

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY

Agenda for Thursday, February 21, 2008
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.



Conference Room (Room 109), Administration Building
Golden Gate Bridge, Highway & Transportation District
1011 Andersen Dr., San Rafael, CA 94901

Information/Recommended Action

1. Introductions

2. Agenda

Approve

3. Minutes of November 15, 2007, meeting

Approve

(Copy of draft meeting minutes is attached.)

4. ACA-related Items

Action

- a. Nomination and Election of 2008 Officers
- b. 2008 Calendar of Meetings

5. GGBHTD-Related Items

Information

- a. Intercounty Paratransit Services
 - 1) Statistical Report and Operations Summary
 - 2) Other Paratransit Items
- b. District Matters
 - 1) Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP) approved December 2007.
 - 2) Latest Doyle Drive Toll discussion
 - 3) Proposed Golden Gate Bridge Toll Increase – Public hearing scheduled for June 11, 2008; detailed staff presentation to ACA on March 20, 2008; Regional public input workshops also scheduled (*Informational Open House schedule attached*)
 - 4) Muir Woods Shuttle bus approved for one more year
 - 5) Other items
- c. TransLink – Discussion of Mail-in Fare Program
- d. Golden Gate Ferry – Status report on past ACA comments on Golden Gate Ferry Vessels and Facilities
- e. Golden Gate Transit (GGT) Regional Bus Service
- f. Staff Report and Information

- 6. Marin Transit-Related Items** Information
- a. Marin Paratransit Coordinating Council report
 - b. Marin County Local Bus and Paratransit service
 - 1) Marin Transit March 9th service changes
 - a) Route 221
 - b) West Marin Stagecoach
 - 2) Other items
 - c. Senior Transportation and Travel Training Project
 - d. Marin County Taxi Study – Accessible Taxi Vehicle Procurement Process
 - e. Other Items
- 7. New Business** Information
- 8. ACA Member Announcements/Comments; Public Open Time** Information
(Speakers are limited to three minutes. Members or visitors with specific comments or incidents to report are requested to call Cynthia Petersen, ACA Staff Liaison, at (415) 257-4415 at least two days prior to the meeting.)

Agenda and meeting materials are available in alternative formats, and a phonic-ear amplification system is available upon request. Sign-language interpreters may be requested by the deaf or hearing impaired by calling (415) 257-4415 or TDD **711** at least one week prior to the meeting. District Administration Building is served by GGT-accessible Bus Routes 29 and 36. Consult District's web site (goldengate.org) or call **511** for further GGT bus and ferry schedule information. Information on accessible services is also available on the web site. To schedule paratransit transportation to the meeting, call Whistlestop Wheels at (415) 454-0964 or (800) 454-0964. For further information regarding ACA, call Cynthia Petersen, ACA staff liaison, at (415) 257-4415.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY (ACA)



Draft Minutes of Thursday, November 15, 2007

Members Present: Russ Bohlke, Herschel Ferguson, Sandra Gordon, Kent Hill, Herb Meyer, Kevin Siemens, Craig Yates

Members Excused: Jean Hunter

Leave of Absence: Bill Bodine, Jan Hummingbird

Staff: General Matters: Cynthia Petersen, Paratransit Coordinator; Glen Woods, Customer Service Representative

Ex-officio Members: Jackie Mulroy, Director of Transportation, Whistlestop Wheels (WSW); Jon Gaffney, Assistant Director of Transportation, WSW; Lauren Gradia, Senior Planner, Marin Transit

Visitors: Myrna Uhalde, Hired Hands

The monthly meeting of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility (ACA) was called to order by Chairperson Craig Yates at 1:45 p.m.

1. **Introductions.** Committee members, staff and visitors introduced themselves.
2. **Agenda.** It was **Moved/Seconded/Passed (MSP)** to approve the agenda for the meeting as written.
3. **Minutes:** It was **M/S/P** to approve the minutes of the September 20 and October 18, 2007, ACA meetings as written.
4. **ACA- related Items**
 - a. **Reminder:** The December ACA meeting has been cancelled.
 - b. **Availability of ACA staff – December 2007/January 2008:** Cynthia Petersen will be away from the office on medical leave from November 28, 2007, until mid-January 2008. A decision will be made in early January whether or not to hold the January 2008 ACA meeting. In Cynthia's absence, members are invited to contact Planning Department Administrative Assistant Karyn Paulson with any ACA-related questions or matters.
 - c. **Election of ACA Officers – 2008:** ACA members were asked to be prepared to submit nominations and vote for ACA officers for 2008 (Chair and Vice-chair) at its next meeting (January or February 2008).
5. **GGBHTD-Related Items**
 - a. **Intercounty Paratransit Services**
 - 1) Statistical Report and Operations Summary. Jon Gaffney distributed copies of the statistical report summarizing Marin local and GGBHTD intercounty Americans with Disabilities (ADA) paratransit services provided by

Whistlestop Wheels during the month of October 2007. Intercounty ridership was up 19% (1,231 passengers) compared to September (1,035 passengers). Ridership was up 2% compared to October 2006 (1,210 passengers). Efficiency was also up to 1.04 passengers transported per revenue hour compared to .99 passengers per revenue hour in September. Three of the five intercounty Marin extended trip requests were provided. During the month of October, the intercounty service was within its 30-minute scheduling window (on-time) 88.75% of the time. There continued to be no denials of ADA-mandated paratransit service during the month.

