Public Transportation Advisory Committee

January 29, 2021

Meeting Begins 10:05am
MEETING AGENDA
Public Transportation Advisory Committee
Friday, January 29, 2021 | 1:00 P.M. (local time)
Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
Virtual Meeting via Webex Events

1. Call to Order.
2. Guidance on virtual meeting participation.
3. Approval of minutes from January 7, 2021 meeting. (Action)
4. TxDOT Public Transportation Division Director’s report to the Public Transportation Advisory Committee regarding public transportation matters.
5. Presentation and discussion on Intercity Bus Program status.
6. Discussion on priorities for federal authorization/reauthorization efforts regarding transit funding. (Action)
7. Discussion on upcoming committee topics for FY 2021. (Action)
8. Public Comment – Public comment will only be accepted during the meeting. Link and details are below. The meeting transcript will be posted on the internet following the meeting.
9. Propose and discuss agenda items for next meeting; confirm date of next meeting. (Action)
10. Adjourn. (Action)

I certify that I have reviewed this document and that it conforms to all applicable Texas Register filing requirements.

CERTIFYING OFFICIAL: Becky Blewett, Deputy General Counsel, (512) 463-8630.

***
The public is invited to attend this meeting and view meeting presentations via WebEx at https://txdot.webex.com/txdot/onstage/q.php?MTID=e12a3213749cee422f4a9af7245cad7a9
For toll-free audio and best audio quality, select the option to have the meeting call you.
***
Meeting Protocols

- Your line has been muted automatically upon joining the meeting.

- It is important to enter your name when joining the meeting – if you didn’t do that, please exit the meeting and rejoin.

- If you wish to comment on an agenda item, use the meeting’s chat feature to let Josh know – he will respond and can un-mute your line.

- Please remember not to place this meeting on HOLD – we’ll all hear your hold tone.
MINUTES FOR ADOPTION
Public Transportation Advisory Committee – Webex Meeting
January 7, 2021 10:00 A.M.

Committee Members Present and Participating: None (Virtual Meeting via Webex)

Committee Members Participating via Webex:
John McBeth, Chair
Jim Cline, Vice Chair
J.R. Salazar
Marc K. Whyte
Ken Fickes
Dietrich M. Von Biedenfeld

TxDOT Participating via Webex:
Eric Gleason, Director, Public Transportation Division (PTN)
Josh Ribakove, Communications Manager, PTN

Other Party Participating via Webex: None

AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to order.

John McBeth called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Guidance on virtual meeting participation

Josh Ribakove briefed meeting attendees on virtual meeting protocols including how public comments can be submitted via Webex at 10:08 A.M.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Approval of minutes from July 28, 2020 meeting (Action).

John McBeth opened this item at 10:10 A.M.

MOTION Marc Whyte moved to approve the July 28, 2020 minutes.
SECOND J.R. Salazar seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously at 10:19 A.M.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Review of TxDOT’s CARES Act funding allocation and application of the Texas Administrative Code Section 5311 formula (Action).

John McBeth opened this item at 10:13 A.M, and Eric Gleason gave the presentation

Questions/Comments from J.R. Salazar, John McBeth, Jim Cline.

MOTION J.R. Salazar moved to adopt TxDOT’s process, empowering Eric Gleason to report PTAC’s approval to the Texas Transportation Commission
SECOND  Deitrich M. Von Biedenfeld seconded the motion.  

Motion passed unanimously at 10:40 A.M.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Public Comment

John McBeth introduced this item at 10:41 A.M.  
No public comments.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Adjourn (Action).

MOTION  J.R. Salazar moved to adjourn.  

SECOND   Jim Cline seconded the motion. 

Motion passed unanimously at 10:42 A.M.

Meeting adjourned at 10:42 A.M.

Prepared by:  
Josh Ribakove  
Public Transportation Division

Approved by:  
John McBeth, Chair  
Public Transportation Advisory Committee
Agenda Item 4

TxDOT Public Transportation Division Director’s report to the Public Transportation Advisory Committee regarding public transportation matters.
Presentation and discussion on Intercity Bus Program status.
Intercity Bus Study Schedule and Major Tasks (Work Plan)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Task Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td>Federal &amp; State Policy Context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>Existing Texas ICB Service Profile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>Needs Assessment &amp; Data Collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb/Mar</td>
<td>Stakeholder Outreach &amp; Consultation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>Priority Areas for Future Program Growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Evaluation of Existing Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Performance Indicators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Seamless Ticket Information and Ticketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>Innovative Service Delivery Models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 21</td>
<td>Final Report, Service Plan, Presentation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ICB Study – Progress to date

- ICB Study Work Plan
- Project Goals and Objectives
- Review of Existing Federal & State Law and Guidance
- Development of Existing ICB Service Map
- Draft Stakeholder Surveys and Outreach Plan
Project Goals and Objectives

Overarching Goal
TxDOT will know enough about the state’s intercity bus needs and services to state what TxDOT’s priorities are.

