TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Wednesday,
September 8, 2010
Room 325
3712 Jackson Avenue
Austin, Texas

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT BY TELEPHONE:

Michelle Bloomer, Chair
J.R. Salazar, Vice Chair
Al Abeson
Christina Crain
Janet Everheart
Vince Huerta

STAFF:

Eric Gleason, PTN Director
Bobby Killebrew, PTN Deputy Director
Kelly Kirkland, PTN
Ginnie Mayle, PTN
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENDA ITEM</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Call to Order</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Approval of Minutes from June 17, 2010 meeting (Action)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. In accordance with TAC '1.83(c), final review of proposed revisions to 43 TAC '31.36 (Section 5311 Grant Program) (Action)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Discussion and possible action on PTAC Work Plan as it relates to Transportation Code Section 455.004 (a)(1), which charges PTAC with advising the commission on the needs and problems of the state's public transportation providers, including the methods for allocating state public transportation money. (Action)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Division Director's Report to the Committee regarding public transportation matters, including an update on items the department has been involved with and a recap of Texas Transportation Commission action regarding public transportation projects</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Public comment</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Confirm date of next meeting (none)</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Action)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Adjourn</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Action)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MS. BLOOMER: I call the meeting to order.

That's item number one.

We'll move on to item number 2 on the agenda, approval of the minutes from the June 17, 2010 meeting. Were there any comments, corrections or questions regarding the minutes? If none, can I get a motion for approval of the minutes?

MR. SALAZAR: This is J.R. I move to approve.

MS. BLOOMER: And a second?

DR. ABESON: This is Al, second.

MS. BLOOMER: Thank you. Okay. To make it easier since we're all on the phone, I'll just go ahead and call down the list.

Christina?

MS. CRAIN: Yes.

MS. BLOOMER: Janet?

MS. EVERHEART: Yes.

MS. BLOOMER: J.R.?

MR. SALAZAR: Yes.

MS. BLOOMER: Al?

DR. ABESON: Yes.

MS. BLOOMER: And Michelle, yes. All right.

The minutes have been approved.

Moving to item 3 regarding the final review of
the proposed revisions to the Texas Administrative Code.

MR. GLEASON: Let me jump in here. This is Eric Gleason, director of Public Transportation.

We received no comments on the rules during the comment period. We held a hearing on August 6 with no one attending and no comments at that point either. The rules are as they were when you last looked at them just prior to commission action adopting them as proposed rules. So they are ready to go, as far as we're concerned, at this September meeting, and we're looking for an action on the part of the committee today to either recommend adoption, to recommend with comments, or you can also choose not to take any action.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. Are there any comments or questions from the committee?

Eric, can I just clarify there's the annual apportionment form the Federal Transit Administration that comes to TxDOT.

MR. GLEASON: That's correct, for the 5311 Non-Urban Program, yes.

MS. BLOOMER: For the 5311 Non-Urbanized Area Program. So the total amount comes, TxDOT can take up to 15 percent to cover its administrative costs.

MR. GLEASON: Yes.

MS. BLOOMER: Then what's left, there's a
certain percentage that is taken off for intercity bus.

MR. GLEASON: No, not quite, Michelle. That percentage for intercity bus comes off the total as well.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay, comes off the total. And then after you take the two sort of off the top set-asides of TxDOT administration and intercity bus, whatever amount that is left up to that magical cap number --

MR. GLEASON: $20.1 million.

MS. BLOOMER: $20.1 million. The $20.1 million goes by the current formula, and then based on what's left, is it 10 percent off of what's left or 10 percent off of the apportionment?

MR. GLEASON: It's 10 percent off of the remaining apportionment after administrative and intercity bus set-asides, so no more than 10 percent of it at that point can be held out.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. So the 15 percent are off the total and then the 10 percent for commission discretionary is off of what's left.

