returning item along with micro transit and the BTSC study.

Steve Brown added that there would be some new staff that would be introduced as well as an update on GCTD's triennial review.

Margaret added that there would also be an update on some paratransit project including revenue recommendations, service to Camarillo and the pick-up window adjustment test.

12. Adjournment

Chair Sergio Albarran adjourned the meeting at 11:03 am.