



GRTA BOARD MEETING

Minutes

January 8, 2003

All notice having been duly given, the regular meeting of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority Board/Governor's Development Council Board was held at 245 Peachtree Center Avenue, Suite 900, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-1223.

MEMBERS PRESENT*:

Walter Deriso, Chair
Andrella Baylis
Steven Bruning
Sharon Gay
Eric Hovdesven
Shi Shailendra
John Sibley
Ken Thigpen
Michael Tyler

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tim Connolly
James Stephenson
Richard Tucker
Carolyn Williams
John Williams

*A quorum was present.

The Board Chairman Sonny Deriso welcomed the Board members and visitors and convened the meeting at 1:00pm.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Mr. Thigpen and seconded by Ms. Baylis to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2002 meeting. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA FOR JANUARY 8, 2003

Motion was made by Mr. Tyler and seconded by Ms. Baylis to approve the agenda of the January 8, 2003 meeting. The meeting agenda was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bryan Hager congratulated the GRTA board on the positive information being distributed to the region and stated the importance of the Regional Transit Action Plan and the Northern Sub-Area Study. He acknowledged GRTA for providing growth, development and transportation decisions to the region and encouraged the GRTA Board to continue to support a smart and well thought out transportation system for the region.

Executive Director Report
Approval of 2003 Board Calendar

Dr. Ross indicated that the 2003 calendar was provided for review and approval.

Formal Action: Motion was made by Ms. Gay and second by Mr. Shailendra to approve the 2003 Board schedule. The motion was approved unanimously.

Air Quality Report discussion

GRTA is required to submit an annual air quality report to the Governor. The draft report is complete and the Board should expect a copy in the upcoming months. The format and content of the report sets measures and targets for the region

Transportation Emissions Modeling Overview

Dr. Ross stated the challenge for the region is to ensure the transportation planning and modeling process is clear and easily understood.

Dr. Goodwin provided a broad overview of the regional transportation emissions modeling and highlighted some of the key assumptions and underlying data. He stated the analysis of the regional transportation emissions modeling is an important part of the SIP development and transportation conformity analysis process.

Discussion took place about the opportunity of modeling the emissions process and how this might be helpful for looking at the performance measures, targets, and the modeling process that can be used to assume certain transportation behavior patterns.

MARTA Performance Audit

Dr. Ross stated GRTA has met the legislative requirement to deliver the MARTA Performance Audit by December 21, 2002. Copies of the summary will be provided to the members of the Board. The summary report will be presented to the MARTA Board at a later date.

Human Resources Audit

Dr. Ross stated that the Human Resources audit has been completed and is being reviewed by GRTA. The audit was conducted to ensure that GRTA met all the requirements in the legislation, as well as the expectations of the Board and Governor's office.

Ms. Wheeler indicated the GA merit system has plans to embark on a statewide audit of the Human Resources function of Georgia's executive branch and all state agencies.

DRI Committee Report

Mr. Deriso discussed the DRI Committee Report. During the DRI committee, Kirk Fjelstul presented a report on a draft web page in development for the DRI Process which will have informational aspects for applicants, developers and local government. It was suggested that an applicant who had prior experience with the process evaluate the draft web page and provide comments. Staff also prepared a detailed status report of pending DRI's.

Operations & Finance Committee Report

Mr. Thigpen briefed the Board on the activities of the Operations and Finance Committee. He discussed the communications report, which lists the activities of External Affairs, the Operations Report, and the status of the Quicklink and C-Tran projects.

Project & Planning Committee Report

Mr. Bruning indicated that discussion took place on the Express Bus Program and the need for this project. Staff will begin to look at alternative funding schemes for the Express Bus Program while awaiting the outcome of the bond litigation. The '03-'05 TIP has been approved by the Federal Government and the process for TIP amendments has started. These amendments should be presented to the Board for approval within the next few months.

Marvin Woodward presented the steps for development of a performance report card for the Atlanta region which will identify measures and targets to evaluate the effectiveness of the transportation program. Staff will be distributing additional information over the next few weeks and will schedule a work session in the future to get additional feedback from the Board.

Georgia Rail Passenger Program Update

Mr. Heimer indicated the Southeast Economic Alliance will have a presentation by Metro Atlanta Chamber at the next PMT meeting. The Athens environmental assessment is under way and should be presented to Federal Transit Administration for review in the next few weeks. Continuing efforts are being made on the Macon-Griffin-Atlanta crossing safety implementation program and meetings are being held this week with the localities on the proposals.

ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, Mr. Deriso adjourned the meeting at 2:10pm.

APPROVED:

Walter M. Deriso
Chairman

Date

ATTEST:

Deborah Johannes
Recording Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Kirk R. Fjelstul
Chief Legal Counsel