

## **Meeting Minutes – Draft**

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 3, 2018; 1:30PM-3:30PM

---

### **1. PAC Business and Minutes**

Roll call was taken. Jessica Meaney, KeAndra Dodds, Malcolm Harris, Hilary Norton, William Osgood, David Feinberg, Paul-Albert Marquez, Robert So, Cesar Hernandez, Angela Driscoll, Seleta Reynolds, Mark Christoffels, John Bwarie, Jacki Bacharach, Steve Lantz, Cecilia Estolano, Hilary Norton, Stephanie Ramirez, and Richard Hernandez were present.

Ms. Meaney and Ms. Bacharach noticed errors in the March 2018 meeting minutes and recommended the following edits: include attendance of meeting participants, include last name for all speakers, and remove language inconsistent with what was discussed. The March meeting minutes were not approved and will be returned to during the next PAC meeting.

### **2. Transit Oriented Communities (TOC) Communities Policy**

#### **Working Committee Update**

Jenna Hornstock, Executive Officer for Transit Oriented Communities, gave an overview of the TOC working group's current work efforts. TOC's are now defined as places that allow people to drive less and access transit more and maximize equitable access to the multi-modal transit network as a key organizing principle of land use and community development. TOC activities include affordable housing, local business assistance, neighborhood amenities grant assistance, land use planning, community engagement, public improvement, and more.

TOC activities define what transportation monies can be spent on under the guides of TOC and are defined as general geographic areas within 0-3 miles of a station. A transportation nexus needs be strong because the TOC policy dictates how transportation monies will be spent. Other major TOC discussion points included land use and community development and affordable housing. Moving forward, an 80% median income level or below will be used in the TOC policy. Ultimately, the TOC policy will cover goals and activities; not implementation and metrics.

On May 9, 2018, ACT-LA will host a Town Hall for the TOC policy and equity framework. On May 16, 2018, the TOC policy group would like to have a receive-and-file report where they introduce the policy report to the Metro board with the intent to have the final policy ready by June.

Ms. Meaney stated she appreciated the model of a working group because it leverages leadership from all around. Laura Raymond, Campaign Director from ACT-LA, noted they were really moved by Metro's TOC policy working group because of its inclusive process that prioritizes the community. Justin Manuel, Community Organizer at Trust South LA and member of the South Central LA community, stated that transit is both helping communities and displacing current residents. He asks that the Metro equity policy acknowledges and supports low-income residents at risk of displacement. David Mosley, Rolland Curtis Gardens Apartment resident and advocate, was displaced. He welcomes the progression of a new

rail but asks that Metro look at how displacement occurs with a new rail station and line. Himelda Alvarez, ELACC and ACT-LA member demonstrated support for the TOC and asks that a 30% Area Median Income (AMI) also be included in the TOC policy because those people too depend on transit Ms. Meaney thanked everyone for their comments and noted public comments are the best way to involve different voices into PAC conversations.

### **Discussion: Key Questions**

Ms. Reynolds asked Ms. Hornstock to further define access, land use, and development. Ms. Hornstock replied that access includes first/last mile, proximity to destinations, events, discounted transit passes, and more. Community development looks at ways that produces, preserves, and protects affordable housing, looks at different policy that protects residents from evictions, and enables small business preservation. Finally, land use focuses on allowing cities to use local return funds for land use and in turn value capture districts use these funds to for infrastructure that improves access to transit. Ms. Reynolds responded that public health should be included with the land use development language and Ms. Hornstock was happy to further discuss what exactly that entailed. The TOC working group will use the California Fair Employment Housing Act's (FEHA) description of protected classes to make language consistent across definitions.

Ms. Delilah Sotelo stated the policy statement does not capture the value that they are trying to add or define because it does not create a strong foundation or vision for the policy. The piece on purpose is so clear and effective that the policy is marred by disparate thoughts. Affordable housing and economic development piece needs to be more clear because a total community is not just housing, transit—it is jobs and small businesses. She also noted that the affordable housing portion set is 80% AIM is highly nuanced and if they can, unless they are targeting the land use authority and entitlement requirements as part of policy, steer away from HCDC statements and look at using HUD as the best guide. Ms. Hornstock responded the HCDC and HUD band definitions will be used. An 80 percent marker or below will be used because the cities and developers need to finance projects and that there is no funding for market-rate units. Finally, she appreciated the nuanced language used to define affordable housing and suggested that if the policy means anti-displacement instead of preservation, the policy language should say exactly that.

Ms. Dodds added that more specificity is great but that anti-displacement and preservation language both need be included. The working group is comfortable supporting affordable housing and directly supporting housing under Metro's policy that looks at broader land use and different types of housing. The hope is to have a finalized draft by May 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **3. Equity Platform: Next Steps**

The Board adopted the Equity Platform on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The platform is not a project or program—it is an approach to infuse equity into all the lines of Metro's business. For instance, the Blue Line First-Last Mile plan will be presented to the Board in April that includes invaluable input and writing by neighborhood organizations. The final goal is to have all major projects reference the equity platform.

