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**SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT**

**MOBILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

## MEETING MINUTES

February 2, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Zoom meeting was called to order at **2:30 p.m.**

**INTRODUCTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND STAFF**

**Present Members:** Charles Johnson, Pam Flohr, Allan Ruzich, Gene Lozano, Hugh Lafler, Frank Trujillo, Jeff Thom, Helen O’Connell, Margie Donovan, German Ayon **SacRT Staff:** Carmen Alba, Sue Bianchi, Priscilla Vargas, Kathy Sachen, Edward Eugene, Charity Oakley, Vinit Budhiraja, Craig Norman, Evelyn Anderson, Mohammed Shahid, Katrina Powell, Jamie Poole-Canevari, Holly Martinez, Blanca Salcedo, James Drake **Guests:** Jeffery Tardaguila, Lisa Capperlari, Jim Kaiser, Regina Brink, Stephanie Watts, Leslie Thom, Barbara Stanton **Absent Members: All members present.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION**: **Margie Donovan** motioned to approve minutes from January 5, 2023 meeting.

**Frank Trujillo** seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote with no abstentions.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Tardaguila spoke about an experience he had while riding bus route 30. He stated that the bus ramp did not open completely so he could exit the bus and the driver had to shut the bus down and restart again for the ramp to open. He asked if SacRT supervisors have portable ramps to assist passengers with getting off the bus and/or light rail trains in the event of the ramps malfunctioning in an emergency.

**CHAIR REPORT**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Workplan 2023**

Jeff Thom motioned to approve the Workplan 2023. Allen Ruzich seconded the motion. Pam Flohr motioned to make changes to the 2023 Workplan. **Chair Johnson restated the motion to accept the workplan as amended.** **All MAC Members gave a verbal yes confirmation in agreement. No absentions. The workplan was adopted as amended.** The changes Pam Flohr requested for each section are as follows: Section 1 – Service Planning/Service Changes under goals to state “receive information on the Title VI Program Update for 2023.” Section 2 – ADA Paratransit Plan Update and ADA Paratransit under accomplishment, add a last bullet to state, The MAC did a vehicle inspection of proposed new SacRT vehicles for accessibility. The MAC recommended they not be purchased. The vehicles were not purchased. Section 3 – bullet five was edited to state, The MAC reviewed the Bikes on Board SacRT Causeway Buses and voted to oppose the proposal. A letter was sent to SacRT management stating concerns. Section 4 had two edits, the first edit was to the second bullet under Public Awareness, Outreach and Recruitment and now states, The MAC received a presentation from MAC organizational members: Pride Industries, ABC Capital Chapter of California Council of the Blind, and National Federation of the Blind as Community Partner. The second edit under goals, bullet two now states, Continue MAC Organizational Member Presentations.

1. **Siemens S700 Site Visit Update (Priscilla Vargas, ADA Compliance Officer & Craig Norman, Director, Engineering & Construction)**

Priscilla Vargas stated that the site visit went well. A member of the public, MAC members and SacRT staff attended a site visit at Siemens to test the bridge plate. The bridge plate measures 36 inches in width, which is six inches wider than the required 30-inch bridge plate. Pam Flohr was successful getting on and off the train using the bridge plate with her walker. Charles Johnson, Helen O’Connell, Jeff Thom, and Jeff Tardaguila all tested the ramp and stated overall satisfaction with entering and exiting the ramp using the bridge plate. Priscilla asked each MAC member and guests to complete a questionnaire regarding the bridge plate after the site visit was complete to capture the overall viewpoint of the MAC members and guests. The overall results indicated that they felt comfortable using the bridge plate with no barrier. However, there was general agreement that the angle of the bridge plate was uncomfortably steep and an educational program for users was highly recommended. Craig Norman gave an overview of the site visit. He stated that the FTA has a requirement for a 30-inch-wide bridge plate with two-inch side barriers. Other agencies have had other concerns with this, and the Siemens vehicle SacRT is purchasing does not comply with this requirement. Other agencies were concerned that side barriers cause misalignment issues with wheelchairs and tripping issues. In conclusion, he stated that riders prefer the wider bridge plate with the same width as the door without the two-inch barriers.

1. **Watt & I-80 Light Rail Station Elevator Update West & East side (Priscilla Vargas, ADA Compliance Officer)**

Priscilla Vargas thanked Gene Lozano for raising the issue in the past regarding the Watt I-80 elevators. There were warranty repair issues that had to be resolved with the control system. The control issues have been resolved. Our maintenance service department responds as promptly as possible to address the issues, and security staff check the elevators frequently to ensure they are in operation. The east elevator’s main motor failed and is no longer under warranty. We have been working with a contractor to obtain and install a new motor and are in the final stages of executing a contract with the contractor. Priscilla stated that supply chain and contract issues have impacted the timeliness of this repair. Lastly, SacRT will continue to operate a bus bridge when the elevator is out of order. MAC members and the public will receive updates with any new developments. Jeff Tardaguila requested a telephone number and a schedule for both elevators when they are out of service. Priscilla Vargas stated the most effective way of communicating with the public when there is an elevator failure is through the SacRT Alerts app/website along with A-frames placed at the location.

1. **Low Floor 1 – Prototype Construction Update (****Sue Bianchi, Senior Civil Engineer)**

Sue Bianchi gave an update on the low floor construction. She stated that the prototype construction is scheduled to start Saturday, February 4, 2023, at the 59th Street station. There is some preliminary preparatory work this week. Originally the station was going to be closed to customers for 30 days, but the plan for the prototype construction was changed. The station will only be closed on Saturday, February 4 and 5, not for 30 days. For the service disruptions, trains will not operate from University 65th Street station to 39th Street station. A bus bridge will be in place during this service disruption. The bus bridge will be in place for four light rail stations, including, University 65th Street station, 59th Street station, 48th Street station, and 39th Street station. Most of the construction will be completed by Monday, February 6, 2023 and there will be temporary detectable warning tiles and railings installed in order to open the station to the public. Permanent railings with be installed once the materials arrive. The 59th Street station will be open to the public on February 6, 2023. SacRT Marketing staff have posted this information for public knowledge. The contractor did purchase the audible devices, and they are working with the Marketing department to program them with correct public information. The audible information devices will be ready and working at the 48th Street station. The construction at the 48th Street station is planned for February 18, 2023. Construction for the 39th Street station will begin on February 25, 2023. Sue Bianchi will return at the next meeting to provide future updates.

1. **SacRT GO Paratransit Services Operation Update (Edward Eugene, Transportation Superintendent)**

Edward Eugene presented USURV and SacRT GO Ridership from July 2022 – December 2022. Total Ridership for FY 2022-2023 for SacRT GO was 106,474. Total USURV ridership for FY 2022-2023 was 29,098 for a combined total ridership of 135,572, this is an 18% increase from December 2021 or 75% of pre-pandemic ridership. He stated that on time performance for December 2022 combined was 83%. There are many differences in comparing on time performance for SacRT verses USURV. SacRT GO cannot deny or return trip requests whereas USURV can return trips that they are unable to perform in a timely manner. He stated that SacRT GO will host hiring events for March, June, September, and December 2023.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Election of Officers**

Discussion postponed until March 2, 2023, meeting. This will be placed under the Chair Report on the March 2023 agenda.

1. **TC&P Meeting Update – December 8, 2022**

Discussion postponed until March 2, 2023, meeting. This will be placed under new business under the agenda for March 2023.

**OTHER BUSINESS - NONE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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