

AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Rosa Parks Board Room
2910 E. 5th St. Austin, TX 78702

~ Minutes ~

Board Secretary Casey Burack
512-369-6040

Wednesday, November 17, 2021
2:00 PM

2:10 PM Meeting Called to Order
6:01 PM Meeting Adjourned

I. Public Comment

There was no public comment at this meeting.

II. Technical Advisory Committee Update

The Engineering, Architecture, and Construction Committee (EAC) discussed the Orange Line tunnel under Lady Bird Lake and Light Rail vehicles. The Committee discussed concerns about electric wires and continued discussions with the Austin Fire Department, and they also discussed the extensive utility conflicts downtown.

The Planning, Sustainability, Equity, and DBE Committee (PSEC) discussed engaging priority communities and the Blue Line Design Workshop. They suggested additional priority communities such as students and adolescents, single parents, those experiencing homelessness, and working directly with AISD.

The Finance and Risk Committee (FAR) discussed risk, specifically, how it and ATP will look at risk, how we mitigate it, and the owner of each risk. The risks mentioned included community engagement and transparency, price escalation, right-of-way acquisition, real estate prices, federal reimbursement, interest rates, and a continued labor shortage. The FAR also discussed the ATP Investment Policy, upcoming procurements, and the continued search for an Internal Auditor. Additionally, they requested a presentation on the anti-displacement funds at a future meeting.

III. Executive Director Report

Austin Transit Partnership Executive Director, Randy Clarke, provided this update.

Mr. Clarke updated the Board on Capital Metro projects that were on hold, and through continued work with CAMPO, now have funding. He also provided updates on the November APTA meeting in Orlando, FL, where the team secured a meeting with FTA Administrator Nuria Fernandez.

Erika Mazza, Capital Metro Vice President of Governmental Affairs, joined Mr. Clarke for the second half of the Executive Director Report.

Ms. Mazza discussed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that Congress passed in November.

II. Monthly Program Update

1. *Community Engagement Update*

Director of Community Involvement, Jackie Nirenberg, gave this report.

Ms. Nirenberg discussed the North Lamar Transit Center Design Workshop, and particularly, the comments made by the participants. There was concern over safety, noise, access, accessibility, and amenities. Regarding the upcoming Drag Workshop, she discussed ways the team plans to engage students.

2. *Project Connect Technical Update*

Dave Couch, Chief Program Officer, discussed continued progress with the underground stations.

Mr. Couch informed the Board that they are refining the layouts, what will go in the stations, such as the mechanical and electrical equipment, and additional steps in the NEPA process.

3. *Administrative Program Update*

ATP Director of Strategy, Sam Sargent, delivered this report.

Mr. Sargent provided an update on the Joint Powers Agreement.

III. Action Items

1. Approval of minutes from the October 20, 2021 Austin Transit Partnership Board Meetings.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Adler

SECONDER: Stratton

AYES: Castro de Barrera, Adler, Stratton, Elkins, Pierce Burnette

ABSENT:

2. Authorize negotiation and execution of JPA with CMTA and the City of Austin

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Pierce Burnette

SECONDER: Elkins

AYES: Castro de Barrera, Adler, Stratton, Elkins, Pierce Burnette

ABSENT:

Board Member Elkins offered a friendly amendment directing Chair Castro de Barrera to work directly with ATP General Counsel to conduct an independent analysis to determine the appropriate leadership model for ATP, which was adopted unanimously.

III. Discussion Items

1. Briefing on ATP's Investment Policy

Bryan Rivera, ATP Treasurer, provided this update.

Mr. Rivera discussed the Treasury Office functions, specifically cash management, debt management, and investment management.

Board Member Elkins asked for more information on where we have our cash to pick up yields and respond to underwriting requests. Dr. Burnette asked how we ensure that our investments are in line with the values of ATP. Mr. Rivera explained we could only make very secure investments such as U.S. Treasuries, municipal bonds, or municipal securities.

2. Briefing on Records Management Policy and Records Management Officer Appointment

Brandon Carr, Deputy Counsel, provided this update.

Mr. Carr explained that ATP must adopt a records management policy under the Local Government Code before the end of the year. The policy creates a way for ATP to manage the creation, distribution, organization, and disposition of all records efficiently and effectively.

3. Community Design Workshop Update

Peter Mullan, Chief of Architecture, provided this update.

Mr. Mullan discussed the results of the Blue Line Bridge Design Workshop and the opportunity to use infrastructure to stitch the community together.

Board Member Stratton asked about the status of the boathouse that the Blue Line will impact. Mr. Mullan walked through the work ATP is doing with the Austin Parks Department to find a new location for the boathouse. They're also co-hosting a meeting with the rowing club in the next few weeks. Board Member Elkins asked Mr. Mullan to explain the process for incorporating the Waller Creek designs into our plans, financial ramifications, and if cost is a factor in the design competition. Mr. Mullan explained that cost would contribute to the design chosen.

V. 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.