MR. GLEASON: That's correct. In the e-mail I sent out on June 8, if you were to read through that again, we called the remaining amount RA in that e-mail, and we attempted, in doing that, to draw it back to that. It's the amount that remains of the apportionment after we take the set-asides out.
MS. BLOOMER: Okay. I just wanted to make sure I was reading and understanding everything correctly. And this is pretty much consistent with what the PTAC subcommittee had recommended and TxDOT had informally adopted last year.

MR. GLEASON: That's correct. Now, every year we will need to make a decision as to whether -- because it's up to 10 percent -- whether it's the whole 10 percent or whether it's 5 percent or 2 percent or 6 percent, but it's up to that amount but no more than that amount.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. I think that's great. Any other questions or comments?

DR. ABESON: Is the fact that there were no comments prior to or at the hearing indicative of anything?

MR. GLEASON: I don't know, Al. I mean, when we went into this, it was our understanding from conversations with the Texas Transit Association and transit leadership that there was a large degree of support for this. In practice we've been doing this for the past two years, and I don't recall any concerns being voiced by any provider during that time frame either. So while I assume some of it may be because people don't know this is happening, despite our efforts to communicate, I think mostly the lack of comment is that everyone is in
agreement.

    DR. ABESON: Thank you.
    Do we need a motion, Michelle?

    MS. BLOOMER: Yes. I think we had somebody
    join us so I just wanted to make sure.

    MR. HUERTA: This is Vince, Michelle. Good
    afternoon, all.

    MS. BLOOMER: Good afternoon, Vince. We're on
    item 3, the 5307 Non-Urbanized Area formula.

    MR. GLEASON: 5311.

    MS. BLOOMER: Sorry. 5311.

    Okay. If there are no further questions, then
    I guess I'll call for -- and we have three actions we can
    take, so whoever makes the motion, we can recommend
    commission adoption, we can defer adoption to the
    commission -- what was the other one, Eric?

    MR. GLEASON: You can recommend with comments.

    MS. BLOOMER: Recommend with comments. Would
    somebody like to make a motion?

    DR. ABESON: I would move that we recommend
    adoption by the commission without comments.

    MS. BLOOMER: Okay. Thank you, Al. We have a
    motion. Do we have a second?

    MS. CRAIN: This is Christina. I make a
    second.
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MS. BLOOMER: All right. Going down the list, J.R.?

MR. SALAZAR: Yes.

MS. BLOOMER: Vince?

MR. HUERTA: Yes.

MS. BLOOMER: Janet?

MS. EVERHEART: Yes.

MS. BLOOMER: Christina?

MS. CRAIN: Yes.

MS. BLOOMER: Al?

DR. ABESON: Yes.

MS. BLOOMER: And Michelle, yes. All right.

The motion passes.

Moving on to item 4 which is the PTAC Work Plan as it relates to -- I won't the whole thing -- PTAC Work Plan. Eric, do you want me to take that one, or do you want to start?

MR. GLEASON: I think let me just start it and then I'll throw it your way, Michelle.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay.

MR. GLEASON: This is a possible action. I think the committee has gotten into a pattern of sort of tackling one topic at a time which has proven to be, I think, relatively effective. And you know, now we've been through the Strategic Plan, we've been through the
development of the department's LAR, and this item is on
the agenda as an opportunity for the committee to discuss
about what to do next.

   The only caveat I guess I would add at this
point, we are approaching a time when we're going to lose
four of our current seven members because their
appointments run out at the end of this month, and so I
don't know whether that affects the committee's discussion
this item or not. It doesn't need to, there's certainly
nothing that prevents the committee from identifying the
next topic, it's just that we're entering into kind of an
awkward time frame from a membership standpoint.

   MS. BLOOMER: Very well put, Eric.

   Unless the committee has any comments or
suggestions, I was thinking just to start off with giving
maybe an update of where we've been since our last meeting
which was on June 17, kind of walking through the LAR and
then where we are now, and I guess we can talk about
whether or not we want to take up a new item or defer that
until you have a new PTAC membership after October 1.

   At out last meeting on June 17, the main focus
of the meeting was the letter that the committee was
sending to the commission. That letter did get signed,
and Ginnie, correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe you
hand-delivered it to the commission that day or the
MS. MAYLE: I did.

