

**MINUTES**  
**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION & PARKING COMMISSION**  
**March 17, 2010**

The Public Transportation and Parking Commission met on the above date at 9:15 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Public Works Facility.

Members Present: Ms. Lisa Simmons, Ms. Marsha Wyly, Mr. Mike Hamer, Mr. Ronald Dunbar and Mr. Steven Kresch.

Staff Present: Mr. Wes Anderson, Director of Public Works; Mrs. Nancy Harrington, Transit Manager; Mr. Thom Moton, Assistant City Manager; Mrs. Stacey Pigford, Engineer II; and Mrs. Geraldine Teel, Secretary.

**WELCOME:** Ms. Lisa Simmons, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**AGENDA:** The agenda for the March 17, 2010, meeting was approved with one addition under new business; Citizens' Academy Information.

**MINUTES:** Mr. Mike Hamer made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2010 meeting. This was seconded by Ms. Marsha Wyly. The motion carried unanimously.

**INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER UPDATE:** Mr. Thom Moton gave a brief update on the Intermodal Transportation Center. He stated that the review process for the environmental assessment is moving through the various federal agencies. Mr. Moton noted that once all approvals are obtained from the federal government, the property acquisition phase of the project will begin. He reported that staff will continue to work toward obtaining the funding necessary for the construction of the Transportation Center. In addition, he stated that there is on-going dialogue with parties interested in a joint transit oriented development.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments at this time.

**NEW ARRA GRANT AWARD:** Mrs. Nancy Harrington stated that she had received an additional \$99,000 in stimulus funds to support a new video surveillance system for the buses. She noted that this is 100% federal money with no local match required.

**FREE RIDE DAY:** Mrs. Nancy Harrington stated that a "Free Ride Day" will be held on Saturday April 10, 2010 in conjunction with PirateFest and International Festival activities. She noted that the buses will be running on a regular Saturday schedule. All routes will be free. Mrs. Harrington stated that the event will be advertised in the regular newspaper, a minority newspaper, GTV as well as on flyers other PirateFest materials and that GREAT and the Convention and Visitor's Bureau work jointly on advertising for this event. She added that free ride days are very popular and ridership on those days usually more than doubles. Mrs. Harrington added that it is also an educational opportunity for individuals to ride the buses to better understand the routes and schedules.

**CITIZENS' ACADEMY:** Mrs. Marsha Wyly shared information on the Citizens' Academy with Commission members. She said that it lasts for six weeks and participants learn about how the government of the City of Greenville works and the responsibilities of the City Departments. She stated that there is a \$25 fee to attend. Mrs. Wyly added that she will be attending and urged Commission members to consider attending the Academy also. She noted that by becoming more knowledgeable about the functions of the City government, Commission members will be able to better serve on this Commission. The registration deadline is March 23, 2010.

**PARKING UPDATE:** Mr. Wes Anderson presented the parking update. 1) He stated that Community Development is planning to install new high tech parking meters in the uptown area. Mr. Anderson said that the plan is to generate enough monies to support the maintenance and development of parking lots. He stated that a request for proposals was issued and that the top candidates have been selected for interviews. Mr. Anderson stated that the intent is to eventually have all the downtown parking lots centrally metered and that the first lot to be considered will be the Hodges Lot. (2) Mr. Anderson also discussed controlled residential parking in the TRUNA neighborhoods. He explained that there is a concern about how to handle parking for landlords, delivery workers, and home health care workers, etc. Mr. Anderson stated that staff has developed a concept for a temporary policy but it has not been finalized yet. He noted that the permanent parking policy will remain the same. (3) He stated that City Council has approved the Commission's request to add to the scope of the purpose statement of the Commission's Rules of Procedure and that the change will be made to the document to include the addition of "on street public parking policies throughout the City." Mr. Ronald Dunbar made a motion to accept the change to the Rules of Procedures. This was seconded by Mr. Mike Hamer. The motion carried unanimously.

**MEETING LOCATION:** Mr. Wes Anderson stated that the City Attorney advised that changing previously published meeting information will require a public notice to be posted at least seven days prior to the scheduled meeting at the new location as well as the previous location. Mr. Anderson discussed the available room space at City Hall. He noted that regular downstairs meeting rooms are much smaller than the Public Works conference room. After discussing the pros and cons of moving the meeting in the middle of the year, it was concluded that the meeting should remain at Public Works for now and that members prepare to continue this discussion at the next meeting. Staff will check to determine the availability of the larger upstairs conference room at City Hall and present this information to the Commission at the next meeting.

**COMMISSION BUDGET:** Mr. Anderson asked commission members if they would be interested in a small budget for the Commission, and if so, how much? He stated that this request would go to the City Manager by the end of the month for presentation to City Council. Mr. Anderson added that staff will manage the budget for the Commission. A discussion was held on uses for this money such such as marketing, advertising, miscellaneous, and possibly matching funds for a business to subsidize ridership for their employees. Mr. Steven Kresch made a motion to recommend a budget request to City Council for \$1,000 for advertising, \$2,000 for ridership/appreciation program and \$200 for miscellaneous. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Marsha Wyly. The motion carried unanimously.

**GREAT DATA & RGP SERVICE REPORT:** Mrs. Nancy Harrington reported that GREAT ridership continues to increase, including the paratransit service. She stated that the RGP (Rural General Public) service provided by Pitt Area Transit (PATS) is expanding. She noted that PATS is developing two new routes serving Pitt County residents who live north of the river. These routes will connect with GREAT's main transfer point on Reade Street. The plan is for the routes to begin in late April or early May.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2010 at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine Teel, Secretary  
Public Transportation & Parking Commission