

TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING RECORD

Transportation and Environment Committee (TEC) meetings are recorded. Agenda materials are available online at www.dallascityhall.com. Recordings may be reviewed/copied by contacting the TEC Staff Coordinator at 214-670-4545.

Meeting Date: April 8, 2013

Start Time: 1:01 p.m.

Adjournment: 2:23 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Linda L. Koop (Chair), Sheffie Kadane (Vice Chair), Sandy Greyson, Vonciel Jones Hill, Delia Jasso and, Mayor Pro Tem Pauline Medrano,

Committee Members Absent:

None

Other Council Members Present:

Scott Griggs

City Executive Staff Present:

Jill Jordon, Assistant City Manager
Forest Turner, Assistant City Manager
Rick Galceran, Director, Public Works
Keith Manoy, Assistant Director, Public Works
Alan Hendrix, Assistant Director, Public Works
Jody Puckett, Director, Water Utilities

TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes for the March 25, 2013, Meeting

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Motion was made to approve the minutes for the March 25, 2013, meeting subject to corrections. No corrections were suggested and the minutes were approved as submitted.

Made by: Hill

Seconded by: Jasso

Passed unanimously

2. TIGER Street Car Extension Update

Keith Manoy, Assistant Director, Public Works updated the committee concerning the extension of the TIGER Streetcar Project as Council will be asked to consider accepting a \$30.87M grant from the Regional Transportation Council in the near future. Grant acceptance will commit the City as project owner; and further commit the City as the funding determinant for Operation and Maintenance costs.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Ms. Koop thanked Mr. Griggs for attending TEC meetings and for his contributions to project planning. Ms. Koop also explained how the project is an example of the new transportation model as cities and member cities coddle capital funding by working together to achieve major goals; taking into consideration how operations interface with outside agencies such as DART. Ms. Koop would like the committee to envision future financial planning that includes Operation and Maintenance (O&M) costs for major, regional transportation projects such as light rail. Ms. Koop makes mention of the off-wire streetcar project being new to the United States, and later mentioned how the project connects very distinct districts.

Ms. Jasso thanked the Chair for her tremendous amount of work regarding project planning and searching for funding sources for the TIGER Streetcar project, and referred to the cutting edge nature of the project as being a considerable accomplishment and community improvement.

Mr. Griggs also expressed that this is a notable day as many years of dedicated work have produced this reality; many hurdles were conquered in order to acquire funding, and overcome the near impossibility of implementation. Mr. Griggs mentioned the project is considered an investment not an expense. Mr. Griggs thanked Mr. Manoy for his superior ability to orchestrate the plan. Mr. Griggs compared the 35 to 1 return on investment results of Portland (similar project), and asked if the TIGER Streetcar project could be viewed as an economic development tool for Dallas, and to what degree of importance streetcar O & M funding (through midnight) would be considered a factor to this growth. Mr. Manoy responded by stating that vertical development potential was taken into consideration during the alignment selections. The current corridor provides important Trinity connections; as it relates to entertainment district service, it is vitally important to extend the hours of operation. Mr. Manoy also mentioned that he will apply for O & M funding at an upcoming COG meeting.

Ms. Medrano thanked Mr. Manoy for seeing the project through from inception; the partnership with other agencies worked well. Ms. Medrano thanked Ms. Koop for her dedication as well as other local, state, and federal representatives whose efforts made this project possible. Ms. Medrano also acknowledged the legislative work of Judge Hill - all concurred.

Judge Hill thanked all parties involved, specifically the involvement of Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, and Ray LaHood as notably instrumental in securing funds for this project.

Mr. Kadane requested clarification concerning the turnarounds. Mr. Manoy spoke of dedicated lanes, and further funding uses.

Ms. Koop requested the committee be updated again in late May of 2013 and concurred with Mr. Griggs to add Transportation Reinvestment Zones (TRZ) to the list of possible funding options for any remaining costs. Mr. Manoy also mentioned groundbreaking ceremonies are scheduled to be held on May 3, at 10:00 a.m. – invitations will be sent out. Mr. Manoy expressed that with all the project improvements underway the next focus will be to connect the Bishop Arts District to the Dallas West End.

No action was taken on this item.

3. DART Policy for New Member Cities

Jesse Oliver, Deputy Executive Director, Dallas Area Rapid Transit, briefed the committee regarding the policy for new member cities recently voted upon by the DART Board.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Ms. Koop explained her reasoning for bringing this new DART Policy to be heard at TEC, and asked for clarification concerning the access fee process for member cities as opposed to non-member service fees; thereby allowing for the option of trains alone and not the full transit system service - if so desired. Mr. Oliver added details concerning the new policy.

Ms. Greyson asked for further clarification concerning fees, and county inclusions based on the current law outlining contiguous boundaries. Mr. Oliver detailed the policy information, and touched on unequal taxation, the relationship with the City of Arlington - with regard to respecting one another in transportation planning issues, and necessary actions for continuing with the plan.

Judge Hill asked for details concerning the Corona/Linda Harper-Brown Bill, specifically if the smaller cities initiated the idea of rolling off the 4a/4b taxes to use for transportation purposes. Mr. Oliver responded to the question by explaining the idea was included as an opportunity/funding mechanism for those cities that chose such a path, but not as a requirement. Mr. Oliver also mentioned that service details between DART and the municipality would be determined by a contractual, interlocal agreement.

No action was taken on this item.

4. North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) Untreated Water Contract

Jody Puckett, Director, Dallas Water Utilities, presented a briefing memo to the committee with information concerning an upcoming proposed contract to supply water to the above mentioned water district. The subject matter outlined the general proposal, committee briefing date, and the City Council consideration date.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Ms. Jasso asked for an explanation of costs. Ms. Puckett responded with general cost figures as the details will be included in the upcoming briefing.

Ms. Greyson asked why language was not included for mirroring Dallas' conservation actions. Ms. Puckett informed of the district's current drought stage, as they bolster their water supplies they would return to normal usage instead of continually striving towards conservation; the contract would include the implementation of district-wide conservation year round. Ms. Greyson stated she would like to see the NTMWD restrict growth to match water availability.

No action was taken on this item.