MS. BLOOMER: The following week, on June 23, the commission held their workshop meeting, and there were quite a number of presentations that day and I thought it actually worked very well. The last item on the agenda was the LAR, but an item or two before that was an update from Linda Cherrington on the census, and as part of that larger presentation, Eric also presented, and I think that was very helpful in reinforcing what came later as our request.

And so I think I had five minutes where I presented the comments that I had shared with all of you to the commission during their workshop. We had three of the five commissioners there. I didn't faint, so I thought that was fairly successful.

And in the coming weeks after that, I went to the TxDOT semiannual meeting where all the providers get together two times a year in Austin -- that was in July -- and sort of presented what the committee had been working on, including the Legislative Appropriations Request. We shared a copy of the letter with them, along with the PTAC membership roster, and encouraged them to contact any one of us with ideas, suggestions, request for assistance, so you may or may not get a call.
I had asked at that meeting that if there were any concerns that they had, that we were here and we were willing to hear their concerns. I only had one person come up to me throughout the day which was better than the last time. And items that they had sort of requested PTAC taking a look at next was the Section 5310, Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Program. So I throw that out there for maybe the second part of this discussion.

And then as it relates to the LAR, the commission did take action at their August 26 meeting. We have good news and we have bad news, I guess. The good news is we got some additional funding, the bad news is it wasn't a whole lot. The commission, as I understand it, did approve the Legislative Appropriations Request with $3.2 million in additional funding, and that $3.2 million will go to offset the addition of new small urbanized areas as a result of the 2010 Census.

I did try contacting Chair Delisi for one last-ditch attempt effort to get any amount of additional funds, because that $3.2 million, while it will mainly help new small urban providers, it does nothing for the existing rural providers or small urban providers, it basically just holds them at their 2000 funding levels.

MR. GLEASON: Michelle, if I could just interject right there. A very small portion, I think
$300- to $400,000, so a total of maybe $600,000 of that total actually is for the rural program to keep rural programs whole, if you will, from any sort of impacts of the census. It is true that the vast majority of those funds are for the new urban areas, but there is a small amount in that total that does keep the rural providers whole from any impacts of the census.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. So I guess that's good.

I did want to thank Christina for her guidance and assistance the day before the commission meeting, trying to walk me through the process of contacting the chair and sort of working through that process.

I don't know if it was worth the time and effort. When I went back and we compared the numbers, Eric, it looks like it's $3,200,600, so I think we got an additional $600, maybe, or maybe they just rounded. So for a day's work, we got an extra $600.

(General laughter.)

MR. GLEASON: All right.

MS. BLOOMER: So I guess the next fact is everything else, the $22 million to account for inflation, the $20-some million to address the growing need, et cetera are all in the exceptional items, and I don't know what role, if any, we would have as a committee in sort of pushing for those items as well. But I think the next
PTAC committee probably really needs to start looking now at how we can be more successful in that discussion coming years because, again, we're going to be two more years out and the transit providers in the State of Texas are getting the same dollar amount of funding they got in 2000, basically.

And like I told the chair, I can't imagine doing my job for the same amount of money I was getting paid in 2000. I mean, that would be insane. Gas cost 99 cents then, it cost me $2.79 yesterday when I got it. So I don't know how we, as a committee, can make that argument any better, but I think we can start looking at that now and we'll be ready in two years when it comes up again.

I know, Vince and J.R., you were there at the semiannual meeting, if you had any comments to add or thoughts.

MR. SALAZAR: This is J.R. I didn't really have a lot to add other than I thought it went well and I thought you did a good job, and I thought they were receptive, so I thought it went well.

MR. HUERTA: This is Vince. I agree, and I just think that making the presence, whoever the members may be, is going to be key to trying to push it through.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. Did anybody want to weigh
in on the work plan going forward. Like Eric said, I think we're kind of in an awkward time. We have four of us, myself, Frank, Vince and J.R., that our terms will expire September 30. We can talk about setting the next agenda, or if you would prefer to wait and have the new PTAC membership set the direction for the coming year, I'll leave that up to the committee.

