



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2022

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Rita Scott called the meeting to order at 1:43 P.M.

Board Members

Present:

Roberta Abdul-Salaam
Jim Durrett
William Floyd
Roderick Frierson
Freda Hardage
Russell McMurry¹
Al Pond
Kathryn Powers
Rita Scott
Reginald Snyder
Christopher Tomlinson¹
Thomas Worthy
Rod Mullice

Board Members

Absent:

Robert Ashe III
Stacy Blakley

Staff Members

Present:

Collie Greenwood
Melissa Mullinax
Ralph McKinney
Raj Srinath

¹Russell is Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and Christopher Tomlinson is Executive Director of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA). Per the MARTA Act, both are non-voting members of the Board of Directors.

Luz Borrero
Rhonda Allen
Manjeet Ranu
Peter Andrews
George Wright

Also in Attendance: Justice Leah Ward Sears, Vincent Fort, Sherry Williams, Kirk Talbott, Jonathan Hunt, Colleen Kiernan, Paula Nash, Keri Lee, Colleen Kiernan, Donna DeJesus, Jacqueline Holland, Kenya Hammond, Tyrene Huff

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS (SUBMITTALS VIA TELEPHONE, U.S. MAIL AND IN PERSON)

In person:

Vincent Fort, Sherry Williams

Via email: **[Attached]**

Carl Holt, Jason Lathbury, Barbara Wright-Stephens, Ed Williams, Stephanie Stinson

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes from January 13, 2022

Approval of the January 13, 2022 Board Meeting minutes. On a motion by Board Member Snyder, seconded by Board Member Worthy, the motion passed by a vote of 11 to 0 with 2 abstentions¹ and 13 members present.

4. PLANNING & CAPITAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair Al Pond reported that the Committee met on January 27, 2022 and received the following briefings:

- a. Upcoming A/E Consultant Procurement for Design Services for Clayton County Operations and Maintenance Facility
- b. Research and Analysis Ridership Report

5. OPERATIONS & SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair W. Thomas Worthy reported that the Committee met on January 27, 2022 and approved the following resolutions:

- a. Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for the Procurement of Authority-Wide Landscaping Services, IFB B49479

- b. Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for the Procurement of New and Remanufactured Engines and Overhaul/Repairs, IFB B46989
- c. Resolution Authorizing a Modification in Contractual Authorization for the Payment of Lease Agreements for Radio Antenna Sites, L40123

Approval of Resolutions a, b, and c. On a motion by Board Member Mullice, seconded by Board Member Worthy, the resolution by a vote of 10 to 0 with 2 abstentions¹ and 13 members present.

Committee Chair Pond reported that the Committee received the following briefing:

- d. Key Performance Indicators (Bus Operations)

6. BUSINESS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair Roderick Frierson reported that the Committee met on January 27, 2022 and approved the following resolutions:

- a. Resolution Authorizing the Commitment of Local Funding Related to Certain Atlanta Regional Commission TIP Project Grant
- b. Resolution Authorizing the Solicitation of Proposals for the Procurement of Investment Advisory Services, RFP P50072

Approval of a and b. On a motion by Board Member Mullice, seconded by Board Member Snyder, the resolution passed by a vote of 10 to 0 with 2 abstentions¹ and 13 members present.

Committee Chair Frierson reported that the Committee received the following briefing:

- c. D&I - EEO

7. RESOLUTION

Resolution Authorizing the Solicitation of Proposals for the Procurement of I-285 Top End BRT Planning Study, RFP P50012

Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Solicitation of Proposals for the Procurement of I-285 Top End BRT Planning Study, RFP P50012. On a motion by Board Member Mullice, seconded by Board Member Frierson, the resolution passed by a vote of 11 to 0 with 2 abstentions¹ and 13 members present.

8. OTHER MATTERS

None

9. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Board meeting adjourned at 1:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tyrene L. Huff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Tyrene L. Huff
Assistant Secretary to the Board

YouTube: https://youtu.be/R_xY_5qG6w4

February 10, 2022 Board Meeting Public Comments
Received via (404) 848-6000, marta.board@itsmarta.com, public@itsmarta.com

Summary: Five customers provided public comments

5 – E-mails

0 – Voice Messages

1.) Message Date: February 9, 2022 9:26 a.m. (via marta.board@itsmarta.com)

Carl Holt

Cqholt@gmail.com

City of Atlanta MARTA Board Representatives,

On 2/8/2022, 4 City of Atlanta Councilmembers hosted a Town Hall meeting on the above referenced project. There were a lot of objections against BRT, but most of the negative comments were about development and not about the transit mode itself. I have full faith and trust that the gold-standard, center running BRT is the best choice for Campbellton Rd. It offers similar trip times to LRT, more dedicated lanes (more reliability), more sidewalks, more bike lanes, and can have the same economic development impact that LRT would offer. Center running BRT is significantly lower costs to build and operate.

What needs to be discussed going forward is how the \$200M in savings will be invested in Southwest Atlanta.

Attached is the project list approved by Atlanta City Council. Which projects on this list can the \$200M in savings fund that will benefit Southwest Atlanta. Let's keep the savings in Southwest Atlanta and expand transit enhancements in the community.

Thank you and stay safe,

Carl Holt, GISP

2.) Message Date: February 9, 2022 11:20 a.m. (via Marta.board@itsmarta.com)

Jason Lathbury

Jasonlathbury1@gmail.com

To the Members of the MARTA Board,

I regret that this is an email that I feel needs writing, but it has become abundantly clear that many are willing, even eager, to forget the context of the Campbellton LRT line as it was originally intended, and funded.

