



MEETING AGENDA

Public Transportation Advisory Committee

Tuesday, February 11, 2020 | 10:00 A.M. (local time)

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)

150 E. Riverside Drive, Room 3B.1 (Pecos Conference Room)

Austin, TX 78704

1. Call to Order.

2. Safety Briefing.

3. Approval of minutes from October 29, 2019 meeting. (Action)

4. TxDOT's Public Transportation Division (PTN) Director's report to the Public Transportation Advisory Committee regarding public transportation matters.

5. Presentation and discussion on projected 2020 Census impacts to public transportation funding for Texas transit providers. (Action)

6. Review and discussion of draft Scope of Work for Intercity Bus Program study. (Action)

7. Discussion of potential ideas for TxDOT's FY 2022/2023 Legislative Appropriations Request. (Action)

8. Public Comment – Public comment will only be accepted in person. The public is invited to attend the meeting in person or listen and view meeting presentations via Webex link <https://txdot.webex.com/txdot/onstage/g.php?MTID=e387e3620d65b9a170210562663791a10>
The meeting transcript will be placed 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

AGENDA ITEM 3

MINUTES FOR ADOPTION

Public Transportation Advisory Committee – Teleconference Meeting
200 E. Riverside Drive Room 2B.1, Austin, Texas
October 29, 2019 10:00 A.M.

Committee Members Present and Participating:

John McBeth, Chair
J.R. Salazar
Marc K. Whyte

Committee Members Participating via Teleconference:

Dietrich M. Von Biedenfeld
Jim Cline, Vice Chair
Ken Fickes

TxDOT Present and Participating:

Eric Gleason, Director, Public Transportation Division (PTN)
Josh Ribakove, Communications Manager, PTN

AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order.

John McBeth called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Safety Briefing.

Josh Ribakove gave a safety briefing for attendees at 10:01 A.M.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Approval of minutes from July 25, 2019 meeting (Action).

John McBeth opened this item at 10:05 A.M.

MOTION J.R. Salazar moved to approve the July 25, 2019 meeting minutes.

SECOND Ken Fickes seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously at 10:06 A.M.

AGENDA ITEM 4: TxDOT's Public Transportation Division Director's report to the committee regarding public transportation matters.

Eric Gleason began his report at 10:07 A.M. The report previewed key items that would be discussed at the current meeting and also touched on bus and rail safety rules, the State Safety Oversight program, upcoming Calls for Projects, and the upcoming State Management Review.

AGENDA ITEM 6 (taken out of order): Presentation and discussion on TxDOT-PTN's Intercity Bus Program Strategic Direction Final Report (Action).

Eric Gleason introduced this topic at 10:16 A.M.

Questions and comments: John McBeth, Marc Whyte, Jim Cline, J.R. Salazar, Ken Fickes.

MOTION Ken Fickes moved to adopt the report.

SECOND Jim Cline seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously at 10:31 A.M.

AGENDA ITEM 5 (taken out of order): Presentation and discussion on upcoming work to determine 2020 Census impacts to public transportation funding for Texas transit providers.

Eric Gleason introduced this topic at 10:32 A.M. After a brief introduction, the presentation was given by Michael Walk, Research Scientist, Texas A&M Transportation Institute.

Questions and comments: John McBeth, Jim Cline, Ken Fickes, Eric Gleason.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Public Comment

John McBeth introduced this item at 11:00 A.M.

There was one comment, from Robert McElhaney (Goodman Corporation). The comment related to item 5.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Propose and Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting; confirm date of next meeting (Action).

John McBeth initiated and led this discussion beginning at 11:01 A.M.

The committee anticipates a meeting during the second week of February 2020. TxDOT-PTN agreed to poll the committee for an acceptable date and time. No new agenda items were proposed

No action taken.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Adjourn (Action).

MOTION Ken Fickes moved to adjourn.

SECOND Marc Whyte seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Josh Ribakove
Public Transportation Division

John McBeth, Chair
Public Transportation Advisory Committee

AGENDA ITEM 5

AGENDA ITEM 6

PTN Intercity Bus Program (ICB) Statement of Work

Objective:

TxDOT-PTN will engage consultant services to complete a comprehensive, statewide ICB study that informs the department's effort to move to a new strategic program delivery model. The study will examine integrating and leveraging ICB funding with other funds to support and sustain access to intercity service connections for rural area residents to longer distance urbanized area destinations, including, but not limited to, connections to the national intercity bus, passenger rail, and general aviation networks.

Study Topics:

The study shall accomplish the following and summarize key findings in a report:

1. Defines service profile and target markets of ICB service in Texas
2. Identify access and connection priorities with an emphasis on target service levels
3. Identify strategies for maximizing ICB investments by targeting areas of highest need based on an assessment of rural area intercity travel
4. Identify priority areas for program growth (if additional funding becomes available to support ICB program growth)
5. Compare and assess current ICB investments with conclusions from topics 1 – 4
6. Explore the use of rural ICB market and performance data to forecast, evaluate use and effectiveness, and guide ongoing operating subsidy investments
7. Examine opportunities for high levels of service integration and coordination among ICB providers to encourage seamless trip and ticket integration between carriers
8. Explore innovative service delivery models including shared ride services, technology applications and marketing and advertising models to assist in addressing longer distance rural area mobility needs as alternatives to, or in support of, traditional intercity bus service investments

Study Cost Estimate:

\$300,000

Background:

Each federal fiscal year, fifteen percent of the total Section 5311 apportionment is required to be used to develop and support continuation of intercity bus services in the state of Texas, unless the governor certifies, after consultation with affected intercity bus providers, that the intercity bus needs of the state are adequately being met. In Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) the set aside amount was approximately \$7.1 million. Funding is used to provide operating subsidy for services in lower density areas of the state, to support Interurban operations in the growing metropolitan regions of the state, and for capital assets supporting the service investment. Under the revised strategic direction, the Texas program may move from a non-prescriptive model to one relying on research and analysis to identify strategic program priorities and then using competitive processes to solicit project proposals to be evaluated against those priorities.

ICB Study Timeline

2020

May – ICB Study RFP Posted

Aug – ICB Study Consultant Selected

Sept – ICB Study Begins

2021

July – ICB Study Draft Report

Aug – ICB Study Final Report & Potential Programmatic changes

Nov – Revised Coordinated Call Opens