

# FINAL

## JOINT TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD/ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE MEETING January 23, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

### TAB Members Present

Allison Bickers  
LaSandra Boykin (virtual)  
James Darden  
Neil Fusillo (virtual)  
Walter Kolis  
Ken Marlin  
Cherie Newton  
Mark Riggans  
Ron Roberts (virtual)  
Forrest Shealy (virtual)  
Thomas Shibley  
Matt Stigall

### TAB Members Not Present

Jeff Souther

### AAC Members Present

Cherie Newton  
Thomas Sibley  
Shelly Simmons (virtual)

### AAC Members Not Present

Darryl Howell  
Clintina Mitchell  
Swannie Wilson

### Cobb County and Others Present

Drew Raessler, DOT  
Karl Von Hagel, DOT  
Theo Letman, DOT  
Roderick Cockerham  
Marcia Lankford, DOT  
Caleb Stubbs, Kimley-Horn and Assoc.  
  
Jane Jones, Public  
Robert Anthony Fuller, Public  
Joyce Fuller, Public

## I. Call to Order:

**Chair Allison Bickers** called the Joint TAB/AAC meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. with a quorum present of TAB members.

## II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**TAB November 28, 2022 Minutes:** **Chair Bickers** announced that with no corrections or questions, and with a motion and second to approve, the TAB members present voted unanimously to approve the November 28, 2022 meeting minutes, as submitted.

**AAC November 21, 2022 Minutes:** **Chair Newton** announced that with the absence of a quorum present, approval of the AAC November meeting minutes would be postponed to the next meeting.

## III. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Committee Reports

**Chair Bickers** requested that all committees communicate and have a meeting to discuss their respective 2023 activities prior to the TAB February 27, 2023 meeting.

#### (1) TAB By-laws Committee Update

**Mr. Shealy** reported that he, **Mr. Riggans**, **Mr. Souther** met and agreed to go forward with a draft they had completed of the proposed TAB By-laws. **Mr. Shealy** reported that he emailed a markup draft of proposed By-laws, a clean copy of the draft of proposed By-laws, and the current By-laws to TAB members and to DOT for review. **Mr. Shealy** requested TAB members and DOT to forward any comments or changes to be made to any member of the By-laws Committee. He stated that the By-laws Committee is looking to submit the proposed By-laws for approval by TAB at the February 27, 2023 meeting. **Mr. Von Hagel** stated that DOT will review the proposed draft and will provide

any feedback to the By-laws Committee. **Mr. Shealy** stated that once the TAB members have approved the proposed By-laws and will then submit them to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

(2) AAC Report

It was reported that AAC members voted at the November 21, 2022 meeting to begin meeting quarterly in 2023 and that **Chair Newton** could call meetings in between the quarterly meetings.

(3) Public Comments

**Ms. Jones** spoke on behalf of her brother, **Mr. Robert Anthony Fuller**, who is blind and deaf and was a regular rider on the Paratransit service for nineteen years and that the Paratransit service discontinued at her brother's home location. **Ms. Jones** requested that the Paratransit service be reinstated at **Mr. Fuller's** home location.

**Mr. Von Hagel** stated that he would review the request from **Mr. Fuller with Transit Staff** in more detail and would follow up with **Ms. Jones** and keep TAB updated on the outcome.

(4) DOT Planning – CobbLinc Transit Centers Study Presentation

**Mr. Scott Brown** provided a presentation with an update to Phase 1 of the CobbLinc Transit Centers Study for the relocation/improvement of the Cumberland (CTC) and Marietta (MTC) Transfer Centers and the addition of the South Cobb Transfer Center. Phase 1 of the study is underway and will complete in Spring 2023. Phase 2 (site selection study) begins early 2023 and will complete late 2023/early 2024. Planned public outreach (meetings and surveys) are taking place for both Phase 1 and Phase 2.

**AAC Chair Newton** asked if consideration was given on how changing the location of Cumberland Transfer Center would affect the connectivity between the Paratransit service and MARTA Mobility. **Mr. Brown** stated that there will be in depth discussions with key stakeholders, including MARTA.

(5) Kimley-Horn and Associates - ATL Trains Presentation

**Mr. Caleb Stubbs**, Transportation Planner, provided a presentation on a study of Regional Rail (all-day service in both directions) and Limited Commuter Rail (peak-hour service in peak directions). **Mr. Stubbs** explained the ATL Trains Regional Rail System and described how the high number of rail corridors that are in Cobb County makes it a good opportunity for a regional rail system.

**Mr. Raessler** shared that Cobb has had brief communication with Amtrak. He stated that there are significant challenges with interstate commerce and environmental issues.

**Chair Bickers** requested **Mr. Stubbs** to send the presentation and additional broader information of work he has done on ATL Train Regional Rail System to TAB.

B. DOT Department Update

**Mr. Von Hagel** provided updates and reported on 1) MSPLOST, 2) Status of the Transit Operator and Maintenance RFP, 3) New RFPs under development for an AVL System Contract and On-Demand Scheduling Software, 4) Cobb Christmas Stuff-A-Bus Campaign, 5) BOC approved agenda item for a Task Order for consultant planning assistance to develop a project list for MSPLOST.

**Mr. Von Hagel** provided report on CobbLinc ridership and State comparison ridership reports. **Mr. Von Hagel** reported on agenda items approved in December 13, 2022 and January 10, 2023 as well as upcoming agenda items for January 24<sup>th</sup> and future items in 2023. It was reported that the NTD has been completed and documents for the Triennial are 95% complete. A Transit staff update reported that a new Accountant has been hired, a Customer Service Manager position is in process, and a Contract Inspector position is scheduled to be advertised.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**V. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The next TAB meeting is on February 27, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. The next AAC Quarterly Meeting is April 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

February 27, 2023

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Approved by TAB

April 17, 2023

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Approved by AAC