DR. ABESON: This is Al. I have a question in terms of when will the new committee be formulated.

MR. GLEASON: This is Eric. Al, I can't answer that for you. The department has contacted each of the three offices, the Speaker, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Governor's Office, with our needs. We've identified for them -- each get to make two appointments and we've identified for them the nature of those appointments, whether they're for a provider, a user, or a member of the general public. I have spoken with staff from the Governor's Office and the Lieutenant Governor's Office, and feel pretty good about the fact that they are aware that they need to make these appointments.

We do have a history with the Lieutenant Governor already having made an appointment in this process, in this new process, and the person I spoke with from the Governor's Office said that they have a large number of staff dedicated toward this whole issue of
appointments, so it seems as though the capacity exists there as well. The big unanswered question in my mind is the Speaker's Office, and again, we've contacted them several times and we've not yet seen or heard anything back from them. So I can't tell you, Al, when.

DR. ABESON: The appointments that expire at the end of the month, do those people automatically leave the committee, or do they continue until new appointments are made?

MR. GLEASON: No. My understanding is that when those appointments expire, those folks are no longer on the committee and that they do not continue to serve until an appointment is made.

DR. ABESON: So at a minimum, we're talking about seven weeks or so of interruption -- if I can use that word -- before the new committee would be in place and further action could occur. Is that correct?

MR. GLEASON: When you say that, you're allowing time for the appointment to be made and then for us to get a meeting scheduled?

DR. ABESON: No, I'm not. That would be additional time.

MR. GLEASON: Well, I don't know. I mean, the appointments can happen tomorrow, for all I know, Al. There is no approval process once the folks make their
selections, and so all they need to do is identify who
they want to appoint to the committee and they're on, so
if they decide to act, it's fairly quick.

DR. ABESON: Would it be possible that some of
the current expiring members would be reappointed?

MR. GLEASON: It's possible, yes, and I know
that current members and I know of at least one other
individual who is currently not on the committee have been
in contact with key people expressing their interest to
either remain on the committee or to serve on the
committee. So I mean, activity is happening, it's just
that I don't have any control over the result.

DR. ABESON: I wish you did, that would be
great. If you could control the Governor's Office and the
Speaker's Office, that would be nice.

MR. GLEASON: Well, I know. I didn't really
mean it like that either.

DR. ABESON: No. I understand.

(General laughter.)

MR. GLEASON: But it's very frustrating for us.

DR. ABESON: I'm sure.

MR. GLEASON: And really, I'm not sure what
else more we can do.

DR. ABESON: Right. I understand.

My additional question then is in terms of the
work of the committee, we have invested considerable effort in the Strategic Plan, with some but not a great deal of success, and I was wondering if a legitimate next activity could be to work on -- and I don't recall the exact terminology but it was sort of the division operational plan to accomplish the Strategic Plan. That has a name, doesn't it, Eric?

MR. GLEASON: Yes. I think when we talked about this last May or June or even April as a group, I described what I thought would be the next step once the commission had adopted the Strategic Plan for the department, that then the next step was going to for each of the divisions or each of the sort of operational areas of the department to develop their own plan showing how their activities over the next five years would support the department's plan.

And what has happened to date since the commission adopted the Strategic Plan, we've taken what I would call sort of an intervening step that I haven't anticipated where we've been working with the executive director -- we meaning the division heads -- with the executive director to identify a series of activities that he can embrace at his level of the agency that would move the agency toward the department's plan. So we've not yet gotten any next step instructions with respect to these
division level operational plans.

I do expect that to happen in the fall sometime, and when that does happen, and depending on what it looks like, it would certainly be my intention to engage the committee in that. I don't think it is necessarily something the committee would have a formal role in making a recommendation to the commission on because I don't believe this level of plan would be going to the commission, but I would sincerely look to involve the committee in helping us as the division come up with ours.

DR. ABESON: Okay. That's helpful, Eric.

