

It is the mission of the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority to provide useful, reliable, safe, environmentally responsible, and cost-effective public transportation options for the benefit of the Greater Ann Arbor Community.

Approved Minutes  
April 26, 2012  
Ann Arbor Transportation Authority  
Special Board of Directors Meeting  
2700 South Industrial Highway, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104 4:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Jesse Bernstein (Chair), Eli Cooper, Charles Griffith, David Nacht

Absent with Notice: Anya Dale, Sue Gott, Roger Kerson

Staff Present: Michael Benham, Terry Black, Ron Copeland, Dawn Gabay,  
Michael Ford, Ed Robertson, Mary Stasiak, Phil Webb

Recording Secretary: Karen Wheeler

Chairman Jesse Bernstein declared that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 4:42 p.m.

1.0 *Communications and Announcements*

There were no communications or announcements.

2.0 *Public Time – Comment on Agenda Items*

Edward Vielmetti commented on the prospect of expanding transit service beyond the current service area; specifically between Ann Arbor and Saline. Mr. Vielmetti congratulated the board on the [impending] transfer of property from the City of Ann Arbor to AATA.

No one further appearing, Mr. Bernstein declared public time closed.

3.0 *Board and Staff Reports*

3.1 *Draft Proposal for a Five Year Transit Program (FYTP)*

Michael Benham provided an overview of the content of the Draft Five Year Transit Program and reviewed the schedule of upcoming District Advisory Committee meetings. Mr. Benham pointed to a document distributed to Board members; a snapshot and summary of the 30 year vision and proposed transit improvements in the 5 Year Transit Program document. The summary document is designed to give readers a sense of the program without having to read the full report. Michael Benham indicated that with the Board's concurrence, the full report and summary document would be distributed at upcoming District Advisory Committee meetings.

Charles Griffith moved the following resolution with support from David Nacht.

*Resolution Authorizing Release of Draft Proposal for a Five Year Transit Program (FYTP)*

**WHEREAS**, the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (AATA) Board of Directors (the Board) has developed a thirty-year Transit Master Plan (TMP) to improve public transit services and provide them on a county-wide basis, and

**WHEREAS**, as a means to begin the implementation of the TMP, the Board has produced a Draft Proposal for a Five Year Transit Program (FYTP) detailing the transit improvements recommended for the first five years of the TMP, and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to the success of the TMP that the initial implementation plans of the Draft FYTP be reviewed, understood, and accepted by the community to insure that they accurately reflect the transit priorities of the public, now therefore

**IT IS RESOLVED**, that the Board authorizes the release of the draft document entitled "Washtenaw County Transit Master Plan: Five Year Transit Program" for a 30-day public review period so that public meetings may be held throughout Washtenaw County to afford discussions with, and input from, citizens, groups, officials, and organizations on specific contents of the FYTP, and on the TMP in general, and

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED**, that following this public review and input period, Ann Arbor Transportation Authority Board and staff, in discussions with members of the u196 Board, will issue a final Five Year Transit Program.

Board members discuss the resolution. Staff responded to questions on the transit program document. Michael Ford explained the significance of the Board's action to release the document indicating that it will allow for public review and the start of the process to receive input on the proposed service plan for the coming five years.

Michael Benham responded to an inquiry regarding financing indicating that while the budget for the five year program is consistent with a half mill levy, the plan does not recommend that as a funding source as there may be other sources of revenue for local service. It was noted that the initial plan called for serve at a one mill level. Projects that would require state and federal funds were separated out to insure that local programs in the plan can be implemented once a local funding source is identified.

Michael Benham responded to questions on whether funding for the Connector Study Alternatives Analysis is included in the program. Mr. Benham indicated that while there is no specific distinction for the Connector Study, part of finalizing the document will include an annual element synonymous with the budget. Mr. Benham responded to questions on fares and ticketing noting that there would be a general policy discussion about the level of fares and the desirability of including innovative ticketing types.

Board members complimented staff and the project team for developing an excellent document to move forward for public review and comment to further inform the report.

A suggestion was made to pull out the schedules and maps of proposed service for each district meeting to allow for a detailed presentation geared specifically toward each community. It was noted that the full plan spans a 30 year period and the District Advisory Committee meetings and subsequent ongoing meetings will be an opportunity for input on what is needed over time to make the system better.

