

**SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT  
1250 SAN CARLOS AVENUE, SAN CARLOS, CALIFORNIA**

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING – FEBRUARY 2, 2011**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** J. Baker, L. Chow, T. Collette, M. Hall, W. Kingsford-Smith, J. McKie, K. Nobles, P. Loranger, P. Ratto (Chair), S. Price, D. Wilcox

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** A. Chow, T. Collette

**SAMTRANS STAFF PRESENT:** K. Green, N. McKenna, C. Patton, E. Proctor, A. Rice

Chair Peter Ratto called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The Committee (Wilcox/Nobles) approved the minutes of January 5, 2011; (L. Chow, Hall and Kingsford-Smith abstained).

**PRESENTATION: SAMTRANS' GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS INVENTORY**

Deputy Director Operations and Sustainability Program Manager Anne-Louise Rice reported:

- The purpose of the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory is to fulfill a part of the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) Sustainability Commitment; inform District personnel about internal GHG emissions efforts; communicate transit's role in reducing GHGs; and position the District for new funding opportunities.
- The six big greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, methane, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride.
- In 2009 SamTrans' GHG emissions were 33,000 metric tons, the equivalent to the amount produced annually by 6,000 automobiles.
- The majority of SamTrans' emissions come from fixed-route buses.
- Transit is a net reducer of GHG.
- Staff is doing a Pacific Gas & Electric energy audit of the central office and the two bus facilities.
- The District was awarded a bronze recognition from APTA for reducing GHGs.

John Baker asked how staff arrived at the GHG credit emissions number. Ms. Rice said APTA has a best practices formula that is used nationally by transit agencies.

Lisa Chow asked how decisions are made and is there a committee to move this program forward. Ms. Rice said staff is working with the various departments and the Board is completely behind this program and moving it forward.

Peter Loranger asked if transit agencies are responsible for taking cars off the road. Ms. Rice said if service is cut back then the emissions are reduced. The biggest bang for the buck is in land use and the use of public transit.

Chair Ratto asked if the new fleet will have an impact on the 2009 base number. Ms. Rice said yes, due to the number of new buses, reduced fuel consumption and miles traveled.

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Ratto said this past Saturday he attended the Friends of Caltrain summit. It was very well attended and it was nice to see the support among the community, riders and politicians for Caltrain.

### **SAMTRANS STAFF UPDATE**

Director of Bus Transportation Chester Patton reported:

- Recruitment for eight CAC vacancies begins on Monday, February 7.
- At the January meeting Kim Nobles asked if AC Transit schedules could be placed on buses on Routes 390 and 391. Staff said that is not possible because of limited rack space for schedules on the buses.
- Performance statistics for December are:
  - On-time performance was 89.4 percent, which is above the 85 percent standard.
  - Average weekday ridership was 39,380. Due to data loss associated with a system upgrade the December average weekday ridership number was conservatively and statistically compiled.
  - Complaints were very low at 188.
  - There were only six missed schedules in the month.
  - Miles between road calls was at 26,835.

Mr. Wilcox said in the past the CAC received periodic information on ridership by routes.

Mr. Patton said if there is a specific route that the CAC is interested in he can bring the ridership information.

### **CAC MEMBER COMMENTS/REQUESTS**

Judy McKie asked what the rules are for drivers using cell phones. Mr. Patton said when this is observed he asked that the date, time and bus number be reported to him. He said it is forbidden to use any personal electronic devices, including headphones and earpieces while operating a bus. It is a safety violation within SamTrans and drivers will be disciplined for this type of offense.

Mr. Baker said the predictive arrival signs are installed at Daly City BART and working well. He heard favorable comments from the public.

Chair Ratto said a couple of stops were recently eliminated on Route 295 with the new runbook and one of them is by Mills Hospital. He asked if the old Route PX stop on Second Avenue in San Mateo could now be a stop for Route 295. Superintendent Bus Transportation Ed Proctor said yes, staff is working on that location to be a stop for Route 295.

Mr. Wilcox said the predictive arrival signs at Sequoia Station were not accurate, but did display in test mode. He said he has heard passengers would like to purchase accessories for use on the bus such as badge holders, lanyards and even shopping carts. Mr. Wilcox said there could be a display at the reception desk on the second floor. Mr. Wilcox said the mobility ambassadors need to be notified of changes to bus routes, schedules and bus stops. He also requested an update be made to the CAC on the Grand Boulevard Initiative.

Mr. Loranger said he was reading the *San Mateo Times* online and there was a poll in the article of whether there should be a tax initiative for Caltrain funding and the overall result was sink or swim.

Mr. Wilcox said Caltrain fares should be much higher.

Sondra Price asked if it is possible to do a “Day without Caltrain” to show the public the affect of the loss of Caltrain would have on local freeways.

### **LIAISON REPORTS**

#### **a. SamTrans Board - Peter Ratto**

- Zoe Kersteen-Tucker was sworn in as a public member representing the Coastside.
- A presentation was given on fixed-route service.
- Ten bus operators were recently recalled and 10 more will be recalled in April.

#### **b. SamTrans Accessibility Advisory Committee - Tom Collette - absent.**

#### **c. Caltrain Accessibility Advisory Committee - Peter Loranger - no meeting.**

#### **d. Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board - David Wilcox**

- Ridership is up.

#### **e. Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Citizens Advisory Committee - Andy Chow - absent.**

#### **f. Senior Mobility Action Plan - vacant**

### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held March 2, 2011, at 6:30 p.m., 1250 San Carlos Avenue, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, San Carlos, California 94070.

**ADJOURNED:** 7:30 p.m.