

Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee

Minutes

January 17, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am in Port Authority's Neal H. Holmes Board Room at 345 Sixth Avenue, Fifth Floor, Pittsburgh, with the following in attendance:

Board Committee Members

John Tague, Jr., Chairman

Ann M. Ogoreuc

Stephanie Turman

Board Members and Solicitor

Dom Costa

Joel Lennen

Robert Vescio

Opening Remarks

Mr. Tague, Committee Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.

Approval of Minutes from the November 15, 2019 Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee Meeting

Mr. Tague asked Committee members if there were any corrections to the minutes. There were none and members approved the minutes.

Bus Rapid Transit Project Update Presentation (David Huffaker and Amy Silbermann)

Mr. Huffaker, Chief Development Officer, introduced Ms. Silbermann to discuss the BRT Project and explained that Ms. Silbermann just received a promotion to Director of Planning. There was a meeting in Wilkinsburg last night where Port Authority staff met with their council and gave them a briefing on the project.

Ms. Silberman showed a slide show as she gave a brief timeline of the BRT project:

- January 2018 – Katharine Kellerman, CEO started
- April/May 2018 – Community input was gathered on service plan and design
- Mid 2018 – Compiled community input and finalized service plan
- September 2018 – Resubmitted a Small Starts grant
- October 2018 – Clearance for Environmental NEPA
- Selected AECOM to work on final design
- Started 60% design – Completion in a few weeks
- Recap of service plan – Bus routes becoming BRT P3, 61A, 61B, 61C and 71B
Local routes terminating in Oakland – 61D, 71A, 71C and 71D
- Timeline 2019 and beyond:
 - Winter 2019 – 60% design
 - Spring 2019 – Public meetings
 - Fall 2019 – Complete design; Construction (2 years) – Contingent upon FTA funding – hopefully will hear from them regarding the project status

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Questions from committee, board members and others

1. Mr. Tague asked are there community meetings scheduled for when 80% of the project is completed?
 - Ms. Silbermann answered yes there is a 90% full design meeting.

2. Mr. Tague asked the terminus in Highland Park, the Greenfield part of that, where are you extending the BRT out to McKeesport, how is that going to work when it comes to Greenfield?
 - Ms. Silbermann answered we initially thought we would have similar meetings in Greenfield for the layover for the 61D that was the proposed BRT route. Now that the layover is not happening there is no need for a layover in Greenfield. BRT stations continue through Greenfield and end near the Greenfield Giant Eagle; there is no bus layover facility and no routing changes proposed there, just using the main streets in Greenfield and continuing on to Homestead.