

Ross Valley Yellow Bus Transportation Services

Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement

Joint Committee

February 24, 2020

1:30 PM

San Anselmo Town Council Chambers, 525 San Anselmo Ave, San Anselmo, CA 94960

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL 1:30 PM

JEPA Board members:

Town of San Anselmo: Brian Colbert, Dave Donery

Town of Fairfax: Renee Goddard, Garrett Toy

County of Marin: Katie Rice, Nancy Vernon

Ross Valley School District: Rick Bagley

Marin Transit: Kelly Zalewski, Nancy Whelan, Chris Whitlock

ABSENT: Wesley Pratt, Ross Valley School District

II. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Persons wishing to address the Joint Exercise of Powers (JEPA) Joint Committee on subjects not on the agenda may do so at this time. Please note, however, that the JEPA is not able to undertake extended discussion or action on items not on the agenda. Matters requiring action will be referred to the joint committee or staff or placed on a future JEPA meeting agenda. Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes.

III. JEPA BUSINESS MEETING

Item	Presenter	Action
A. Accept September 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes	Chairperson	Approve
M/S Katie Rice, Dave Donery to accept the September 19, 2019 minutes. Ayes: Brian Colbert, Dave Donery, Renee Goddard, Garrett Toy, Katie Rice, Nancy Vernon, Rick Bagley Noes: None Absent: Wesley Pratt		
B. Elect Chair & Vice Chair	JEPA Board member	Approve

M/s Katie Rice, Garrett Toy to support County to be lead agency, Nancy Vernon to be administrative staff for the group and for the meetings to remain in San Anselmo if scheduling allows. Ayes: Brian Colbert, Dave Donery, Renee Goddard, Garrett Toy, Katie Rice, Nancy Vernon, Rick Bagley
Noes: None
Absent: Wesley Pratt

M/s Dave Donery, Brian Colbert to support Fairfax to be secondary agency. Ayes: Brian Colbert, Dave Donery, Renee Goddard, Garrett Toy, Katie Rice, Nancy Vernon, Rick Bagley
Noes: None
Absent: Wesley Pratt

C. 2019/20 Program Pass Sales and Budget Review

Marin Transit

Discussion

The JEPA thanked Marin Transit for their work. Kelly Zalewski, Marin Transit, made a presentation on pass sales. Zalewski stated that the full priced passes are in align with enrollment numbers and that the reduced priced pass sales have decreased. Zalewski also pointed out that the budget shows approximately an \$11,000 deficit.

A resident asked if the price for the for the zero-period bus could come down since it seems to be empty. Zalewski stated she did not want to incentivize the one-way pass. Instead Marin Transit wanted encourage people to buy annual passes.

Superintendent Rick Bagley stated this coming year White Hill will see a drop in enrollment, about 70 kids less.

D. 2020/21 Program Service Levels, Draft Budget & Pass Pricing

Marin Transit

Discussion

Zalewski made a presentation on service levels. One issue that had come up was the pick-up and drop off at the Log Cabin location near Memorial Park in San Anselmo. More specifically drivers were concerned with safety for the end of day drop off. Marin Transit was discussing the use of a bus stop on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard at Sunny Hills instead. This would increase the walk for some kids however.

Katie Rice stated that historically, all the bus routes used to be on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard. David Donery stated that there was worry about the younger kids from Hidden Valley. Chris Whitlock added that the Kindergarten through 5th grade buses run at 2:45 pm.

Nancy Vernon asked if there could be two different spots where they are picked up and dropped off. Zalewski was concerned about consistent messaging. Zalewski added the concern was having kids dropped off at Sir Francis Drake Boulevard. Nancy Whelan asked if there could be 2-4 PM restrict parking at Memorial Park. David Donery stated he would look into it. Rick Bagley stated they could hand it over to the Safe Routes To School group to see if the idea of dropping kids off on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard or in Memorial Park is okay.

Zalewski spoke of an idea of an additional stop for the Hub Express bus at the Yolanda Station stop neighborhood. Brian Colbert stated it seemed like this is a lot of change and had concerns about safety. There was a majority consensus to do a pilot of the stop.

Steve Lamb, resident, asked for clarification of the numbers and colors were on the slides. Zalewski stated the numbers where numbers of passengers and the colors indicated higher numbers and lower numbers.

Budget discussions began.

Three scenarios were presented to the group. In Scenario 1, there would be no change this year. In Scenario 2, there would be a \$10 pass price increase. In Scenario 3, there would be a pass increase and it assumes free and reduced pass sales are free to students.

Garrett Toy asked about the budget deficit. Nancy Whelan, Marin Transit, stated they haven't explored how to deal with. Whelan stated they may need to pass it on to next year. However, if it were to carryover, it would be higher pass sales.

Katie Rice stated the group needed to get the data point for who is unincorporated Marin.

Rick Bagley asked at what point would they decide to drop a bus from a route. Zalewski stated they need all six busses in the afternoon because of demand. In addition, the contract is for each bus for the day, so dropping the bus in the morning might not help.

There was consensus to come back with information regarding the budget deficit option, to look at if there was negotiation with a half day bus in the contract, and to look at parking prices. The group also wanted to know how much space is needed for 6 busses.

E. 2020/21 Pass Sales Approach (Lottery) Marin Transit Discussion

Zalewski made a presentation about the pass sales lottery.

Katie Rice leaves meeting at 2:42 PM

There was group consensus to hold the pass sales after spring break. Rick Bagley mentioned the school has software that translates to all home languages, so the school could help with messaging. Bagley was also open to setting up computers at school for the people who need that. Rick Bagley also spoke of gaming the system and mentioned Student ID numbers could be used as a more anonymous way for the lottery. Bagley also offered to reach out to the families that need reduced pricing.

F. Pass Sales Features (variable pricing/youth passes +) Marin Transit Discussion

Zalewski presented other pass options, such as offering variable single pass prices. The group felt it was generally worth piloting.

G. Supplemental funding source for income qualified family pass JEPA Board member Approve

Nancy Vernon asked if they could offer free passes and not allow the students to use them on the busiest route. Zalewski stated it would be challenging to do that.

Nancy Vernon stated that only 15% of free and reduced lunch students had bought their passes. Vernon stated she was part of a community campaign to raise money and they were looking into various grant programs, so they could nail down a program.

H. Comparison of other existing Yellow Bus Programs in Marin Marin Transit Discussion

Zalewski and Whelan presented. Whelan mentioned Mill Valley has local schools in neighborhoods and the kids can bike and walk to school. In San Anselmo, there is only one way to get to school.

Renee Goddard asked how to get ridership to increase for the afternoon bus. Nancy Vernon stated the principal wanted to hear from parents in order to have the school to stay open.

- I. Set date, time, location and agenda topics for next meeting Chairperson Approve

There was JEPA consensus to send out a doodle poll for dates in March.

IV. **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

- V. **ADJOURNMENT 3:22 PM** - to the next regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Kacmar
San Anselmo Town Clerk