

MINUTES
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION & PARKING COMMISSION
November 17, 2010

The Public Transportation and Parking Commission met on the above date at 9:15 a.m. in the Conference Room 337 at City Hall.

Members Present: Ms. Lisa Simmons, Ms. Marsha Wyly, Mr. Mike Hamer, Ms. Nancy Ray, Mr. Eric Foushee, Mr. Ronald Dunbar and Mr. Calvin Garris.

Council Liaison: Council Member Kandi Smith

Staff Present: Mr. Tom Moton, Assistant City Manager; Mr. Wes Anderson, Public Works Director; Ms. Nancy Harrington, Transit Manager; Ms. Stacey Pigford, Engineer I; and Ms. Geraldine Teel, Secretary.

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

AGENDA: The agenda for the November 17, 2010 meeting was approved.

MINUTES: Mr. Ronald Dunbar made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2010 meeting. This was seconded by Ms. Nancy Gray. The motion carried unanimously.

INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER UPDATE: Mr. Wes Anderson gave a brief update on the ITC project. He stated that a conference call was held with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to discuss the project with all the key members that are involved in the approval process. He stated that the Environmental Assessment will require more detail in order to complete. He noted that the FTA and SHPO have disagreements on the status of the historic Jones-Lee property. Mr. Anderson stated another RFP may need to go out that includes completion of the additional requirements of the NEPA process.

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

MEETING LOCATION: Ms. Lisa Simmons stated that the time has come to reevaluate the meeting location. She stated that after a few meetings at City Hall the Commission was going to determine if the new location had benefited the meetings and public attendance. A discussion was held. Mr. Moton made comments about being on GTV. He noted that it is not required but it would be helpful to citizens to watch the meetings at their convenience. Ms. Marsha Wyly stated that there has been no increase attendance by the public since moving the meeting to City Hall; therefore, Ms. Marsha Wyly made a motion to move the Public Transportation and Parking Commission meetings back to Public Works beginning January 2011. This was seconded by Mr. Mike Hamer. The motion carried unanimously.

BUS ROUTE EXPANSION: Ms. Nancy Harrington gave an update on the bus route expansion. She stated that two (2) new buses are due to arrive spring of 2011. Ms. Harrington showed a map of the five (5) Bus Routes. She discussed the routes and noted the areas that each serves. She stated that she is looking for ways to expand the service and add another route; also to shorten route 3. She noted that route 3 is the longest route and has the highest ridership. A

discussion was held. Ms. Harrington asked the commission members to please bring their ideas, to the January meeting. Ms. Harrington noted some areas where citizens have shown an interest for service. Mr. Anderson added that one possibility is to have a bus that does not go to the transfer point but connects with other routes at different locations. Mr. Anderson stated that all modifications and the new route must be in place by April 2011 to begin the advertisement. Ms. Harrington stated that the plan is to have the new route ready to run starting July 2011. Mr. Calvin Garris made a motion to continue the discussion on the modifications and the new route at the January 2011 meeting. This was seconded by Ms. Marsha Wyly. The motion carried.

PARKING UPDATE: Mr. Wes Anderson gave an update on parking. Mr. Anderson stated that the federal court system is proposing to bring the eastern bankruptcy court to Greenville. He noted that they have a concern with parking. He stated that he has a meeting scheduled with them in December to see if they would be interested in a parking deck. Mr. Anderson noted that one developer has come forth about development in the area and may have some interest in a parking deck. He stated that Uptown Greenville has shown an interest for parking for their employees in the downtown area also. He noted that more information will be available after the meeting in December.

ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL: Ms. Marsha Wyly made the annual presentation to city council. She stated that everything went well. Council Member Smith stated that Ms. Wyly did an excellent job on the presentation. She added that it was very detailed and made the Commission look very good.

COMMISSION BUDGET: Ms. Nancy Harrington gave a brief description of the agencies that purchase passes from the city for their clients, also the agencies that pay the City to provide bus service for them due to being outside the City limits. Ms. Harrington stated that the bus drivers suggested having a free ride day on the Saturday before the Christmas parade for all the passengers. Ms. Harrington estimated a fee of \$850. She stated that the bus drivers also suggested giving candy to the children riding on Christmas Eve. She estimated \$100 for candy for the children. Mr. Foushee made a suggestion to do something for the drivers to show appreciation. It was agreed to give each driver and Ms. Teel a Visa gift card in the amount of \$25.00 totaling \$375.00. A motion was made by Mr. Ronald Dunbar to have a free ride day on the Saturday before the Christmas Parade budgeting \$850. This was seconded by Mr. Mike Hamer. The motion carried. A motion was made by Ms. Marsha Wyly for the bus drivers to give candy to the children riding on the free ride day. This was seconded by Mr. Ronald Dunbar. The motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Mike Hamer to give the bus drivers and Ms. Teel a Visa gift card budgeting \$375. This was seconded by Mr. Eric Foushee. The motion carried.

GREAT DATA & RGP SERVICE REPORT: Ms. Nancy Harrington stated that ridership continues to increase. She stated that the County's Rural General Public (RGP) is doing well. Ms. Harrington reported that total expenses are slightly up from this time last year and that revenues are up due to increase in ridership and grant money. Ms. Marsha Wyly suggested that the net cost per passenger should be included in the annual report to council. She stated that is very impressive.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2011 at 9:15 a.m. in Public Works Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine Teel, Secretary
Public Transportation & Parking Commission