

**CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
MASS TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
990 PALM ST.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2007
APPROVED**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Jean Knox called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jean Knox, D. Gregg Doyle, Denise Martinez, Kathy Howard, Susan Rains, Diana Gould-Wells, and Emily Avery

Alternates: Vacant

Absent: None

Staff: Tim Bochum, Sabrina Haggie

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Knox stated that there are Advisory Body brochures available for more information about Advisory Bodies.

Mr. Bochum stated that the City has released a Request for Proposals regarding the Short Range Transit Plan and six firms are interested in submitting proposals. Proposals were released first week in January and the deadline to submit is February 22, 2007.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

A. CONSENT ITEMS:

There were no consent items.

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

B1. January 2, 2007 Service Change Refinements

Mr. Bochum discussed the service changes that ASI and First Transit requested. The first service refinement was a Route 5 Home Depot modification. Mr. Bochum stated that the Route 5 will now only serve the Home Depot loop every other half hour beginning at noon. Route 5 will continue to serve this loop every hour and Route 4 will continue to serve this loop on 30 minute service levels. He stated that this service refinement has been very successful and has helped put Route 5 back on schedule. The second service refinement was the end of service on Route 5 moved to Home Depot. Mr. Bochum stated that Route 5 used to terminate service each day at the Downtown Transit Center located at City Hall. The service refinement changed the end of Route 5 to the

Home Depot stop. He said this refinement was beneficial because it allowed for two additional runs from Downtown and Cal Poly to the Los Osos Valley Road and Laguna Lake area. Route 5 now ends at Home Depot at 7:24 p.m. Mr. Bochum stated that the two refinements were implemented on January 2, 2007. He stated that flyers were handed out, rider alerts posted, At-Stop schedule changes were made and drivers announced service changes for Route 5.

C. ACTION ITEMS:

C1. Review and Recommendation to Council to apply for 2006-07 Discretionary STA funds for an Evening Service Extension Pilot Program

Mr. Bochum explained the discretionary STA funds as a major funding source from sales tax. SLOCG has decided to a discretionary process for a percentage of the \$1.4 million to help fund transit systems. . SLOCOG is going to distribute the money by using part of the money for discretionary purposes and some for direct allocation. Mr. Bochum stated that San Luis Obispo Transit submitted two applications for the STA funds; one for an Evening Service Extension Program and another one for a Bus Rapid Transit Program. He stated that the Evening Service Extension Program would expand Routes 6A, 6B and Route 4 evening service to 10:00 p.m. Route 4 schedule expansion would help employees who work downtown by extending service in the evenings. Mr. Bochum also stated that they would re-evaluate Routes 7 and 8 because they are continually underperforming. He also stated that with the evening service extension, SLORTA would then need to extend ADA compliant. This would mean that costs would include the Runabout service extension to coincide with later evening fixed route.

Mr. Bochum then explained the second application, the Bus Rapid Transit Pilot Program. He stated that this program would advance the bus system and allow for a bus to communicate with traffic signals to allow it to pass through an intersection by extending the green light. This system would allow a green light to be longer so that the bus could get through and not be stopped by red lights. He then stated that this system would require new traffic signal equipment and retrofit of preemption security devices. This program could be expandable to RTA and other countywide systems. Mr. Bochum stated that if SLOCOG partially funded the application, the City would only implement the project on a selected number of streets.

Motion made by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Ms. Gould-Wells, to support the applications for the STA funds for an Evening Service Extension Program and Bus Rapid Transit Pilot Program. The motion passed unanimously.

D. INFORMATION ITEMS:

D1. Transit Manager's Report

Mr. Bochum stated that the application period for Transit Manager position has closed and he feels that there are many qualified in the candidate pool. Mr. Bochum then discussed the Unmet Transit Needs public hearing that will be held on February 7, 2007. He discussed the Proposition 1B funding, stated that the government has decided to take

money from transit funds and put it into programs to aid school buses. The Prop 1B money is needed for purchasing new buses for San Luis Obispo Transit. Mr. Bochum announced that the Federal Transit Administration Grants have been completed and turned in. In addition to that, the CARB Compliance and Financial Burden Waiver have been completed. Mr. Bochum updated MTC on the up and coming purchase of a trolley from Arizona. The trolley is refurbished and will be CARB compliant once the tanks are changed. City Council has kicked off the financial goals and held a public meeting on January 10, 2007. The goal setting workshop is scheduled for January 27, 2007. Mr. Bochum reminded MTC members to review the FY 2006/07 regular meeting schedule and to note the dates.

E. MEMBER'S COMMENTS:

Ms. Knox stated that she appreciated Emily Avery and Denise Martinez participating in the MTC and hope that they reapply for the committee.

Ms. Martinez thanked San Luis Obispo Transit for the Route 5 service change hand out but suggested that in the future to make it bold for the visually impaired. She also said that she has a hard time reading the Rider Alerts and to make those bigger as well.

Mr. Doyle suggested inserting a sentence at the bottom of the hand outs and Rider Alerts, saying for a larger print copy please call First Transit.

The meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m. to the next regular meeting on March 4, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Sabrina Haggie
Temporary Recording Secretary