Michael Ford thanked board members for their insight and input on the draft plan.

The motion carried.

### 3.2 *Purchase of 6 Feet of Land from City of Ann Arbor*

Michael Ford reported on the purchase of six feet of land from the City of Ann Arbor to expand the footprint for reconstruction of the Blake Transit Center. Mr. Ford noted that the \$90,000 purchase price is within his signing authority of

\$100,000. However, AATA's procurement policy related to the purchase of real property requires approval by the Board.

David Nacht moved the following resolution with support from Charles Griffith.

*Approval of Purchase of Land from the City of Ann Arbor*

**WHEREAS**, the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (AATA) desires to purchase a six feet by 132 feet strip of land from the City of Ann Arbor for use in our redevelopment of the new Blake Transit Center, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Ann Arbor has agreed to sell the land to AATA, and

**WHEREAS**, the fair market value for the strip of land was determined by an appraisal, and

**WHEREAS**, the AATA Procurement Manual states that Board of Directors must authorize the acquisition of real property,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority Board of Directors authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to execute all documents necessary to purchase the six feet wide strip of land adjacent to the Blake Transit Center for \$90,000 plus closing costs.

The motion carried: Bernstein, Griffith, Nacht – Yes; Cooper – Abstained.

4.0 *New Business*

4.1 *Resolution Authorizing Release of Draft Proposal for a Five Year Transit Program (FYTP)*

The resolution was approved under item 3.1.

4.2 *Resolution Approving Purchase of Land from City of Ann Arbor*

The resolution was approved under item 3.2.

4.3 *Resolution Awarding Supplemental Painting Contract for Bus Storage Expansion Project*

David Nacht moved the following resolution with support from Eli Cooper.

**WHEREAS**, the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (AATA) Board of Directors

(the Board) has previously approved a contract with Niles Construction Services, Inc., (Niles) for the painting of the newly constructed Bus Storage Expansion Project in the amount of \$66,187, with the cost being covered by capital funds, and

**WHEREAS**, the pre-existing portion of the Bus Storage Area was last painted more than 10 years ago, shows an accumulation of dirt, soot, and grime on both its walls and ceilings, and is in need of cleaning and re-painting, and

**WHEREAS**, Niles has agreed to incorporate both the cleaning and painting of the pre-existing portion of the Bus Storage Area at the same time as painting is scheduled for the newly constructed Expansion Project, and to do so at an additional cost of \$67,500, and

**WHEREAS**, funds for such a supplemental painting project are available in the FY 2012 Maintenance Department operating budget already approved by the Board, now therefore

**IT IS RESOLVED**, that the Chief Executive Officer is authorized to negotiate a Change Order with Niles for the purpose of cleaning and painting the pre-existing portion of the Bus Storage Area for a price not to exceed \$68,000, with such work to be done in conjunction with painting work already contracted for in the new Expansion Project.

Terry Black reported on the request for approval of a supplemental painting contract for the bus storage area. Half of the storage area will be newly painted as part of the expansion project. The other half of the existing area would be dull and dingy as it has not been painted in ten years. Capital funds are not able to be used for the additional work. Mr. Black explained that the facilities maintenance is well under budget due to the mild winter, and there are operating funds available to supplement the budget to paint the other portion of the garage.

David Nacht expressed appreciation for the clarification of the repurposing of existing funds which would cause no budget impact.

The motion carried.

## 5.0 *Public Time*

Edward Vielmetti appeared before the Board. Mr. Vielmetti commented on a request made to staff for a copy of schedule data being sent to Google. Mr. Vielmetti indicated that the schedule data is an enhanced digital version of the paper schedule. Mr.

Vielmetti suggested that consideration be given to publishing data currently being provided to Google on the same terms to others. Other data sources such as Walk Score use the data to determine walking conditions in communities.

No one further appearing, Mr. Bernstein declared public time closed.

Michael Ford reported on AirRide ridership for the period April 15 to April 21 with 765 total riders: 501 Eastbound and 264 Westbound. Mr. Ford noted continuing increases in ridership on the service.

Mr. Ford responded to a question regarding whether outreach efforts to the University of Michigan have helped with ridership. Mr. Ford indicated that appeared to be the case for eastbound trips.

#### 6.0 *Adjourn*

David Nacht moved to adjourn the meeting with support from Eli Cooper. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Griffith, Secretary