

Ross Valley Yellow Bus Transportation Services

Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement

Joint Committee

April 25, 2022

6:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89541504891?pwd=Qy9TV1NhUjB1ZUpscVllM25xUWsxZ09>

Meeting ID 895 4150 4891 Password: 744362

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL 6:03 PM

JEPA Board members:

Town of San Anselmo: Brian Colbert, Dave Donery

Town of Fairfax: Renee Goddard

County of Marin: Katie Rice

Ross Valley School District: Wesley Pratt, Marci Trahan

Marin Transit: Christopher Whitlock, Nancy Whelan

No member of public to speak in open time.

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 March 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes	Chairperson	Approve
B. FY 2022/23 Service Planning Update	Marin Transit	Information
C. Measure AA Yellow Bus Funds Update	Marin Transit	Information
D. FY 2022/23 Budget and Pass Price	Marin Transit	Approve
E. Set date, time, location and agenda topics for next meeting	Chairperson	Approve

IV. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

V. ADJOURNMENT - to the next regular meeting

A. Accept Minutes:
Unanimous approval.

B. FY 2022/23 Service Planning Update
Operations Analyst Christopher Whitlock presented a slide comparing enrollment to pass sales for the past five years. Pass sales originally at 1.18 pass per student ratio in 2017/18. In 2021/22 pass per student ratio is .74. White Hill specifically has been declining for the past three years while Hidden Valley has slightly increased. However, there was a significant decline for both schools in the year following the start of the pandemic. Statewide enrollment continues to decline and is expected to decline 10% by 2030.

Whitlock then reviewed the route change for next year. Pain points for the program are in the afternoon and on the early departing routes. 3 of 4 routes are sold out and have a waitlist of students with WH-11 still having approximately 20 seats available. The highest waitlist is on WH-15 which serves the Butterfield area. The plan: WH-11, which currently ends in Fairfax, will be combined with WH-12 which currently goes up Butterfield and is a late departing afternoon route. WH-12 will start earlier, leaving White Hill immediately after the bell, and stop in Fairfax before serving the Sleepy Hollow area. As a result, the shared route between Ross Valley Charter and White Hill, WH-16, will be moved to a different driver and start approximately 10 minutes later.

Marin County Supervisor Katie Rice asked how many students would benefit from this change. Whitlock commented that approximately 17 – 20 more students. Fairfax Council member Renee Goddard asked if this change will accommodate all waitlisted students? Whitlock responded no. Katie Rice commented that 100 students were on the waitlist and asked about whether there were any students who were unable to get a pass in the current year. Whitlock commented that many of the students on the waitlist have passes on other routes. There is space on vehicles in the morning and afternoon. Families can purchase a pass but some choose not to because of other factors.

Trustee Wesley Pratt commented that son walks home from Good Earth and asked whether kids who live closer can walk to homes closer to Good Earth and others stay on the bus and go further up Butterfield? No, all seats in bus will be filled so it won't matter.

C. Measure AA Yellow Bus Funds Update

Whitlock reported that 5 schools have committed to be apart of the new three year Measure AA funding cycle. Based on information provided by the Transportation Authority of Marin and the commitment from the five schools, Marin Transit estimates an approximate \$215,000 available for Ross Valley. Previously, the estimate was \$190,000.

D. FY 2022/23 Budget Update and Pass Price

Whitlock first reviewed the current year's budget: 577 passes sold, with 38 of those being the reduced income qualified passes at a \$100 each. Previously, the program sold 25 income qualified passes. There is a surplus of \$13,000 to carry forward into FY 2022/23.

Whitlock reviewed Option A which was presented in the last meeting. But updates were made to the Measure AA funds (\$215,000) and the contributions from the Town of San Anselmo and Town of Fairfax were updated to reflect an added contribution of \$5,000 each. Fairfax Council member Renee Goddard commented that the \$5,000 added contribution has been approved. The contribution for the County of Marin was also updated to reflect an added contribution of \$10,000. Option A leaves the programs with a surplus of \$2,665.

Whitlock reviewed Option B with the same added contributions as in Option A. Option B leaves the programs with a deficit of \$2,149.

Whitlock concluded that Marin Transit recommends Option B because it assumes a decrease in passes sold, consistent with declining enrollment trends, keeps the pass price increase at a minimum, and brings all regularly priced passes to one price point which will make it easier for the program to sell single ride day passes at White Hill on the afternoon routes.

Fairfax Council member Renee Goddard asked for an explanation of the differences between the two options.

Whitlock replied that the Option A raises the price of only the regularly priced passes and not the discounted afternoon or the income qualified passes. Option B raises the price for the regularly priced passes and the discounted afternoon passes. It also assumes a reduction in passes sold because of the declining enrollment.

Superintendent Marci Trahan asked what the revenue would be if Option B sold as many passes as the current year (577). Whitlock commented that possibly \$16,000 more. San Anselmo Council member Brian Colbert commented that it would be around \$20,000 more.

Marci Trahan asked about vehicle capacity on buses and whether this will change. Whitlock commented that Michael's Transportation now uses vehicles that have a maximum passenger capacity of 50 seats.

San Anselmo Town Manager David Donery moved and Fairfax Councilmember Renee Goddard second the approval of staff recommendation for Option B and FY 2022/23 budget. Approved unanimously by vote of hands.

Marin County Supervisor Kati Rice asked about next steps for communicating the pass price and lottery to families. Whitlock reported that Marin Transit aims to communicate this to families by April 29, 2022. San Anselmo Council member Brian Colbert commented that many families, especially those of 5th graders, lack knowledge or are unaware of the yellow school bus program details. Whitlock commented that the schools will assist in communicating this to families. Goddard suggested including references to Safe Routes to Schools in the communication for families that

are unable to purchase a bus pass. Rice suggested also communicating how the program is funded and what the local contributors are doing to assist the program. Whitlock replied that this information is on the program website but that Marin Transit will share this information with families.

E. Next JEPA data TBD

GENERAL PUBLIC INFORMATION

ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the San Anselmo Town Clerk at 415-258-4660 or email ckacmar@townofsananselmo.org. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Town to make reasonable accommodation to help insure accessibility to this meeting.

AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the JEPA joint committee regarding any item on this agenda after the distribution of the original packet will be made available for public inspection at the public counter at San Anselmo Town Hall located at 525 San Anselmo Avenue.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearings provide the general public and interested parties an opportunity to provide testimony on these items. If you challenge any proposed action(s) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the Public Hearing(s) described later in this agenda, or in written correspondence delivered to the Joint Powers Agency at, or prior to, the Public Hearing(s)

TIMING OF ITEMS ON AGENDA

While the JEPA attempts to hear all items in order as stated on the agenda, it reserves the right to take items out of order. No set times are assigned to items appearing on the JEPA agenda.