

## *Tuolumne County Transit Agency*

### *August 10, 2016 Meeting Minutes*

The August 10, 2016 meeting of the Tuolumne County Transit Agency (TCTA) meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Chairman Ayala. Also in attendance were: Councilmember Connie Williams, Councilmember George Segarini, Councilmember John Gray, Councilmember Evan Royce; Executive Director Darin Grossi, Diane Bynum, Sr. Administrative Analyst; Tyler Summersett, Sr. Transportation Planner; Alex Padilla, Transportation Planner and Denise Bergamaschi, Administrative Technician.

Also present at today's meeting was Carl Baker representing Caltrans District 10

- 1. Oral communication (15 minutes) to allow the public to speak on any item not on the printed agenda.**

There was no Oral Communication at today's meeting.

#### **Consent Calendar:**

- 2. Approval of the June 8, 2016 Meeting Minutes.**
- 3. Direct staff to continue collecting public input on the proposed schedule changes to meet minimum farebox recovery ratios, schedule a public hearing for the September 14, 2016 Transit Agency meeting, and work with transit partners to bring a revised schedule forward for adoption in September**

*Councilmember Gray moved to approve all items on the Consent Calendar as presented.*

*Councilmember Williams seconded the motion.*

*Councilmember Segarini abstained.*

*Motion approved with a 3-1-0 vote.*

#### **Regular Agenda:**

- 4. Approval of donating a surplus bus to Old Oak Ranch.**

Executive Director Grossi informed Council that staff received a letter from Christopher Kahn, Executive Director of the Old Oak Ranch requesting 2 buses be donated, but that staff is recommending that 1 be donated. He then explained that the Old Oak Ranch serves as a camp and conference center for teaching the California Gold Rush history to schools from the Bay Area and Central Valley. He added that the Ranch provides numerous resources to the community in time of need, offering lodging and meals to those who have been displaced.

Executive Director Grossi also informed Council members that older buses usually go to County auction. However, it is the discretion of the TCTC/TCTA to donate buses to non-profit organizations if they feel it is a worthy cause.

Mr. Khan of Old Oak Ranch approached the podium and added that during the rim fire, there were problems with evacuation and that if the bus had been in possession they could have assisted with evacuations. He also added that once given the bus, they will assist during times of need to the community. He also stated that the Old Oak Ranch would use the bus in the process of moving people around – such as with Foster Programs. He thanked Council for consideration.

Discussion ensued.

*Councilmember Gray moved to approved donating a surplus bus to Old Oak Ranch.*

*Councilmember Segarini seconded the motion.*

*Motion approved with a 4-0 vote.*

**5. Approval of Amendments to the Bus Advertising Policy to include the new contract amounts for advertising space on Tuolumne County Transit vehicles.**

Executive Director Grossi informed Council that the TCTA contracted with Helen Foraker about six months ago to take over the advertising campaign with the Tuolumne County Transit vehicles and that she is doing an excellent job. He added that the program is very successful and that all of the spaces that were available for advertising have been sold. He stated that Ms. Foraker suggested a rate increase based on other counties prices and that staff recommends adoption of a rate increase. He also informed Council that the current rates have been in place for over 10 years.

Councilmember Gray suggested that a date be selected to start the new rates and that it be made public knowledge. With this being said, the following motion was made:

*Councilmember Gray motioned to approve Amendments to the Bus Advertising Policy to include the new contract amounts for advertising space on Tuolumne County Transit vehicles with a starting date of October 1, 2016.*

*Councilmember Williams seconded the motion.*

*Motion approved with a 4-0 vote.*

***At this time, Chairman Ayala moved Item 8 up on the agenda in order that Councilmember Royce would be present for Items 6 and 7.***

**8. Presentation of the new Tuolumne County Transit Agency/Tuolumne County Transportation Council websites**

Sr. Transportation Planner, Tyler Summersett provided a power point presentation of the new websites. He also informed Council that staff contracted with Cole Video in launching the new websites for the TCTA and TCTC. He added that the sites are on the Wix platform which is user friendly allowing staff to post items to the sites themselves.

Discussion ensued.

\*\*\* 3:17 p.m. – at this time, Councilmember Royce arrived. \*\*\*

*There was no public comment on this item nor was there any action required.*

**6. Update on the Law and Justice Center Project and consideration of recommending the County reject bids received to construct the Transit Center or support a funding increase of \$745,639 to the Tuolumne Transit Center Project.**

Executive Director Grossi informed Council that staff is in a position to move forward with the project. He added that Maureen Frank with the County Administrator's Office has been very helpful. He reminded Council that the project came in substantially over the anticipated budget and that staff worked with Councilmembers Gray and Royce to go over the plans to see where costs could be cut. He then went over the bids, contingency costs, plan revisions and furnishings and provided Council with a total figure. Mr. Grossi also added that of the three bids received, 1 has been pulled and there are 2 remaining. He then reminded Council that the Transit Facility came in at \$600,000 *over* budget, while the Road Construction came in at \$500,000 *under* budget. He added that amount was beyond the scope of what the TCTA had. He said that the Board of Supervisors recommended the County work with the TCTA to look for additional funding because that total amount was not that far off. That being said, Mr. Grossi met with the Auditor/Controller, Debi Bautista along with Sr. Administrative Analyst, Diane Bynum and after going over the funding, it was determined that the TCTA can fund the project in full and still have enough to keep the fund going. Mr. Grossi added that staff and the County are ready to move forward with the project. He also informed Council that the TAC and CAC were NOT aware of the additional fund balance however they did give approval to support the fund increase.

At this time, Debi Bautista, Auditor/Controller, approached the podium and explained where the additional funding has come from. She provided a detailed description of how public transit funding is unique and the process of Prop 1B funds and how they work. She concluded with adding that there are ample funds in the account to complete the project.

Discussion ensued.

There was no public comment on this item.

*Councilmember Royce moved to approve supporting the funding increase to the Tuolumne Transit Center Project.*

*Councilmember Gray seconded the motion.*

*Motion approved with a 5-0 vote.*

**7. Adopt Resolution 33-16 allocating \$744,833 in fund balance in the TCTA –Public Transportation Budget Fund to the Tuolumne Transit Center Project.**

Executive Director Grossi explained that this item is authorizing staff to allocate the funds discussed in the prior item to the Tuolumne Transit Center Project.

There was no public comment for this item.

Councilmember Gray moved to approve adopting Resolution 33-16 allocating \$744,833 in fund balance in the TCTA –Public Transportation Budget Fund to the Tuolumne Transit Center Project.

Councilmember Williams seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 5-0 vote.

**8. Reports**

Sr. Transportation Planner, Tyler Summersett, provided an update on the YARTS Services. He informed Council that the service is up over 105% in ridership and that there have been over 2500 trips already this year! He added that Tuolumne County has had the most robust growth of all 4 Gateways!

There being no further items to discuss, this portion of the meeting was adjourned at 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bergamaschi  
Administrative Technician