MR. GLEASON: So I think there's a task out there, I think there's a work product out there, it's just that at this point I can't fit a schedule to it for you.

MS. BLOOMER: And Ginnie, do you remember what some of the other items on the Work Plan are?

MR. GLEASON: We've got transportation development credits; we've already mentioned the Section 5310 Program; coordination planning, looking at the coordinated call and looking at coordination incentives; further work on the funding formula. You know, we talked about this rule change that was just approved by the committee as a tweak, knowing full well that as the census approaches, it probably makes sense to have a much more
in-depth look at the formula. And then as Al just mentioned, the Strategic Plan. So TDCs, Section 5310, coordination planning, funding formula, and Strategic Plan.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. So I guess we're at a crossroads. We can pick one and try to start working on it in the next two and a half to three weeks before you lose four of us, with some of us may or may not be returning, or we can decide to hold off and wait for the new PTAC committee to move forward beginning sometime in the middle of October.

MR. GLEASON: Michelle, this is Eric. Can I make a suggestion?

MS. BLOOMER: Sure.

MR. GLEASON: I would actually like to hear from the committee, as it is now comprised, of what you all would choose to work on next, just because you all have put so much time and energy into this and have started developing a good track record for getting these things done. I think it would be helpful, certainly for Al and Christina and Janet, the three remaining members after September 30, just for some continuity. If this group wanted to have a conversation today about those five or perhaps another topic and identify which one you would work on next, I think that would be helpful.
I'm not sure how much we could actually get done on that in the next two to three weeks, but at least knowing what the next priority would be would be helpful.

MS. CRAIN: This is Christina. I echo exactly what Eric has said. That was my thought that it's going to be beneficial, I think, for us new members to have the wealth of knowledge that you veterans have put into this, and for the committee going forward, the new ones coming on to already have something in place I think is going to be beneficial.

MS. BLOOMER: This is Michelle. I know we had sort of taken them, either because there were some that were kind of short time frame deliverables, some were based on scheduling, like the LAR. Eric, you had mentioned, sort of back to Al's point, the Strategic Plan might be more the fall?

MR. GLEASON: Well, I'm just guessing, Michelle, because I've not seen a schedule for the next step. I just know that it's out there at some point and I would guess it would be some time -- I'm thinking sometime October-November time frame would be the earliest.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. I'm just trying to think maybe by process of elimination, because the funding formula, we probably would want to put that one on hold until we had the results of the census, and so that one
really wouldn't be a good one to take first. I don't know, just sort of thinking out loud, something that combined sort of the coordinated call which would include, I would think, the 5310 Program as well, since it's sort of one of those three coordinated programs, that might be a good next step, and then the funding formula could be combined with the transportation development credits at a later time.

MR. HUERTA: This is Vince. I remember doing some work on a couple of calls with -- I'm not sure if Al participated, I believe so, but I know that Kerry for sure and Claudia, and we had discussed a number of ideas for the 5310 Program, and just, I guess, the differences on how it's done throughout the state and maybe some inconsistencies and some impacts that it would have. I know that Cheryl had taken most of the notes or the minutes of the conference calls that we were on, so I think there is some groundwork that's done in that area, so it might be beneficial to certainly focus on that topic since there seems to be, like I said, some groundwork that has been done.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay.

MR. SALAZAR: This is J.R. I'd like to add to what Vince said. I agree with what Vince is saying, especially being that we just participated in the 5310
allocation process in one of the districts that I happen
to have a little bit of a service area in, and I will tell
you it was a long, strenuous process as to how we went
about making decisions. I guess what I'm trying to say is
I think -- and Michelle, you and I had a conversation and
I actually called to talk PTAC and we wound up talking 530
for about an hour, and we talked about how the whole
process was going. And there were some things that took
place that I know everyone around the room, when we talked
about the 5310 Program, wasn't comfortable judging another
transit provider's evaluation, if you will. And so there
are some things that maybe I think we need to look at with
regards to 5310.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. I think it's probably
good, like you said, Vince, your subcommittee, I believe,
laid some groundwork already in that area.

