



**Pierce Transit  
Community Transportation Advisory Group  
Pierce Transit Training Center  
Rainier Conference Room  
Minutes – September 24, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair, Penny Grellier

**ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE**

CTAG Members Present: Paul Bala, Chris Beale, Penny Grellier, Chris Karnes, Sandy Paul, Hongda Sao, Steven Schenk and Richard Zalucha

CTAG Members Absent: Bridgett Johnson and Tyree Smith

Pierce Transit Employees Present: Sue Dreier; Chief Executive Officer and Van Sawin; Business Development Officer

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

Introduction of CTAG members and Pierce Transit employees occurred.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Highlighted portions of the August minutes were corrected to reflect which member commented on the item.

Chris Karnes moved to approve the August 27, 2015 minutes with the proposed amendments. Chris Beale seconded. Motion carried.

**CTAG MEMBERS AND STAFF REPORT ON ACTIVITIES**

Paul Bala commented on the SHUTTLE survey which was administered recently. He recommended in the future that the Board of Commissioners send a copy of the survey questions to the CTAG for their opinion and guidance.

Chris Karnes shared a comment on behalf of a community member expressing excitement for the new NE Tacoma Express Route 63. Chris also shared information on the Transportation Choices Coalition dinner he attended. Topics included information regarding the **SI3** campaign.

Van Sawin reported on the implementation of Route 63 in Northeast Tacoma and ridership for the Washington State Fair.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No members of the public were present to comment.



## DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. CEO Comments - Sue Dreier: Sue Drier thanked each committee member for their presence on the CTAG Board. Sue spoke about the current initiative, "back to basics" which Pierce Transit is implementing. This back to basic initiative incorporates customer service, safety and community engagement. Sue also reported Rebecca Japhet was hired on as the new Public Relations Officer earlier this month.

Pierce Transit has also been analyzing their budget. Only employment positions that are directly related to service were approved for next year. Sue expects in 2016 to add an additional 20,000 to 30,000 service hours. Pierce Transit received 15 million dollars from the State of Washington Transportation Fund for Pacific Ave/SR-7 bus rapid transit (BRT).

Sue shared information regarding the Small Start Grant for BRT. Next time Pierce Transit can get in the queue for this grant will be in 2017.

Pierce Transit received a national award from American Public Transportation Association (APTA) for their financial report brochure.

Chris Karnes asked how the overall system analysis relates to Pierce Transit's Long Range Plan. Sue informed it has not been greatly addressed in the LRP. This may change after our comprehensive service analysis. Sue expects alignment and frequency to change versus the routes themselves.

Paul Bala asked if the Strategic Plan will address the service hour cuts and how Pierce Transit plans to bring it back to totals before the recession. Van Sawin informed that the document represents a vision of where Pierce Transit is heading and is acting as guidance. Once that is reached, plans on how to increase the service hours and where to implement them will come into account.

Sue shared that Pierce Transit will be doing two service changes a year, opposed to their usual three. This will occur in March and September. These two dates coordinate with King County Metro and Sound Transit's service change times.

Chris Beale asked if the service analysis was just an operational plan. Sue informed Pierce Transit will look at Tacoma's plans and populations areas and where growth is projected. Every seven years, a study on service will happen, but it's all dependent on growth of people in the area.

Sue shared her thoughts about the CTAG Charter. She informed any proposals CTAG has for the Board of Commissioners', should be done in a letter addressed to them. Sue suggested making a work plan for next year to include topics and areas of interest the CTAG Board would like to gain information or collaborate on.

2. CTAG Operating Procedures: Van Sawin spoke with Pierce Transit's General Counsel about the public comment item in the CTAG Operating Procedures. The General Counsel recommended mirroring the Board of Commissioners' public comment item, which allows a member of the public to speak for three minutes about any item on or off the agenda relating to transit matters. Van also informed that the sentence pertaining to a member of the public proposing an item be added to the agenda is fine.



Paul Bala motioned to approve the CTAG Operating Procedures with the proposed amendments pertaining to: allowing a member of the public to add an item to the agenda and public comment on items related to transit service even if item is not present on agenda. Chris Beale seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**PIERCE TRANSIT NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

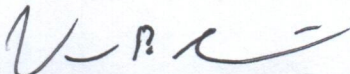
Van Sawin reported on the following news articles and announcements:

- Trolley Ridership
- Study session on Public Safety
- August Board of Commissioners' Meeting
- Election of new CTAG Chair

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m. by Penny Grellier.

Submitted by:



Van Sawin, Business Partnership Administrator

Approved by:



Penny Grellier, CTAG Chair