The city identified Campbellton for rail as far back as the 2008 Connect Atlanta plan, and then reiterated that in the 2014 & 2015 Streetcar & Light Rail plans as part of a larger network of rail across the city. When projects were selected to potentially get funding for the 2016 More MARTA vote, that rail plan was included. When the project list was prioritized in 2018 (the first time this fight occurred), rail was once again explicitly chosen to receive funding in the corridor, with previously allocated BRT funds getting reassigned to other rail projects. Even as other rail

corridors (like Summerhill and North Ave) were accepted as BRT, Campbellton was explicitly maintained as rail along with an effort to expand the BeltLine rail implementation. Per the 2018 decision, the Campbellton Rd Corridor was to tie into those other More MARTA rail projects, mainly the BeltLine, which would eventually enable continuous service from Greenbriar up onto the BeltLine and to other parts of the network. BRT does not have that option of direct connection, and would, in fact, create a weird situation of extra transfers and potential gaps between rail routes.

Additionally, the logical extensions of such a BRT route is limited in how much can be funded via the 'savings' from More MARTA.

All of this is to say that, while I do like BRT, and think it has an amazing future in the City and Metro, I hate the idea of using it as a replacement for rail. Particularly in corridors that have been designated as such for so long, and which are part of much larger plans. The modes are not directly interchangeable, and there are service impacts from deciding to change.

I do ask that MARTA take time to reexamine aspects of its planning in this corridor:

- How would a direct continuation onto the BeltLine affect future ridership?
- How can direct-revenue TOD be leveraged to help fund transit, and what is the comparative developmental potential for LRT vs. BRT?
- How many of the streetscaping costs, for either mode, can be shifted to the City of Atlanta for creating their own complete street?

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jason Lathbury
Metro Atlanta Transit Advocate

3.) Message Date: February 9, 2022

10:31 p.m. (via marta.board@itsmarta.com)

Barbara Wright-Stephens

barbarastephens079@gmail.com

we need light rail in the city of south fulton
A concerned citizen.

4.) Message Date: February 10, 2022

8:54 a.m. (via marta.board@itsmarta.com
& public@itsmarta.com)

Dr. Ed Williams

truthcrushtheearth@gmail.com

My Name is Ed Williams, I am the chair of the group Concerned Citizens for Effective Government.

I want to start out by stating we need better oversight over planning and spending. It seems that MARTA is confused about what it is going to do with Campbellton road first it was light rail, then streetcars, and now BRT. In Clayton County, MARTA had promised heavy rail now MARTA is talking about BRT instead. What is really going on?

The mission of MARTA is to advocate and provide safe, multimodal transit services that advance prosperity, connectivity, and equity for a more livable region. Taking people where they want to go today and tomorrow.

There is a serious disconnect between governance and customer service. This needs to change.

The board has abdicated its primary responsibility to represent the interests of the riders equally throughout the system.

We seem to be living in a world today where incompetence is rewarded and those who know better are silent. What is the need for the board if MARTA seems to do whatever the contractors want it to do? And where, the law department continues to provide bad legal advice and fails to serve the interests of the riders and adhere to the rule of law. Instead, they seem to interpret the law in a manner that defies the basic principles of comprehension and logic.

The board has a fundamental responsibility of oversight, governance, and accountability through its power to adopt resolutions and rules that apply to the employees, and the county residents.

The board should include in its decision-making, planning, discussions, and appointments a cross-section of residents from throughout the county.

Whenever a decision has to be made by the board the first question should be, is it fair, and has the stakeholders had an opportunity to be heard? Have the stakeholders and principals been included in the decision-making process, and is it in the best interest of riders and taxpayers. The board should not allow unelected bureaucrats to determine policy in which the board is empowered to make.

The board has the power to request reports from each of the departments to monitor services and outcomes and hold a hearing on specific matters that are specific to your role as an administrative board. The riders and taxpayers expect the CEO and commission to follow the law, to be proactive and solve problems, and to be competent and diligent in the performance of your duties.

The board should maintain its independence and it should hold all management teams responsive to the needs of the residents. The commission should ask the tough questions of the CEO and demand better alternatives from all the advisors and counsel. Don't just accept the first answer, get a second opinion.

I support the board when you follow the law and you perform your duties as authorized under the law. I will not support those things that violate the law and are not in the interest of the people. Citizens have a right to know what their government is doing at all times and to participate. The law should not be used to silence the people and the board should seek to resolve issues without the arrogant attitude of a bully.

I have made several efforts to expose the inequities using the “see something and say something” approach and warn the board. Today, I ask the board not to remain silent. Will you be the voice who says enough, and stand up and represent all the riders and taxpayers?

Thank You

5.) Message Date: February 10, 2022

11:27 a.m.(via marta.board@itsmarta.com)

Stephanie Stinson

Stephanie.stinson36@gmail.com

I am a native of SW Atlanta and absolutely love my city. I have seen this area go from a thriving community with restaurants and car dealerships and local businesses to a discouraging skeleton of what use to be. However, my pride for what my community use to be is deeply connected to what my community can return to be- A Proud and Thriving community. I am writing to request MARTA do as promised and invest in Light Rail Transit (LRT) on Campbellton Rd. I hope to meet you at the upcoming meeting on Feb. 17,2022 .

Stephanie Stinson