MR. HUERTA: Correct.

MS. BLOOMER: We've recently with the providers
gone through the 2011 sort of programming of the funds, so
it might be a good time while it's on everybody's mind,
and it was the only comment I received from the semiannual
meeting of is there anything you need assistance on or
would like PTAC to take up, and that was one of the areas
that was mentioned.

DR. ABESON: Would attention to the 5310
Program, as just described, include consideration of
advancing coordination as well?

MS. BLOOMER: I would hope so, Al. And that
would be the work of the committee, I think, to help sort
of lay the framework or the guidance, but I definitely
think coordination should be a key component.

DR. ABESON: Then I would be very supportive of
that being at the top of the list for the committee's
work.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. Eric?

MR. GLEASON: So if I can paraphrase, a focus
on the 5310 Program with making sure that there's an
emphasis or at least a significant effort around looking
at the coordination planning link.

DR. ABESON: Yes. Well said.

MR. GLEASON: Okay. That's very helpful.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. Any other comments from
the committee on item 4? If not, we'll move on to item 5,
Division Director's Report.

MR. GLEASON: All right. I think all of you
received a copy of this electronically, and I won't dwell
on the detail. There's been a lot of recent commission
action that I'll let you read. If you have any questions
on any of these minute orders that are listed, I'll
certainly answer them for you.

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I did want to mention two things. The first is at the very top of the report, TxDOT and DARS held a rural issues conference, and we had an opportunity during that conference -- we joined their conference, I guess is the best way to describe it, and we actually had a three-hour panel session that Chris Dudley, of my staff, moderated. That was just a great opportunity. The first part was an opportunity for us to talk to staff people from DARS about the regional coordination effort, the United We Ride project, and the coordinated call for projects, so the first half of this three hours was an opportunity for us to talk to them about the things that TxDOT is doing.

And then we had a follow-up panel during the second part with local projects, highlighting local projects, one from the Amarillo area, another from the Texoma area with TAPS, and then the Heart of Texas Workforce Board, Highway to Success JARC project, and we also had a JARC New Freedom project from the Tyler area.

So it was a great opportunity to present those things to folks in the audience. We find just a tremendous amount of interest in these kinds of forums, and are really feeling like we're getting in touch with folks and hearing from important stakeholders on what their needs are and making connections with them about things that are already going on. And we're hoping that...
the timing of it in August will fit with our current annual call for projects which is on the street.

The second item I want to mention, which is not included in the report, is I did have an opportunity to testify before the joint legislative committee on aging which is chaired by Senator Lucio.

And Al, I think they tried to contact you. I actually gave Senator Lucio's staff person your name as someone to call, but you weren't available, so perhaps you'll have an opportunity to talk to this committee at another point.

But I joined presentations from AARP, there were some folks from DADS who spoke, we had a number of different people who spoke on aging issues in general, one of which was transportation, to the committee, and it was an opportunity for me to describe both our 5310 Program and the Coordination Planning Program and how those two efforts were oriented toward trying to address the needs of aging Texans. So that was a good opportunity.

With that, coming up in September for the commission we have a transportation development credit award up on the agenda to four systems, and then the rules, as we talked about earlier.

So with that, before I turn it over to the committee, I do want to take an opportunity to thank
Michelle and J.R. and Frank and Vince for your service. I certainly feel like particularly in the last, what, nine or ten months that the committee really has done some great work, and I think in no small part due to the four of your contributions to that. So on behalf of the department, I want to thank you for your time, and we'll just have to see what happens over the next several months in terms of appointments and reappointments.

And Michelle, I'll turn it over to you.

DR. ABESON: I have a question on your testifying. Were you testifying in front of a committee or just to one member?

MR. GLEASON: It's a committee, Al, of four elected officials and there were two members from the Silver Haired Legislature.

DR. ABESON: Were they responsive? Did they ask any decent questions?

MR. GLEASON: I had a question from one representative about whose responsibility was it in this coordinated planning process to get the different stakeholder groups to the table, was it the department's responsibility or the lead agency responsibility, and I responded that it was both. I also acknowledged that it is a challenging issue for us in getting them there in the first place and keeping them there, and that we are
learning a lot about how to speak each other's language.

