

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MARIN COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD
TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2006, AT 9:11 A.M.

Roll Call

Present: Director McGlashan; Director Heller; Director Brown; Director Kinsey;
Director Albritton (Alternate); Director Murray; Director Adams

Absent: Director Swanson

1a. Open time

State Assembly Bills and Budget

A representative of the Marin Center for Independent Living ("MCIL") requested that the Board support AB 343, regarding protection of spillover revenue, and AB 244, regarding transit operations and roadways. The speaker also expressed concern regarding the way the Governor's proposed Bond measure treats spillover revenue.

1b. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of May 2, 2006

M/s Director Kinsey - Director McGlashan to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 2, 2006.

Vote: Motion carried 7-0.

AYES: Director McGlashan; Director Heller; Director Brown; Director Kinsey;
Director Albritton (Alternate); Director Murray; Director Adams

ABSENT: Director Swanson

1c. Board of Directors' Matters

Muir Woods Shuttle

Director McGlashan reported that the Muir Woods Shuttle will launch service on Saturday of Memorial Day weekend and will run every half hour from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Bike Month

Supervisor Adams announced that May is National Bike Month and spoke about bike teams recruited by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission ("MTC").

1d. Transit Planning Manager's Oral Report

The Transit Planning Manager had nothing to report.

1e. Public Hearing to consider approval of the Revised 2006 Local Bus Service Plan

By letter dated May 16, 2006, Transit Planning Manager Amy Van Doren submitted her report and recommendations regarding the above-captioned matter.

Public Works Director Farhad Mansourian reported that since last week's Board meeting, staff has been working with staff from the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transit District ("GGBHTD") and Kaiser to address the issues raised by Nova Albion Way residents. Mr. Mansourian explained that, even though some possible solutions have been identified, staff feels that these routes are not ready to be included in the Service Plan. Mr. Mansourian therefore

recommended that the Board not adopt the Service Plan today, with the exception of the Rural Service Plan portion.

Mr. Mansourian advised that staff will continue to meet with residents in the Kaiser area and will bring the rest of the Service Plan back to the Board for approval when viable solutions are worked out. Mr. Mansourian noted that the delay will cause implementation of the Service Plan to be delayed until December.

Director Adams directed staff to schedule an evening community meeting to discuss the issues and from that meeting, two representatives can be identified to collaborate with all parties to work out the details.

After discussion by Board members, Transit District staff, and GGBHTD staff regarding the possibility of moving the timeline for implementation ahead, it was agreed that staff would review the Service Plan to identify any bus routes which would not be affected by changes to the Kaiser area routes and could therefore be approved by the Board as soon as possible for implementation in September as originally planned.

Director Murray explained to the residents of the Los Robles Mobile Home Park that misinformation has been circulated regarding the future placement of a transit hub in Novato, emphasizing that no decision has been made on a location and noting that it is not true that any portion of their property would be taken for such a site. Director Murray advised that the Transit District and the City of Novato will work with the community in an open, public process that will begin no earlier than July 2006, and once three or four possible sites have been chosen through this process, an Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") would be prepared to look at any possible impacts to the community.

The hearing was declared open to receive public testimony.

Several members of the public thanked staff for delaying approval of the Service Plan and expressed concern regarding proposed transit changes along Nova Albion Way in San Rafael, citing environmental, health, noise, quality of life, traffic, safety and street infrastructure impacts. Two of the speakers raised the issue of the necessity to conduct an Environmental Impact Review under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA").

Richard Drury, attorney representing certain residents of lower Albion Way, submitted a comment letter regarding the proposed routes in the Kaiser Hospital area.

A member of the public advised that a petition presented to the Board at last week's meeting, requesting that Routes 45 and 49 be removed from the Service Plan until a better route can be found, has been signed by an additional 54 residents of Quail Hill Townhomes, located above Nova Albion Way.

A representative of Kaiser Permanente expressed Kaiser's willingness to work with the Transit District, the GGBHTD and the community to resolve these issues and offered their facilities for meeting space. The speaker advised that Kaiser's only interest is in the buses that go along upper Nova Albion from Safeway, up Monticello to the Medical Center, then turn around and go back.

Two members of the public thanked the Board for including weekday service to Muir Beach, but requested that more stops be included, service hours be extended, and weekend service be added.

Several members of the public spoke to express concerns regarding a possible transit hub being located in front of the Los Robles Mobile Home Park in Novato, citing health, safety, security and noise impacts.

A representative of the Marin Center for Independent Living ("MCIL") thanked staff for grandfathering in the option for existing paratransit riders to use Whistlestop Wheels when a fixed route will be cut. The speaker requested that staff continue to look at improving transit service in the Freitas Park/Miller Creek area.

Seeing no one else present to speak, the hearing was closed.

Directors thanked everyone for attending and sharing their concerns. Directors requested that public meetings be held as soon as possible regarding bus routes to Kaiser Hospital, reiterated that no site has been selected for a Novato transit hub and the selection process will include numerous opportunities for public input, and spoke about the commitment to the Muir Beach community to expand service.

(Director McGlashan absent at 10:07 a.m.)

Directors thanked staff for stepping back from this process until further community input is received, spoke about utilizing clean vehicles, requested additional information regarding a Local Initiative County bus to extend service to Miller Creek Road which would replace existing bus service to Marinwood and Lucas Valley.

M/s Director Kinsey - Director Brown to adopt the Rural Service Plan, Chapter 5 of the Marin County Transit District 2006 Draft Service Plan.

Vote: Motion carried 6-0.

AYES: Director Heller; Director Brown; Director Kinsey; Director Albritton (Alternate);
Director Murray; Director Adams

ABSENT: Director McGlashan; Director Swanson

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

SINE DIE

CHAIR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY