

SAN MARCOS TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2017 – 9:30 a.m.

Committee Members Present

Charles O'Neil
Sara Lee Underwood-Myers
Joseph Ptak

CARTS Staff & City of San Marcos Present

Rachid Breir, Asst. General Mgr. of Operations
Lyle Nelson, Chief of Staff
Donna Aaron, Committee Secretary

I. Roll Call

The meeting came to order at 9:40 a.m. with roll call.

Public Comment Period

II. No public comments were offered.

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Charles to approve the minutes from the June 30, 2017 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Sara Lee. The motion carried with all in favor.

IV. Staff Updates

A. Ridership Report

The Ridership Reports for June, July, August and September were presented by Rachid who stated that, while ridership dropped a little in September, overall it is continuing to show a steady increase over last year.

B. On-Time Performance

The OTP Reports for the months of June, July, August and September were also presented by Rachid. A mistake was made on the September report and a corrected copy was promised for the next meeting. Rachid stated that an average of 200 time checks are performed each month and the goal is to keep the OTP at or above 95%. All months presented, with the exception of August, exceeded the goal.

C. ADA Application Update

The ADA Application was presented which showed 185 of the total passengers processed as current.

V. Report on Goals Accomplished

Lyle stated that the report on which set goals have been accomplished has not yet been completed due to the fact that discussions with City of San Marcos City Managers have shown them to have a slightly different interpretation of what the goals are and what they would like city transit to be. He asked that the subject be deferred until after his upcoming meeting with the current City Manager. Joe

pointed out that discussion of the 2018 Goals and Objectives would be an agenda item at the next meeting and that clarification from Lyle's meeting with the City Manager could serve to inform the setting of those.

VI. Route Changes

Lyle stated that he thought 2018 will be the year to set up another public comment period to inform possible changes to route configuration and frequency. Joe recommended moving ahead with public comment meetings even if proposed changes to the system would not exceed 25%. He suggested getting ideas down on paper that include a variety of options to choose from.

Sara Lee proposed conducting a one-on-one survey with passengers on the buses.

Rachid stated that CARTS does not have the manpower for a one-on-one survey and added that we need to approach the public with pre-established options set up by an independent consultant in order to avoid unrealistic answers.

Further discussion included questions regarding the status and viability of the planned transit center on Hutchison Street. Joe reported that the project had been put on hold.

VII. Downtown Circular

Charles pointed out that a downtown circular would not be a solution to the downtown parking problem unless a downtown employee park & ride could be established. Lyle added that the project would require cooperation from all of the downtown businesses. Rachid further added that businesses tend to want transit service but they do not want to have stops established in front of their business.

VIII. Any New Business

No new business was presented.

IX. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Committee members agreed on January 26, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. as the next meeting date.

X. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made by Charles. It was seconded by Sara Lee and the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. with all in favor.