Project Timing
Fit recommended changes in with TxDOT’s annual program timeline.

Stakeholder Engagement
Target outreach efforts to stakeholders.

Program Delivery Model
TxDOT is seeking changes in the way the program is managed to enable the state to prioritize projects and investments based on research and analysis, and solicit competitive proposals to provide the desired services.
### Review of Existing Federal & State Law and Program Models

#### Table 1: Types of Program Delivery Models
(Comparison of State DOT 5311(f) Programs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic and Delivery Model</th>
<th>Texas (current)</th>
<th>Florida</th>
<th>Colorado</th>
<th>Texas (proposed)</th>
<th>North Carolina</th>
<th>California</th>
<th>Washington</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant driven</td>
<td>Applicant driven</td>
<td>Applicant driven</td>
<td>Applicant driven</td>
<td>Applicant driven in response to State priorities included in biennial competitive call for project proposals.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providers apply for funds based on their demonstration of need.</td>
<td>Market-based: Providers apply for funds based on their demonstration of need.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum level of service</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes, within threshold criteria; regional/national system connection.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Target levels by service type</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, contractors must provide minimum runs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation Criteria</td>
<td>Project Description</td>
<td>Improvement to ICB service</td>
<td>Financial justification</td>
<td>Demonstrated need; Benefit; Consistency with State priorities/ local plans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Planning efforts</td>
<td>Support “feeder” service</td>
<td>- Demonstrated need</td>
<td>- Coordination with other organizations</td>
<td>- Anticipated performance outcomes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Demonstrated need</td>
<td>- Fill gap where service has been reduced or lost</td>
<td>- Financial justification</td>
<td></td>
<td>- Anticipated ridership</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Benefits</td>
<td>- Improve Amtrak facility</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Serves areas without existing intercity service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Timeline</td>
<td>- Proposed high-speed rail facility</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Potentially self-sustaining</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Personnel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- TxDOT state goals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Measures</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Yes. Meet 40% farebox recovery.</td>
<td>Potential targets: Ridership, Cost/riders, Cost/km, cost/mile, Farebox recovery</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Yes. NTD reporting.</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subgrantees</td>
<td>Private carriers, Public carriers</td>
<td>Undetermined</td>
<td>Public agencies, Private providers</td>
<td>Private for-profit carriers, Public providers (Transit Districts)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private providers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Development of Existing ICB Service Map
Draft Stakeholder Surveys and Outreach Plan

- Stakeholder Groups
- Survey mediums and Design
- Timeframe
Questions

Theodore Kosub
ICB Project Coordinator
Strategic Programs Manager
512-486-5971
Theodore.Kosub@txdot.gov
Agenda Item 6

Discussion on priorities for federal authorization/reauthorization efforts regarding transit funding. (Action)
### Fiscal Year 2020 vs 2021 FTA Apportionments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5304</td>
<td>$1,980,720</td>
<td>$2,124,167</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5307</td>
<td>$42,340,693</td>
<td>$43,233,371</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5310</td>
<td>$7,841,186</td>
<td>$7,967,960</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5311</td>
<td>$48,583,997</td>
<td>$48,710,602</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$100,748,616</td>
<td>$102,038,121</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional Federal Relief Funding

- **CRRSAA -** $14 billion for Public Transportation
  - $13.3 billion for Urbanized Area Programs (5307)
  - $679 million for Rural Area Programs (5311)
  - $50 million for Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (5310)

- **Issue:** Threshold criteria for eligibility, and language, preclude Texas Rural and Urban Transit Districts from any 5307 or 5311 funding.

- **5310 Program:** $1.36 million for Texas Small Urban and Rural.

- **American Relief Plan:** $20 billion for Public Transportation
Federal Reauthorization Priorities

- Sufficiently fund Non-Urban (Rural) Area and Small Urban Area Programs; Reduce the gap in per capita funding levels among rural area and urban area programs.

- Allow Flexibility to address Decennial Census Urbanized Area boundary changes.

- Streamline the Federal Transit Grant Approval process.

- Natural Disaster exemption / Retroactive Galveston status
Discussion on upcoming committee topics for FY 2021. (Action)
Public Comment
Agenda Item 9

Propose and discuss agenda items for next meeting; confirm date of next meeting. (Action)