

Minutes

RTA Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

9:56 a.m. August 6, 2019

Committee: Welo (Chair), Lucas (Vice Chair), Byrne, Moss

Other Board members: Bibb, Clough, McCall

Not present: Joyce, Serrano

Also Present: Anderson, Astolfi, Bencs, Bitto, Burney, Caver, Ciesla, Cranford, Dangelo, Draper, Feliciano, Ferraro, Fields, Garofoli, Gibbons, Gillan-Shafron, Gray, Haer, Hershman, Jaszczak, Johnson, Jones, Kirkland, Laule, Lewis, Lincoln, Loh, Macko, Mills, Montgomery, Penning, Pinkney-Butts, Richardson, Rusnov, Schipper, Scruggs, Sims, Stocking, Sutula, Tarka, Togher, Tucker, Uhas, Wilson, Winn, Woodford, Young, Zeller

Mayor Welo called the meeting to order at 9:56 a.m. The secretary called the roll and reported that four (4) committee members were present.

Downtown Cleveland Alliance Discount Fare Program

Steve Bitto, executive director of marketing & communications, made the presentation. This is a program that was previously offered in 2016. It was realized that the GM didn't have the authority to offer the discount so the program was suspended. The board will be asked to authorize to reinstate the program. The DCA is active in maintaining downtown Cleveland as the largest employment center in the region. They are also cultivating the district into a neighborhood with the goal to attract 20,000 residents by the year 2020 and adding more to the entertainment district. They are doing this by facilitating smart development of space, developing and promoting activities in downtown, strengthening amenities to include added shopping, entertainment, transportation and to establish and maintain a safe and clean neighborhood.

The DCA ambassadors maintain the streetscape downtown by cleaning, power washing the sidewalks, cleaning up litter and providing added security with foot patrol, cycle and mobile. They serve as an on-street concierge service. They are on the street to engage with residents and visitors. They have expanded the zones they operator over the last few years included Gordon Square, Ohio City, Little Italy, Superior Arts District, University Circle, Shaker Square and Van Aken. DCA has been very supportive of RTA and vice versa. DCA executive director Joe Marinucci was instrumental in creating the downtown trolley network in 2006. They have also supported the planning, design and construction of the HealthLine. They encourage member participation in Commuter Advantage and is an engaged advocate for increased transit funding providing letters of support for grant applications.

The discount fare program will provide up to 75 monthly passes at a 50% discount off the effective retail price for members of the DCA's Safe and Clean Ambassador program. In return, they will continue to provide on-street concierge service and will continue to provide customer service on the street, continue to provide daily updates to their command center, continue to have the opportunity to participate in their quarterly staff meetings, and continue to participate in the new ambassador orientation program. New duties include ambassadors being on the platform at Tower City to complement Transit Police to ensure students get to the train safely, to participate in the Mystery Shopper Program and to provide timely updates related to the condition of transit assets in the right a way.

Staff recommends that the Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee recommend to the Board of Trustees, authorizing the Interim General Manager to enter into a Discount Fare Program with Downtown Cleveland Alliance. Mayor Welo added that RTA works well with others.

It was moved by Ms. Moss, seconded by Mayor Byrne to move this to the full board meeting.

Medina County Agreement

Craig Wiehe, cash manager, made the presentation. This agreement is done annually. The history of this is that since 1988 RTA has exchanged operating funds for capital funds for the City of Brunswick because they don't have enough capital projects to use the money. Medina County Public Transit (MCPT) began absorbing the City of Brunswick's service in 2014. The merger was completed in 2016. There was an agreement from 2016-2018 with Medina to give them Brunswick's funds. Now Medina is a designated recipient of grants so now the agreement is just with Medina. FTA has approved this process every year of the agreement. RTA will apply for Medina County Public grant funds and then transfer the operating money to them in exchange for the capital money less \$54,000 for paying a portion of the Route 251 flyer. The reason being MCPT does not have enough capital projects to utilize all the funds and is in need of operating funds.

The breakdown is \$681,047. Section 5339 is bus discretionary funds and Section 5307 is the urbanized area formula funds:

- o 2018 Section 5339 funds \$17,941
- o 2019 Section 5339 funds \$88,553
- o 2018 Section 5307 funds \$39,782
- o 2019 Section 5307 funds \$534,771

Staff requests that the Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee recommend this provision to the Board of Trustees for approval. If this is not approved the unused grant funds could be reallocated outside the Cleveland Urbanized Area. If this is not approved, the unused grant funds could be reallocated outside of the Cleveland urbanized area.

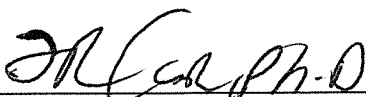
It was moved by Mayor Byrne, seconded by Rev. Lucas and approved to move to the full Board.

Executive Session Requested

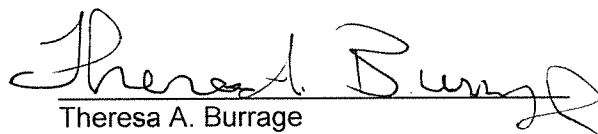
10:09 a.m. - Mayor Welo asked for a motion to go into executive session to consider a matter that is required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes. It was moved by Ms. Moss, seconded by Rev. Lucas. There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. All board members were invited to attend. The meeting will continue when they come out. Chief McCall recused herself from joining the executive session.

10:23 a.m. - Mayor Welo asked for a motion to come out of executive session. It was moved by Ms. Moss, seconded by Mayor Byrne. There were four (4) ayes and none opposed.

Mayor Welo adjourned the meeting at 10:24 a.m.



Floun'say R. Caver, Ph.D., Interim CEO
General Manager/Secretary/Treasurer



Theresa A. Burrage
Executive Secretary