DR. ABESON: Right. Good. I'm delighted that you had that opportunity.

MR. GLEASON: Well, I would encourage you to look for one as well, because I let them know that I thought, one, that we were benefitting greatly from having you on the committee, but two, beyond all that, that Texas has a resident expert on these issues and that you are it.

DR. ABESON: Well, that's very kind. Thank you.

MS. BLOOMER: Any other questions or comments for Eric?

DR. ABESON: I would like to echo Eric's comments about the great work that those of you who may or may not be departing from the committee have done. I've only been on the committee for a short time, but the difference between the first portion of my time on the committee and this latter portion has been nothing less than dramatic. And I was terribly frustrated early on, feeling like we really were spinning our wheels, and do not feel that way at all. So from this very short term veteran, many thanks for the leadership, guidance and participation.

MS. BLOOMER: Thank you, Al and Eric.

MR. SALAZAR: Sorry about that, Michelle, but
thank you, gentlemen, for the kind thoughts and remarks.

MS. CRAIN: And as a brand newcomer -- this is Christina -- I just want to add you guys have made it really easy, so thank you.

MS. BLOOMER: Well, good. And I hope if you get four new members, I'm hoping you get some friendly faces come October 1, but if you get four new faces, I hope that folks continuing on will sort of take them under their wing and get them up to speed, because I think we have a lot of important work to do to address the transportation needs in the State of Texas, and it's not going to get any easier in the next 10 to 15 years with the growing population and the aging of the population.

DR. ABESON: And the shortage of funds.

MS. BLOOMER: Yes.

Eric, I did have one question I just wanted to follow up. A couple of meetings back the committee had requested a summary of the JARC and New Freedom projects, and I know that Chris was working on something, but I was hoping that we could get that before September 30.

MR. GLEASON: Okay. You're right, she is working on something, and I remember looking at it. I had lost track of that, though. Let me see where that's at.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. There aren't any public comments or confirm a date for the next meeting, so before
we adjourn, I just wanted to take a moment and thank everybody for all your hard work and service. I do believe, like Eric said, we've made some significant progress in the last nine to ten months, and not only have I personally experienced that but I sort of see that in the response we're getting from the transit providers, specifically in my region as well as when we come together at the statewide level. A few more people know what PTAC is and that we're actually doing something and we are concerned, so I think that's a good step in the right direction.

So I thank you all for your hard work and effort, and I wish you the best of luck in the next year. And thank you for this opportunity.

Any other of the other departing members?

MR. HUERTA: Yes. This is Vince. I want to say the same too. Thank you, Eric. Thank you, Al, for your comments.

And thank you, Michelle for your guidance. I think you've done an excellent job as chair of the group. I've been here as long as you all and have seen a number of chairs, and I think that you've done a great job, so thank you. And as you say, I hope that we see some friendly faces come this next appointment.

MS. BLOOMER: Okay. If there's nothing else,
then I'm going to make this official as my last official meeting as chair. Can I get a motion to adjourn the meeting?

DR. ABESON: So moved.

MS. BLOOMER: All right. Al, I have a first. And a second?

MR. HUERTA: Vince. I'll second that.

MS. BLOOMER: Vince, thank you. I think we can skip the roll call. All those in favor?

(A chorus of ayes.)

MS. BLOOMER: Thank you all.

MR. GLEASON: Thank you.

(Whereupon, at 2:44 p.m., the teleconference was concluded.)
MEETING OF: Public Transportation Advisory Committee
LOCATION: Austin, Texas
DATE: September 8, 2010

I do hereby certify that the foregoing pages, numbers 1 through 31, inclusive, are the true, accurate, and complete transcript prepared from the verbal recording made by electronic recording by Nancy H. King before the Texas Department of Transportation.

09/13/2010
(Transcriber) (Date)

On the Record Reporting
3307 Northland, Suite 315
Austin, Texas 78731