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**SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT**

**MOBILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

## MEETING MINUTES

August 3, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER** **ATTACHMENT 1**

The in-person and zoom webinar meeting was called to order at **2:32 p.m.**

**Present Members:**

Helen O’Connell, Charles Johnson, German Ayon, Frank Trujillo, Jeff Thom, Gene Lozano, Pam Flohr, Margie Donovan, Isabel Arreola

**Absent:** All members present.

**SacRT Staff:** Priscilla Vargas, Carmen Alba, Richard Mitchell, Laura Ham, Adam Green, Analycia Rodriguez, Jamie Poole-Canavari, Sangita Arya, Anthony Adams, Jamie Adelman, Igor Avanto, Shawn Reynolds, Rose Patton, Austin Greiner, Chris Flores, Greg Fischman, Christina Martinelli, Sue Bianchi

**Guests:** Jeffrey Tardaguila

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Pam Flohr motioned to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2023, meeting. Gene Lozano seconded the motion. The motion was carried by voice vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeffrey Tardaguilla discussed ramp accessibility problems on 16th, 29th, 65th, and 27th Street.

**CHAIR REPORT**

Mr. Johnson welcomed Ms. Arreola, from Resources for Independent Living, as the newest MAC member.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Re-Imagine Watt/I-80 Transit Center Master Plan Update (Laura Ham, VP, Planning and Engineering)**

Ms. Ham discussed the Watt/I-80 bus station, its high traffic, and its aging infrastructure. A community survey in 2017-2018 emphasized transfers, safety enforcement and design, maintenance, user experience, and pedestrian, bike, and ADA access. SacRT was awarded $19 million to renovate the station, which will incorporate recommendations to focus on replacing and widening stairwells, adding accessible pedestrian crossings and signals, bike lanes, increased lighting, and break facilities.

Mr. Lozano asked about arrow-shaped and embedded lights and tactile pathways. Ms. Arreola asked about signage standards. Mr. Tardaguila asked about bus shuttles during closure; Ms. Ham said that no closure is planned. Chair Johnson asked about funding sources; Ms. Ham mentioned that the $8 million grant from the Solutions for Congested Corridors (SCCP) funding was received by SacRT.

1. **Low-Floor Light Rail Train Update (Laura Ham, VP, Planning and Engineering)**

Ms. Ham reported that after the Siemens facility tour in January, 2023, SacRT’s Equivalent Facilitation request for ramps without side barriers, was approved by the Federal Transit Administration.

Mr. Lozano asked about back-side railing for blind passengers at the low-floor light rail train stations. Ms. Ham reported that Engineering is looking into solutions.

Mr. Tardaguila commented on blocked areas on 65th Street and 29th Street that present obstacles to pedestrians accessing the platforms.

1. **SmaRT Ride Update (Laura Ham, VP, Planning and Engineering)**

Ms. Ham stated that the $14 million grant for SmaRT Ride, from 2018, has run out, but new funding has been obtained from small and one-time sources for the next 2-3 years. SmaRT Ride has received nationwide recognition as a micro transit service. SacRT received a one-time grant from STA, $2.4 million, for cycle 2, and a LCTOP grant for use of low/no emission vehicles. SmaRT Ride has received funds redirected from Dial-A-Ride programs that it has replaced, and funds from Sacramento County for $50,000 per year for the Elk Grove Vineyard area. There are funding gaps for year 3, and SmaRT Ride has proposed small changes in Citrus Heights, Downtown Sacramento, and Florin/Gerber.

Ms. Arreola commented on difficulties in accessing the SmaRT Ride app. Mr. Thom commented on a skipped area between Freeport Boulevard and the freeway. Mr. Tardaguilla commented on excluded areas near Broadway and Florin and Power Inn.

1. **Railyards Station Update (Sangita Arya, Senior Systems Engineer)**

Ms. Arya reported that the Railyards Station design is now 65% complete. Ms. Arya described the low-floor and mini-high platforms, which will serve both north and south board trains, along with their accessibility features.

Mr. Lozano requested a tactile (3D printed) layout and other accommodations such as bench backrests. Chair Johnson and Ms. Vargas commented on the costs of tactile layouts and the challenges they present for SacRT. Mr. Lozano cited Title II requirements for reasonable accommodation, and Chair Johnson suggested arranging a site visit.

Mr. Tardaguilla asked about the placement of the second track. Ms. Arya said that this project will be built using the existing track, which is part of the airport line, and that the track will be in a mixed-traffic lane on the opposite side of the platform.

1. **SacRT GO Paratransit Services Operation Update (Richard Mitchell, Director, Community Bus Services) (Attachment 2)**

Mr. Mitchell provided SacRT GO ridership numbers for June 2023. At over 20,000 rides, June 2023 shows notable growth for FY2023 and is at 86% of pre-COVID rides. On-time performance for June 2023 was 82% for SacRT GO and UZURV was 99%. Mr. Mitchell noted the increase in multi-rider trips post-COVID. Mr. Thom asked about comparative recovery rates for fixed-route transit, and Ms. Alba reported 70% pre-COVID numbers.

Mr. Trujillo asked about SacRT GO ride cancellations and reduced daily rides compared to UZURV. Mr. Mitchell addressed differences between SacRT GO and UZURV, driver issues, and UZURV signage to identify drivers. Ms. O’Connell described the issue of UZURV rider removal and ride cancellation. Mr. Thom and Mr. Trujillo shared this concern. Ms. Arreola proposed using secret riders to monitor driver performance, and Mr. Mitchell described SacRT’s efforts to survey drivers. Mr. Lozano discussed contracting riders. Ms. Vargas affirmed that SacRT is working on supplemental services to survey drivers.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Approve amended and restated version of the MAC Bylaws (Attachment 3)**

Mr. Johnson read Article III Section 4A original wording on attendance policy and proposed amendments regarding virtual and in-person meeting attendance. Mr. Lozano proposed an exemption from the Brown Act. Mr. Thom proposed a vote on exemption from the Brown Act.

Mr. Johnson read Article V Section 4 original wording and proposed amendments for exemption to the Brown Act. The amendment was adopted by a vote.

Mr. Johnson read Article V Section 5 original wording and proposed amendments for a quorum to be reached by members virtually or in person. Ms. Arreola supported language to emphasize openness to members of the public. The amendment was adopted by a vote.

Mr. Johnson returned to Article III Section 4A. Mr. Lozano proposed wording to include standing committees and virtual attendance. Mr. Johnson and Ms. Arreola discussed the merits of the amendment. The amendment was adopted by a vote.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Johnson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. No abstentions. The meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Mobility Advisory Council is scheduled for September 7, 2023, from 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.