Southeastern Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 20th, 2016

Location: New Bedford City Hall (Ashley Room)

 133 William Street

 New Bedford, MA 02740

(1) Call to Order

**The meeting was called to order at 5:02PM EST by the Advisory Board Chair.**

(2) Roll Call

Present:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| City of Fall River | Town of Freetown |
| City of New Bedford | Town of Westport |

Absent:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Town of Acushnet | Town of Somerset |
| Town of Dartmouth | Town of Swansea |
| Town of Fairhaven | ADA Representative |
| Town of Mattapoisett | Riders Representative |

Additional Attendees:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Erik Rousseau, SRTA | Kristen Sniezek, SRTA |
| John LeBert, SRTA | Tim Hegarty, SCTM |
| Arthur Frank, Legal Counsel |  |

(3) Approval of Minutes

**The motion was made (Fall River) to approve the minutes from the previous Advisory Board Meeting held on September 28th, 2016.**

**Action postponed due to lack of current party’s presence at the previous Advisory Board Meeting.**

**Motion withdrawn (Fall River).**

(4) Citizen’s Participation

No Citizen’s Participation.

(5) Operator’s Report

Mr. Tim Hegarty (General Manager) noted that Union Contract negotiations are still ongoing and continue to happen with more frequency, as recurrent as weekly.

Ongoing Driver Training (as mentioned in the previous Meeting) is set to begin Sunday, October 23rd (2016), in New Bedford with an identical training session taking place in Fall River during the month of November in order to make certain all drivers are able to participate in the program. Mr. Hegarty noted that future training sessions will include topics such as ADA (Americans Disability Act), Farebox Training, Sensitivity Training and the hope would be to incorporate Ongoing Driver Trainings on a quarterly basis.

The previously voted upon Amazon Pilot Service is set to commence on Monday, October 24th (2016), at which time ridership will be monitored.

(6) Civil Rights Update

Title VI: The new Title VI Plan has been submitted and is awaiting approval. To date there have been no Title VI complaints under the new Plan.

EEO: The new EEO Plan for South Coast Transit Management was submitted on August 19th, 2016 and is awaiting approval. To date there have been no EEO complaints.

DBE: The SRTA DBE goals for Fiscal Year 2016 through Fiscal Year 2018 has been submitted and is awaiting approval. The average goal for the Authority throughout the plan will be 4.5%. The next report due on December 1st, 2016.

(7) Old Business

No Old Business.

(8) New Business

*FY16 Triennial Review Update:*

The Authority has received their Triennial Review Letter of which was conducted by the FTA (Federal Transit Administration). As a result of the Triennial Review, options / alterations are currently being looked at that would seemingly affect the ADA Application / Approval process. At this time, any change(s) have not yet been implemented.

The Town of Westport expressed concern over any changes that may alter the current process due to the high volume of Demand Response riders within the Town. The City of Fall River and the City of New Bedford also voiced concern over any changes that would, potentially, make the process more cumbersome and ultimately more costly—urging SRTA to push back on these findings.

The Authority has been imposed with a deadline of December 29th (2016) to provide FTA with a Progress Report or Completion Report (if applicable) on this matter.

The Authority will provide an update to the Board on this matter at the next Advisory Board Meeting.

*Update on Security:*

Meetings have been scheduled with both the Fall River Police Department as well as the New Bedford Police Department in order to discuss the current SRTA Terminal Police Details to determine how they can be best utilized—if not already. Additionally, SRTA is open to any further guidance or assistance from the Police Department(s) that can benefit this matter.

Since the start of the Terminal Police Detail(s), there has been an increase in No Trespass Orders of which has proven to be an effective tool for maintaining safety and security at both the New Bedford Terminal and Fall River Terminal, respectively.

The Town of Westport urged the Authority to also continue to examine on-board (vehicle) surveillance / security as well as the aforementioned terminal(s) security matter.

The Authority will provide an update to the Board on this matter at the next Advisory Board Meeting.

(9) Logistics for Next Advisory Board Meeting

The next Advisory Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 17th in Fall River at 5:00PM, however, may not be needed.

The City of New Bedford requests that, in the absence of a November Advisory Board Meeting, an update still be provided to the Board with regard to the previously mentioned items—FY16 Triennial Review and Security—in a simple memo form.

(10) Adjournment

**A motion was made (Fall River) and seconded (Freetown) to adjourn the meeting at 5:26PM by the Advisory Board Chair.**