

AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Austin Central Library

710 W Cesar Chavez St, Austin, TX 78701

~ Minutes ~

Board Secretary Casey Burack
512-369-6040

Wednesday, May 18, 2022
2:00 PM

2:18 PM Meeting Called to Order
4:38 PM Meeting Adjourned

I. Public Comment

There was no public comment at this meeting.

II. Technical Advisory Committee Reports

ATP Board Chair, Veronica Castro de Barrera, provided the May Engineering, Architecture & Construction Committee (EAC) report. The agenda items were:

- Capitol View Corridor Analysis
- Blue Line Bridge Update
- Pleasant Valley / E. Riverside Design Options Review

ATP Board Member, Tony Elkins, updated the Board on the May meeting of the Finance & Risk Committee (FAR). The agenda items were:

- FY21 Audited Financial Statements
- FY22 First Quarter Performance Report
- Meet ATP's New Internal Auditor & Discussion of Draft Audit Charter
- Project Connect Cost and Status Updates
- ATP Leadership Analysis Update
- Ernst & Young Scope of Work and Progress

III. Executive Director Report

Executive Director, Greg Canally, announced that Diane Siler had been named Interim Chief Financial Officer. Additionally, ATP has launched the development of an independent cost estimate with Ernst & Young. Executive Director Canally discussed ways to foster communication among the Board, staff, partner agencies, and stakeholders.

Responding to a request from Board Member Elkins, Mr. Canally agreed to look at the number and frequency of reports going to the Board. Board Member Elkins highlighted the importance of a detailed list of program risks. He emphasized the importance of conversations with the Board starting earlier, rather than when staff has already fully developed a recommendation.

Mayor Adler added that providing materials in advance allows Board Members more time to review, making presentations with text read verbatim unnecessary. He also stated the importance of cost conversations as soon as possible and then bringing them to the community to prevent any surprises.

IV. Monthly Program Update

1. Monthly Community Engagement Update

Jackie Nirenberg, Director of Community Engagement, mentioned that the three-month Community Engagement look-ahead and the participation numbers for each meeting over the previous month are in the backup materials posted online. Ms. Nirenberg focused on the feedback themes from earlier meetings at the board members' requests.

Board Member Stratton asked if the Community Engagement team mentioned CapMetro services and programs operating in concurrence with the light rail lines. Ms. Nirenberg explained that the public sees the immense value in both to increase capacity for all.

Ex-Officio Board Member, Gina Fiandaca, congratulated the team for reaching such a broad audience.

Board Chair Castro de Barrera thanked the Community Engagement team for providing access to the Spanish-language community through translation services and allowing conversations in multiple languages.

2. Technical Program Update

John Rhone, Deputy Program Officer, and Jen Pyne, Senior Director of Project Controls for Risk and Federal Processes, provided this update.

Board Member Elkins asked for a more detailed technical program look ahead. He would also like to know if a date has changed and why each month.

Mr. Rhone mentioned that an independent cost estimate is in process and that the team continues to work through the 30% design comments for the Orange Line. Mr. Rhone highlighted the partnership with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the feedback they provided.

Board Chair Castro de Barrera brought up an email about the Crestview Station and the feasibility of routing the cars under the trains rather than the current plan to route the light rail under the vehicles. Mr. Rhone explained that it had been studied but did not seem like a good fit because it limits access to the roadway if it's below surface level.

Board Member Elkins requested an update on the right-of-way acquisition process by the end of the year.

V. Action Items

1. Approval of minutes from the April 20 Austin Transit Partnership Board Meetings.
RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Elkins
SECONDER: Adler
AYES: Castro de Barrera, Stratton, Elkins, Adler
ABSENT: Pierce Burnette
2. Approval of a resolution adopting Articles of Amendment to the Austin Transit Partnership Articles of Incorporation to reflect amendments approved by the Capital Metro Board of Directors on April 25, 2022 and by the Austin City Council on May 5, 2022
RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Adler
SECONDER: Stratton
AYES: Castro de Barrera, Stratton, Elkins, Adler
ABSENT: Pierce Burnette

VI. Discussion Items

1. Briefing on ATP Audit Charter

Katie Houston, ATP's Director of Internal Audit, provided this update.

Ms. Houston explained that the Audit Charter provides a framework for how the audit department will function and what services the department will deliver.

Board Member Stratton asked Ms. Houston to clarify how her position functions directly with the Board and ATP's annual audit. Ms. Houston responded and emphasized her focus on process improvement and performance auditing, in addition to compliance.

2. Discussion of upcoming interlocal grant agreements with the City of Austin and CapMetro to implement Project Connect.

Brandon Carr, ATP Deputy Counsel, provided this update with introductory remarks from Executive Director Canally and General Counsel, Casey Burack.

Executive Director Canally walked the board through the foundational documents, which are the backdrop for the Interlocal Agreements (ILA). Ms. Burack discussed the connection between the Joint Powers Agreement and the ILAs.

Board Member Stratton asked about the location of the governing documents, and staff explained the website pathway and promised to move them to a more accessible location.

Mr. Carr presented the ILAs coming to the board for a vote over the next few months and information on the development process.

VII. Adjournment

ADA Compliance

Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications are provided upon request. Please call (512) 369-6040 or email chloe.maxwell@austintransitpartnership.org if you need more information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: *Veronica Castro de Barrera, Chair; Colette Pierce Burnette, Vice Chair; Steve Adler, Tony Elkins, Eric Stratton and Gina Fiandaca (ex officio).*

The Board of Directors may go into closed session under the Texas Open Meetings Act. In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, consultation with attorney for any legal issues, under Section 551.072 for real property issues; under Section 551.074 for personnel matters, or under Section 551.076, for deliberation regarding the deployment or implementation of security personnel or devices; arising regarding any item listed on this agenda.