Mr. Hernandez asked how the equity platform will be interwoven into other Metro policies and programs and support current efforts by working groups. Ms. McMillan responded that the equity platform brings the existing equity conversations to the forefront of Metro discussions. Ms. Dodds replied that many conversations about equity are usually deferred to the equity platform. Ms. Hornstock responded that the equity platform provides the structure to approaching equity within Metro discussions. Ms. McMillan added that Metro acknowledges that often times they will not have answers to equity and they are willing to work with organizations and the community to obtain the proper response.

Mr. Ramirez asked how equity success is measured and Ms. McMillan responded that definition is still under development and will exist in conjunction with the Long Range Transportation Plan. Ms. Reynolds asked who will keep Metro accountable for their equity platform and Ms. McMillan responded that Metro is trying to cultivate an environment that is transparent and accountable. Metro thus needs to make it simple for the community to keep them accountable.

Mr. Christofells asked if the Blue Line First-Last Mile study was one of many studies conducted given he has subregional monies for projects. Mr. Lieb responded that he is correct and all studies will be tailored to particular regions. A link to the report will be provided.

#### **4. Metro FY 2019 Budget Presentation**

Tim Mengle, Director of Budget from the Office of Management and Budget, presented on Metro's budget. This is the first full-year of Measure M funding. Measure M is an expenditure plan; the Metro budget, however, is a one year plan and Metro makes reasonable assumptions of what they will work on and deliver. The current budget rose 5% to \$6.6 billion and focuses:

- 33% of budget on transit infrastructure, highway, and regional rail
- 28% on transit operations and maintenance
- 20% on subsidy funding programs
- 7% on transit asset and state of good repair
- 12% on deb services (6%), general planning and programs (3%), congestion management (2%), and oversight and administration.

The total revenue assumptions foresee a 1.2 percent growth. The total sales taxes net at \$4 billion and the Transit Development Act (TDA) and SB1 are state-backed sales taxes that provide nearly half of the budget.

Metro is hosting a public engagement and outreach operation budget meeting on Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### **5. NextGen Bus Study Presentation**

An email about the working group's efforts will be sent to the PAC.

#### **6. Long Rang Plan – Orientation & Context Module Outline**

The Long Range Plan discussion was postponed to next session.

## **7. PAC Structure Reform and Approach—introductory discussion**

PAC officers and Metro staff met to evaluate overall PAC participation and attendance. They proposed PAC meetings be held quarterly starting in June and in a space that promotes dialogue. The PAC meetings would serve as more action-based meetings and as a space for Metro staff to run issues or presentations by them. Special meetings could be held accordingly depending on the topic needs. The PAC working group meetings would then be interspaced with more in-depth topical matters. Ms. Dodds added that the TOC working group meeting structure is a great example of what the PAC could resemble. Parking validation, too, should be reconsidered to incentivize attendance.

Ms. Meaney suggested a report could be produced for each quarterly meeting that provides information on meetings. PAC members could then select which meetings to attend and bring experts to meetings provided attendees remain constant. Ms. Norton suggested that meeting attendance could be mandatory and assigned. Ms. Meaney noted the PAC officers would further discuss this matter.

Mr. Harris asked what the process for adding new PAC members entailed. Ms. McMillan responded that the PAC is a two year commitment and new memberships will be revisited in July. Similarly, Ms. Meaney asked for clarification on memberships is needed. If meetings are moving to a quarterly basis, perhaps some of the alternates that do not regularly attend may be swapped.

Ms. Ramirez agreed quarterly meetings are ideal in being most efficient and supportive. She added that an independent seat for organizations working with older individuals is necessary for equity. Ms. Meaney responded that they are deeply considering adding more people.

Mr. Hernandez stated meeting materials should be shared at least two weeks in advance to allow time to conduct their “homework.” And, adding a PAC academy meeting outside the quarterly meetings to prepare would be ideal. The interspaced meeting could also serve as a space for PAC members to learn skills on an issue that enables them to make better informed decisions. Mr. Bwarie added that a forecast of major tasks and discussions with action items from the PAC would be ideal. Finally, Ms. Bacharach noted that PAC activities should be shared with explicit beginnings and endpoints so PAC members know how to best support and see their influence. A copy of one year PAC accomplishments was requested.

Ms. Estolano added that meetings should be efficient and flexible should not all points be discussed within the allocated time. She added it would be helpful to have a Metro point-of-contact to discuss ideas regarding working groups and fixed deadlines to submit comments need be instituted. Ms. Bacharach returned to the conversation about inviting guests and suggested the PAC should tap into the larger network of experts on subject matters even if they cannot attend meetings frequently. Ms. Dodds added that if you have someone you invite, it should be the same person that attends so there is in knowledge. Ms. Meaney said they would further explore the conversation.

## **8. PAC Announcements**

### **Telephone Town Hall**

A telephone town hall will be held on April 4<sup>th</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss the NextGen Bus Study and budget.

### **ATP 2% Working Group**

The Active Transportation working group meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM on the 15<sup>th</sup> floor Mulholland room.

### **Upcoming PAC Academy Course**

The Transit Operation and State of Good repair workshop is scheduled on April 10<sup>th</sup> on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Gateway Conference Room.

### **9. Public Comment**

The next PAC meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2018 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Board Room.