

Approved minutes for February 13th, 2008
approved may 14, 2008

**CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
MASS TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2008
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER:

Acting Chair D. Gregg Doyle called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m., after the Committee reached a quorum.

ROLL CALL

Present: D. Gregg Doyle, Susan Rains, Margaret Crockett, Tracy Amundson and Christine Batteate

Absent: Denise Martinez, Jean Knox and Kathy Howard

Staff: John Webster, Tim Bochum

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this time.

A. CONSENT ITEMS

A-1 Approval November 7, 2007 Meeting Minutes

A-2 Approval January 9, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Rains moved to approve the minutes as submitted.

Ms. Crockett seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no items.

C. ACTION ITEMS

C-1 Ramona Drive Service Issues

Mr. Webster distributed copies of emails received regarding the Ramona Dr. discussion that came in after the Agenda package had been delivered.

Mr. Bochum discussed the update on re-routing of the buses back to Foothill Blvd. and reported that staff was pursuing possibilities of working with the property owner at 330 Foothill to address the insufficient turning radius. He stated the property owner was amendable to dedicating the property to re-configure the corner to accommodate a better turning radius.

Mr. Bochum also discussed the new start-up concept for the CIP. He mentioned they could also work with the property owner in their private development plans. He felt a property plan should be finalized and approved by early March. He suggested the private development project would be completed faster than a City-generated one and that the earliest the proposal could go to Council would be the second meeting in March.

Suggestions to address concerns in the meantime included re-routing buses to Foothill Blvd. during non-peak runs and the evening, which would eliminate an average of 10 runs/days. He also discussed red-curbing the Del Mar intersection.

He concluded with staff recommendations:

1. Recommend that Council consider creating a capital improvement project to improve the southwest corner of the Foothill/Tassajara intersection for ADA and transit passage.
2. Maintain transit routes along Ramona Street between La Entrada and Tassajara during day time with evening service routes (after 6:00 p.m.) routed back to Tassajara.

Approved minutes for February 13th, 2008
approved may 14, 2008

3. Implement final route changes or intersection improvement project based upon recommendations of the Short Range Transit Plan.

Mr. Doyle determined that early and mid-morning travel is heavy and taking any buses off at the beginning of the day would not be feasible.

Ms. Crockett suggested the possibility of removing buses from Ramona routes on weekends.

Kim Blakeman noted that when bikes were loaded on the front of the bus, it added five feet in length which would affect the viability of re-striping success on Tassajara. He felt that time issues were not as pressing on weekends and buses could be moved back to Foothill/Tassajara.

Michelle Mason, 1137 Laurel, felt that rider alert issues, such as moved routes and canceled stops, created problems for consistency.

Jennifer Allen-Barker, 120 Cerro Romauldo, noted there were large quantities of riders left behind on these routes.

Diana Schmitt, 305 Ramona, did not favor red-curbing Ramona because she would lose too many parking spaces. She noted tight passing zones were created on the entire street. She suggested re-striping the stop line further back on Tassajara to allow a better turn radius. She did not want buses traveling on Ramona and objected to the current re-routing.

Betsy Schwartz, 282 Ramona, agreed with Ms. Schmitt's comments and suggested that students could walk the extra block or so to Foothill in order to keep the buses off Ramona. She felt the current routing on Ramona was a mistake that needed to be fixed.

There was general Committee discussion on the red-curbing and re-striping suggestions presented, as well as the narrowing of the lane on Tassajara.

Mr. Blakeman felt that re-striping Tassajara would create non-compliance issues.

The Committee agreed that staff should examine having the buses routed off of Ramona to Tassajara on weekends, as well as after 6 p.m. on weekdays.

Ms. Crockett moved to accept the staff recommendations as presented, amending Recommendation #2 to include examining taking buses off Ramona on weekends as

Approved minutes for February 13th, 2008
approved may 14, 2008

as well.

Ms. Rains seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Schmitt had a question concerning the timeline for the route changes and Mr. Bochum responded probably late March to coincide with Cal Poly spring break.

D. INFORMATION ITEMS

D-1 Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) Presentation

The presentation was made by Stuart Geltman, David Sampson, and Will Calves, Urbitran representatives.

Topics discussed included:

- Socio-Economic/Land Use Characteristics
- Transit Baseline
- Public Outreach
- On Board Surveys
- Peer Analysis/Trends (pending)
- Service Evaluation (pending)

Overall, they noted that ridership had increased 32% (mostly students) and that the City's service rating was high, but on-time performance could be improved. They agreed to bring back more complete analysis and recommendations at a later date.

Lisa Quinn from SLO Regional Rideshare gave a status update for the Gold Pass Marketing RFP, which included 511 traveler info and regional agency coordination.

Ms. Batteate had comments regarding overcrowded buses with some students being left behind, on time performance and student swipe card problems, Urbitran staff indicated these issues are being studied as part of the update.

Ms. Schmitt asked the timeline for public comment for final route changes with the SRTP.

Approved minutes for February 13th, 2008
approved may 14, 2008

Urbitran staff indicated an administrative draft would be available in March and then a Public Workshop would be set to review the draft in late April or early May.

Mr. Doyle indicated after Public comment the plan would go to Council for approval.

E. MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no Committee member comments.

Tim Bochum thanked the MTC members for changing their schedules in order to attend. He also introduced the new Transportation Assistant, Dee Lawson.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. to the Wednesday, March 12, 2008 2:30 p.m. regular meeting, with location TBD.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Woske, Recording Secretary