



PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION BOARD

July 28, 2015

7:00 p.m.

The George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043

AGENDA

1. Approval of the May 23, 2015 Minutes Ron Hartman
2. Presentation- Bus Rapid Transit Planning Study Update..... David Cookson
3. AnnouncementsRon Hartman
4. Public CommentsRon Hartman
5. Regional Transit Agency- Financial Update John Powell
6. Board Discussion Ron Hartman
7. New BusinessRon Hartman
8. AdjournmentRon Hartman

Future Projected PTB Meetings Dates

September 22, 2015

October 27, 2015

For confirmation, please call the Office of Transportation at 410-313-3130.



PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION BOARD MINUTES

July 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Ron Hartman, Chair
Jason Quan, Vice-Chair
Astamay Curtis
Hector Garcia
Alice Giles
Earl Armiger

Staff Present: John Powell, Executive Secretary
John Ainsley, Recording Secretary

Excused: Larry Schoen

Approval of the May 26, 2015, Minutes

- The Minutes were approved by a vote of 6-0. Mr. Armiger abstained from this month's vote.
- Mr. Earl Armiger has joined the PTB as a newly appointed board member.

Presentation- Bus Rapid Transit

- Chris Eatough and David Cookson presented a presentation of Bus Rapid Transit and addressed questions from both the Board and the public regarding the BRT study presentation.
- In summary: Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is a high-quality bus-based transit system that delivers fast, comfortable, and cost-effective services at metro/high capacity fixed rail -level capacities. It does this through the provision of dedicated lanes, with bus ways and iconic stations typically aligned to the center of the road, off-board fare collection, and fast and frequent operations. For more details regarding BRT, please view the presentation online on the Howard County Website.
http://www.howardcountymd.gov/Public_Transportation_Board.htm

Announcements

- Mr. Powell thanked Council Chair Mary Kay Sigaty and Delegate Eric Ebersole for attending the PTB meeting and appreciated their support in the future of Transportation in Howard County.
- Mr. Powell advised that the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) will be having meetings in October promoting their long range transportation plan- Maximize 2040. The BMC is planning to hold a workshop in Howard County and would like to present this plan at the next PTB meeting in October. Mr. Hartman welcomed the BMC presentation and advised that it will be included on next month's PTB agenda, in September.
- Mr. Powell informed the PTB that the Electric Bus Project contract has been awarded to the BYD Company. BYD is a bus manufacturer that has considerable experience in the building of electric buses in the U.S. Expected delivery of the three new buses will be in March 2016. The Mall in Columbia has agreed to allow the Inductive Charging Unit to be installed on their property at that location.
- Mr. Powell stated that the current Bus Hub at the Columbia Mall may soon be moving due to the Sears property recently being sold for development.
- Mr. Powell stated that the Bike Howard Plan is complete and has been forwarded to the Administration. Once the plan has been approved by the Planning Board and County Council, it will help in obtaining funding and grants to fulfill the goals of the plan.

Public Comments

- There were not public comments.

Regional Transit Agency- Financial Update

- Mr. Powell informed the Regional Transit Agency's current Preliminary Profit and Loss Statement indicated the RTA is currently under budget (\$19,000). The excess budget will be held in reserve to address future over runs and expenses. Current Revenues are down due to a lower ridership in the region. Both WMATA and MTA have been experiencing approximately 10% less ridership in the past few months.

New Business

- There is no current new business.
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Adjournment

- Mr. Hartman adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm. The next Public Transportation Board meeting is scheduled for **September 15, 2015 at 7:00 pm.**



John Powell
Executive Secretary

8/20/15

Date



John Ainsley
Recording Secretary

8/20/15

Date