

TBARTA held a **Board Meeting** on Friday, February 21st at Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority.

Employee Policy Manual

- The Board unanimously approved an updated employee policy manual. The overall approach to updating the manual was to provide more comprehensive guidance to employees while continuing to position TBARTA as an employer of choice. Content is weighted more heavily toward policy and less on procedures.

PSTA Bus on Shoulder Demonstration Project

- The Board unanimously approved a Memorandum of Understanding with PSTA to contribute up to \$30,000 in FTA Section 5307 funds from grant FL-2019-015 to PSTA for purchase of the necessary on-board vehicle equipment for the PSTA I-275 Bus on Shoulder Demonstration project. FDOT will install ramp meters at the on-ramps from 38th Avenue and 54th Avenue and has agreed to install technology in the ramp meter cabinets that will stop general vehicles from entering the interstate when a bus is passing by on the shoulder. This demonstration project has a potential benefit to TBARTA's planned Regional Rapid Transit since the RRT will operate in the same corridor and could use the same technology.

Master Agreement with the University of South Florida

- The Board unanimously approved to waive the competitive bid requirement in the procurement manual as it pertains to the University of South Florida (USF) and authorize the Executive Director to sign a master agreement with USF for professional services. Based on this, a task work order will be issued to CUTR for the development of a PTASP (Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan). CUTR has prepared a scope of work and budget in the amount of \$44,119.13. The scope of work calls for the development of a PTASP that includes all of the elements of a SMS (e.g., the inclusion of a non-punitive Employee Safety Reporting System) as well as a one-day training session related to the PTASP and SMS requirements. The work will be funded from TBARTA's G1C04 state operating grant.

Commuter Vanpool Services Contract Amendment

- The Board unanimously approved the first amendment to the Commuter Vanpool services agreement with Enterprise Leasing Company of Florida, LLC. The current agreement was set to expire on June 30, 2020. By exercising the first renewal option, it has extended the agreement through June 30, 2021. The contract amendment also provides clarity and detail regarding reporting requirements. There were no fiscal impacts. The subsidy remains at \$400 per month per vehicle. Projected expenses were approved in the FY2020 operating budget.

Legislative Update

- We received an update from Ron Pierce (RSA). Our appropriation is currently in the House budget at \$1.5M, the funds will most likely be non-recurring and come out of the transportation trust fund. Language will need to be clarified on the way those funds will be dispersed. Regarding our member bill, the final piece of legislation does not include electronic voting but does allow the mayors to appoint an alternate from city council to attend Board meetings in their absence. The new quorum definition would be 7 members (50% + 1) with voting membership. The CCC would be under the MPO's authority and we have eliminated the list of committees in our enabling act, which makes any future changes possible without legislation.

Presentations

- Walter Breuggeman (FDOT) and Bill Jones (M-CORES) provided an overview of the M-CORES program.
- Christina Kopp (WSP) presented an update on the Innovative Transit Technology Study.
- Rahul Gupta (Deloitte) presented on Smart Infrastructure and the Future of Mobility.

All presentations can be found here: <https://bit.ly/38VTUsS>.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2020 10:00 am at Hillsborough Area Regional Transit (HART).