

ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

REGIONAL TRANSIT COMMITTEE

February 14, 2013 Meeting Notes

Voting Members Present:

Mr. Fred Daniels
Mayor Bucky Johnson
Mr. Tad Leithead
Commissioner Charlotte Nash
Commissioner Richard Oden
Commissioner Tom Worthan

Voting Members Absent:

Mayor Kasim Reed, Chair
Commissioner Buzz Ahrens
Mr. Sonny Deriso
Chief Executive Officer Burrell Ellis
Commissioner John Eaves
Commissioner Tim Lee
Commissioner Tommy Smith

Non-Voting Members Present:

Commissioner Steve Brown
Commissioner Chipper Gardner
Mr. Doug Hooker
Ms. Jannine Miller
Mr. Keith Parker
Commissioner Jeff Turner

Non-Voting Members Absent:

Commissioner David Austin
Commissioner Pete Amos
Commissioner Bob Blackburn
Mr. Toby Carr
Commissioner Keith Ellis
Commissioner Pat Graham
Ms. Lara O'Connor Hodgson
Commissioner Kevin Little
Commissioner Richard Mecum
Ms. Pam Sessions
Commissioner Marty Smith
Commissioner Steve Taylor
Mr. Doug Tollett

No quorum present; meeting held for Informational purposes only

Actions taken during meeting

- None



GENERAL

1. Welcome and Chairman's Comments

Tad Leithead called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees.

2. Public Comment Period

No public comment was offered.

3. Introduction of New RTC Members

Tad Leithead introduced the thirteen new RTC members.

Voting Members

Commissioner Tommy Smith

Non-Voting Members

Commissioner Pete Amos

Commissioner Bob Blackburn

Commissioner Steve Brown

Commissioner Keith Ellis

Commissioner Chipper Gardner

Commissioner Pat Graham

Commissioner Richard Mecum

Mr. Keith Parker

Commissioner Marty Smith

Commissioner Steve Taylor

Commissioner Jeff Turner

4. Approval of November 15, 2012 Meeting Summary

No quorum present.

PLANNING

5. RTC 2012 Accomplishments & 2013 Look-Ahead

Regan Hammond reminded the committee of the purpose of the Regional Transit Committee which is service coordination, providing input into the planning process and serving as a mechanism for governance coordination.

She highlighted the key transit issues of 2012 including reflecting local transit planning in regional plans, system coordination and improved transit data and coordination at the regional level in the absence of legislative action. She highlighted some of 2012's accomplishments that tie back to the key issues including an update of Concept 3, maintenance of the Regional Transit Data Warehouse, the Fleet and Facilities Inventory, a governance legal review, the Breeze system agreements facilitation, transit expansion planning work and related NEPA work and monthly transit committee coordination.

Looking ahead to 2013 she identified three key issues that will be of importance to RTC which are the implications of MAP-21, improving the customer experience through data sharing and upgraded customer information systems and Breeze system efficiency and next-generation



planning given that current system will reach the end of its useful life in the next five years. She highlighted work tasks that would support addressing these issues including the Regional Fare Collection Study, the coordination of MAP-21 transit performance measures, the Regional Transit Data Warehouse, the PLAN 2040 update, the Unified Bus Stop Signage Design Project, paratransit and call center coordination and the regional van pool program. She provided additional details including the purposes and timelines for the Regional Fare Collection Study and the Regional Unified Bus Stop Signage Design project.

Jannine Miller, GRTA, clarified that the current bus stop signage in the Downtown and Midtown areas of Atlanta were meant to be temporary and flexible due to the rerouting which is why they include limited information.

Hammond stated that the Bus Stop Signage Design Project is a pilot program that could be applicable at the regional level if there is interest. She stated that it is a design only project and that additional funding would need to be identified to fabricate and install the signs.

Leithead stated that the update of Concept 3 is important because so many things have changed in the last year and that the discussion of the regions vision for transit at ARC is crucial. He also stated that though MAP-21 does expire soon, the focus on performance measurements is here to stay. Finally, he stated that he is not expecting the legislature to work on transit governance and that the RTC can help to make the different transit systems more seamless.

6. Regional Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Implementation

John Crocker, MARTA, stated that from a national perspective Atlanta is lagging behind the country in the economic recovery which provides an opportunity to put in place the policies and procedures to encourage the development the community wants. He provided highlights from the TOD market study that ARC and Bleakly Advisory Group completed. He stated that MARTA stations had attracted jobs but needed to focus on attracting housing. He stated that over the past year MARTA had worked as a property owner to identify sites most suitable for TOD- type development.

In addition to existing MARTA owned sites there is an opportunity to focus on various corridors, park and ride lots and future stations to ensure the proper zoning, infrastructure and incentives are in place to support TOD. He then highlighted supporting initiatives including the last mile connectivity program included in the region's TIP, Livable Centers Implementation funding and the exploration of an Atlanta Land Acquisition Fund. He closed by highlighting the following events:

- March 7: Marta/ARC Development Day
- March 29: CNU Walkable Communities
- April 10-12: Transforming Local Governments Conference

7. Regional Mobility Management One-Click System

Laura Keyes, ARC, showed a concept of what the vision for the Regional Mobility Management One-Click System concept could look like and explained that the purpose of the system was to take a diverse set of transportation services entry points and data resources and centralize them in one accessible place for use by both the public and service providers. She highlighted how



transportation services would be connected. The initial target group is veterans and their families but the intent is to expand the system to everyone.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. GRTA Xpress Highlights 2013

Jannine Miller, GRTA, gave a quick overview regarding future funding for the Xpress bus s in the Governor's Budget and reminded RTC about the importance of the system.

9. Human Services Transportation Plan Limited Update

Cain Williamson, ARC, updated the committee on the region's Human Services Transportation Plan Limited update, which was a technical update meant to reflect changes as a result of MAP-21 as well as the work being done with the Regional Mobility Management One-Click System and recent data. He stated that the HST program was evolving at ARC and the plan is meant to keep all of the various elements of the program moving together and moving in the same direction.

Leithhead stated that presentations were intentionally brief due to time constraints but that if there was a desire for more detailed information on any subject matter that staff could get that information to committee members or even come out to communities to do presentations.

10. Atlanta Air Quality Update

Jane Hayse, ARC, stated that last week it was in the news that the Atlanta region had achieved air quality standards. The 20-county region had met the 1997 8-hour Ozone standard and will continue to meet it in the future. There is a new standard which was put in place in 2008 and that a smaller 15-county portion of the Atlanta region is currently in nonattainment for this standard. The attainment date is set for the new standard is 2015.

In addition to the Ozone standards, there is a PM2.5 standard for which the entire 20-county area is still in nonattainment. A new stricter standard was announced in December of 2012 and designations based on this standard will occur in 2014. Hayse then highlighted ways for individuals to keep the air clean and focused in particular on how to reduce the average as well as the peak periods exceedences of the air quality standards.

Hammond stated that this was especially important to the RTC because transit is a great way to help get people out of single occupant vehicles and, therefore, reduce emissions.

Leithhead suggested that an effort be made to get people to ride transit on peak smog days.

Handouts

- Presentation: RTC 2012 Accomplishments & 2013 Look-Ahead
- Presentation: Regional TOD Implementation
- Presentation: Regional Mobility Manager One-Click System
- Handout: Atlanta Air Quality Update
- Handout: RTC 2013 Membership
- Handout: GRTA Xpress Highlights 2013
- Handout: November 15, 2012 Meeting Summary

