

**Minutes
Board Planning and Development Committee
December 21, 2006
9 a.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Present were:

Committee Members

Mr. Christopher Zimmerman (Chair)
Mrs. Gladys W. Mack
Mr. Charles Deegan
Mr. Dana Kauffman
Mr. Gordon Linton
Mrs. Catherine Hudgins

Other Board Members Present

Mr. Marcell Solomon
Ms. Michelle Pourciau

Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes from the October 19, 2006 meeting were approved as submitted.

Action Item

A. Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Fiber Optics

Mr. David Couch and Mr. James Haggins sought to obtain the concurrence of the Committee and forward to the Board for approval to enter into a multi-part licensing agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). The license agreement will allow WMATA to install fiber optic cable between the Vienna/Fairfax-GMU Metrorail Station and the West Ox Road Bus Facility at I-66. The licensing agreement will include installation of the final link between I-66 and the West Ox Complex, previously approved by the Board on January 19, 2006. Interim redundancy will be provided between Vienna/Fairfax – GMU and Franconia – Springfield Metrorail stations. Permanent cable will be replaced if the Beltway Hot Lanes are constructed on I-95/I-495/I-395 and Route 193. In addition, WMATA will allow VDOT to utilize the WMATA Orange line tunnel to run fiber optic cable to the VDOT Command Center near the Pentagon Metrorail Station.

Mr. Deegan asked if WMATA belongs to the United Telecom Council. Mr. Deegan stated

the United Telecom Council may be helpful in providing funding for telecommunications projects. Mr. Haggins responded that staff will look into whether WMATA belongs to the United Telecom Council.

Mr. Zimmerman asked the cost of the licensing agreement. Mr. Couch stated the cost was approximately \$600,000 and funding for the licensing agreement was approved in FY06. A small amount of funding will also be used from a previously approved Safety and Security grant.

A motion was made by Mr. Kauffman to forward to the Board for approval to enter into a multi-part licensing agreement with VDOT. Mr. Deegan seconded the motion and it was approved by the Committee.

Information Item

A. Results of the Regional Bus Conference

Mr. Edward Thomas provided the Planning and Development Committee with a status report on the Regional Bus Conference held on November 30, 2006.

Mr. Thomas stated that the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) took action on December 20, 2006 to move the recommendation to form the Regional Bus Committee. Ms. Pourciau added that this recommendation was presented as an information item and that TPB instructed staff to immediately form the Regional Bus Committee.

Mr. Zimmerman asked if staff is in the process of identifying lead contacts for each of the four action plan areas: traffic management, bus stops, service integration and fare policy. Mr. Thomas stated that the Office of Business Planning and Project Development (BPPD) is responsible for coordinating this effort, but staff members have not yet been identified to lead each of the four areas.

Mr. Linton thanked those who attended and stated he was impressed that the incoming General Manager, John Catoe, attended the conference. Mr. Linton was also pleased that Mr. Catoe expressed his desire to form a working group that will work on executing the recommendations of the Regional Bus Conference.

For future regional bus discussions, Mrs. Hudgins asked staff to include decision makers who provide and maintain the transportation infrastructure that buses utilize.

Ms. Pourciau stated that a draft of the mission statement and action items of the Regional Bus Committee had been presented at the December 20, 2006 TPB meeting. Ms. Pourciau requested the agenda be presented to the Board and feedback be provided before the January 17, 2007 TPB meeting. Additionally, Ms. Pourciau asked that the Board develop a

concept of what is expected of the Regional Bus Committee by the one year anniversary of the Committee's formation.

Mr. Deegan asked how the remaining \$35,000 of the original \$100,000 Regional Bus Conference budget will be used. Mr. Thomas stated some funds would be used for the generation of conference reports. Mr. Deegan requested that staff look into ways to reduce the costs of the conference reports in light of the budget shortfall WMATA is facing.

Mr. Kauffman requested clarification on the consensus of the principles behind fare policies. Mr. Thomas stated that the agreed upon principles are: maximizing all available services, incentivizing the use of SmarTrip® cards, ensuring that fare policy is as equitable as possible, and consideration of a targeted fare increase.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.