

MINUTES

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY

August 2, 2018

12:10 p.m.

Board Members Present

Roberta Abdul-Salaam
Robert L. Ashe III
Robert F. Dallas
Frederick L. Daniels, Jr.
Jim Durrett
Roderick E. Edmond
William "Bill" Floyd
Ryan Carter Glover
Jerry Griffin
Freda B. Hardage
Alicia M. Ivey
Russell McMurry, P.E.*
John "Al" Pond
Christopher S. Tomlinson*
W. Thomas Worthy

Staff Members Present

Jeffrey A. Parker
A. Robert Troup
Melissa Mullinax
Wanda Dunham
Gordon Hutchinson
Elizabeth O'Neill
Davis Allen
Elayne Berry
Stephany Fisher
Abebe Girmay
Shelton Goode
Victor Hall
Lyle Harris
Benjamin Limmer
Dean Mallis
David Springstead
Emil Tzanov
Tom Young (Interim)

Also in attendance was Robert Highsmith, Jr. and LaToya Brisbane of Holland & Knight, LLP; Heather Aquino; Scott Haggard; Charlotte Nash-Chair Gwinnett Board of Commissioners; Richard Simonetta; David Wickert of *The AJC*; Sherry Williams; Joe Young.

Chairman's Report

Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, August 30, 2018

- Operations & Safety Committee – 10:00 a.m.
- Business Management Committee (immediately following)

* Christopher Tomlinson is Executive Director of Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA); Russell R. McMurry, P.E. is GDOT Commissioner, and are therefore non-voting members of the MARTA Board of Directors

Work Session
8/2/18
Page 2

Thursday, September 6, 2018

- Planning & External Relations Committee – 10:30 a.m.
- Board – 1:30 p.m.

* * *

Approval of the July 11, 2018 Work Session Minutes

On motion by Mrs. Hardage seconded by Ms. Ivey, the minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 9 to 0, with 10* members present.

Chairman Ashe introduced and welcomed Commissioner Charlotte Nash, Chairwoman of the Gwinnett Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Nash was introduced to MARTA Board members and MARTA leadership.

Chairman Ashe informed Board members that Gwinnett, by a vote of 4-1, will enter into Contract with MARTA. In 2016 there was the City of Atlanta's More MARTA expansion referendum. Today, there is specific authorization for Gwinnett to enter into a Rapid Transit Contract. Chairman Ashe recommended that everyone read the Contract, focusing on the first eleven pages.

High Points of the Contract:

- After referendum in March, MARTA will undertake bus operations; taking over the existing transit system in totality
- Sales tax (1%) to be used for benefit of Gwinnett County. Seventy-one percent will be used for major capital projects. Funds will not be cross-collateralized. The debt will be held separately (\$160-\$170M per year). During the first three years a large amount may be expended
- From day one, the existing bus service will be expanded (will not use MARTA's money)
- Chief Dunham will work with the Gwinnett law enforcement department.
- Set up Advisory Committee for major capital projects
- Gwinnett will get three members on the MARTA Board
- This is a structured membership into the MARTA system and a result of several years of discussion

Chairman Ashe commended the professionalism of Ms. Nash. He expressed his pride in Mr. Parker and team, noting that this is a historic moment in MARTA's and the region's history.

Dr. Edmond agreed this is a game-changer, noting that his father-in-law, the late Maynard Jackson would be pleased. MARTA is a positive force and Atlanta embraces Gwinnett in helping to grow transit and grow Georgia.

Mrs. Hardage agreed, stating that it is the right thing to do.

Mr. Pond asked how does this interface with the MARTA Act.

Ms. O'Neill said there was a specific process in HB930. The MARTA Act provides for that.

Mr. Floyd expressed his excitement, noting that this was an incredible job of bringing Gwinnett forward.

Ms. Abdul-Salaam welcomed Ms. Nash and Gwinnett County.

Mr. Tomlinson said the momentum in the region is building; people are watching. This is beneficial for Gwinnett and the region. HB 930 specifically contemplates this type of project.

Commissioner Nash thanked MARTA Board and staff. She said everyone brought the expectation that it is not possible to fail. The first eleven pages of the contract are crucial. She said it was a real pleasure to work with Chairman Ashe. It has been a very good process.

* * *

General Manager/CEO Report

Briefing – The ATL

HB 930 passed the General Assembly on March 29, 2018 and Governor Deal signed it into law on May 3rd, creating a new regional transit governance and funding structure called The ATL (Atlanta-Region Transit Link Authority). The ATL is a unifying entity that ensures coordinated planning and funding of transit across Metro Atlanta. The entity oversees all transit activity to increase transparency around regional transit planning, funding and operations.

Regional Governance

- ATL Board Structure – 16-members, 4-year terms

Regional Transit Plan

- 6-year and 20-year time horizons
- Developed in consultation with the region’s Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)
- Coordinate existing and future transit service
- Regional stakeholders, including local governments, may submit requests to the ATL for additions and amendments to the Plan from time to time based on changing conditions
- After 1/1/2019, referendum transit projects must be in RTP and approved by the ATL

Regional Transit Funds

- HB930 provides for the transference of Designated Recipient authority/responsibility to the ATL
 - MARTA currently performs this role for the Atlanta UZA
- Atlanta UZA encompasses 23 counties across the metropolitan Atlanta region
- The following overview is specific to the ATL’s Designated Recipient role as it pertains to three of the Urban Federal Formula Funding Programs with Atlanta UZA apportionments (Section 5307, 5337, 5339)

Regional Unified Branding

- Regional Transit Plan must include plan for the creation of a unified brand to encompass all transit service providers in 13-county region
- As of January 1, 2019, any new MARTA asset worth more than \$250K must display The ATL logo and brand, prominently featuring the acronym “ATL”
- As of January 2, 2023, the ATL logo and brand must be used on any and all MARTA property

Other Matters

Mr. Parker introduced and welcomed MARTA’s new Chief of Staff Melissa Mullinax. Ms. Mullinax worked with former Mayor Kasim Reed for six years.

Additionally, he announced the return of Lyle Harris, who will work with the media.

* * *

On motion by Mr. Dallas seconded by Mr. Floyd, the Board unanimously agreed by a vote of 13 to 0, with 15* members present to go into Executive Session at 1:17 p.m. to address a personnel matter.

* * *

Work Session
8/2/18
Page 5

Adjournment

The meeting of the MARTA Board of Directors adjourned at 1:53 p.m.