- 2) Other Paratransit Items: Jackie Mulroy reported Northbay Taxi Cooperative has added a second accessible taxi to its fleet, which means that additional accessible taxi service should be available to Marin residents.

b. **District Matters**

- 1) **Transportation Committee, November 8, 2007 – Discussion of Potential Changes to Marin Local Bus Agreement**: Members were referred to the Transportation Committee staff report included in the Agenda packet. Based on that report, Transportation Committee recommended and GGBHTD Board authorized staff to extend the current Marin Local Bus Agreement until 2017. Marin County Transit District (MCTD) will be considering the proposed Amendment at its December 17, 2007, meeting.
 - 2) **Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP), Fiscal Years 2008-2017**: This item is now scheduled for presentation to the District Board of Directors Transportation Committee on Thursday, December 6, 2007.
 - 3) **Other Items**: None to report.
- c. **Golden Gate Ferry Service**: As requested by the Committee at its October meeting, Ms. Petersen distributed copies of ACA minutes summarizing previous comments on accessible features of Golden Gate (GG) ferry vessels. Russ Bohlke noted there is a pillar in the vicinity of the accessible seating at the tables on the upper deck of the *M. V. Mendocino*. ACA requested that a member of GG Ferry Division staff attend ACA's next meeting to provide a status report on the District's response to ACA's ferry vessel comments.
- d. **Golden Gate Transit Regional Bus Service**: GGT is scheduled to begin serving the Copeland Transit Mall in Petaluma on November 18, 2007.
- e. **TransLink**: In conjunction with implementing TransLink, staff has begun to review current District fare policies and programs to identify opportunities to improve efficiency and eliminate duplication. Ms. Petersen distributed copies of the Mail-in Program public information materials. Using TransLink, passengers with disabilities now have the means to pay their fare at either the front door or rear door of GGT buses. As a result, individuals applying for the District's Mail-in Fare Program are being referred to and are having their fare needs met by TransLink. Helen Haas, Supervisor of Customer Service and administrator of the Mail-in Fare Program, has requested that ACA members review these public information materials to be prepared to discuss the future of the Mail-in Fare Program at the next ACA meeting in January or February 2008.
- f. **Staff Report and Information**: There were no additional items to report.

6. **Marin Transit-Related Items**

- a. **Marin Paratransit Coordinating Council (MPCC)**: The next MPCC meeting will

be held on Monday, November 19, 2007.

b. **Marin Transit Local Bus and Paratransit Service:**

- Ms. Gradia reported Metropolitan Transportation Committee (MTC) has issued a call for projects for the “New Freedom” Federal grant program. MTC will be administering screening of applications under the program. New Freedom provides funding for local projects for seniors and persons with disabilities that go beyond the requirements of ADA. Marin projects will be competing with projects from San Francisco and Alameda Counties, so funding may be difficult to secure. Applications are due to MTC on December 14, 2007.
 - Ms. Gradia distributed copies of MCTD’s Service Monitoring Report, which contains statistics for Marin Transit local bus and shuttle service for August and September 2007. Marin local Route 233 has been meeting its service criteria, and Route 259 has been adding passengers every month. Route 17 is also doing well. Service hours cannot be added to the Route 233 without adding the cost of an additional vehicle and operator.
 - A public hearing will be set in December to consider adding service to West Marin Stage and reconfiguring Marin local Route 221. Marin local Route 221 is proposed to become a peak period route, with service extended to Marin General Hospital, Bon Air Shopping Center and (for certain trips) to Larkspur Ferry Terminal. It is hoped that the proposed changes will generate additional ridership, and that service during off-peak hours can be added back once demand is up. Local cities (Corte Madera and Larkspur) are no longer contributing direct funding for Route 221.
 - Regarding Marin local service changes, Kevin Siemens noted minimum days at Marin local schools are usually scheduled on Wednesdays. Ms. Gradia responded that school service is being given a closer look nationwide by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Craig Yates noted that many seniors cannot use their cars or drive after dark so seasonal changes are needed due to darkness. There was another comment that Marin Transit should consider adjusting the northbound Route 19 by one minute to connect with the Route 22.
- c. **Senior Transportation and Travel Training Program:** A travel training orientation is scheduled at the Parnow House in San Rafael in December. In addition, San Rafael Commons has called to schedule an orientation in early 2008.
- d. **Marin County Taxi Study:** Ms. Gradia reported that her colleague at Marin Transit, Suzanne Bourguignon, is working to define the process for procuring new accessible vehicles, with the goal to lease them to Marin taxi companies and implement the first project recommended by the Marin County Taxi Study. More about this will be reported at the next ACA meeting. Later this month, the Taxi Study Draft Implementation Plan will be distributed for review and comment to the Taxi Study Working Group, which will meet in early December to provide its final input into the Study.
- e. **Other Items:** None.

7. **New Business:** None.

8. **ACA Member Announcements/Comments, Public Open Time.** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.