



August Legislative Subcommittee Meeting

Friday, August 21, 2020 – 8:30 AM

ONLINE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

AGENDA

Change of meeting location from in-person to a meeting by means of communications media technology pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order Number 20-193, issued on August 7, 2020, extending order #20-69, issued on March 20, 2020, section 120.54, Florida Statutes, due to the COVID-19 emergency. The meeting can be observed at:

Direct Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89589248694>

Phone Number: 301-715-8592

Meeting Code: 895-8924-8694

If you have questions regarding this meeting, please contact Jennifer Mendez at 813-639-7722 or by email, Jennifer.Mendez@TBARTA.com

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Persons wishing to address the Board can do so in either of two ways:

- A. *Email your comments to publiccomment@tbarta.com no later than 30 minutes prior to the meeting start time and your comments will be read into the record.*
- B. *To speak during the meeting, phone 1-267-866-0999 with access code 1234 35 1876 30 minutes prior to the meeting. You will first speak to a staff member, then be able to provide public comment for a maximum of three (3) minutes when recognized by the chairman. This public comment period will be extended for up to 30 minutes.*

3. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. July Legislative Committee Minutes

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Van Scoyoc Federal Legislative Update (Harry Glenn and Steve Palmer)
- B. RSA State Legislative Update (Ron Pierce)

5. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

- A. State Government Relations and Lobbying Services (David Green)
- B. Draft FDOT Letter (David Green)

6. OTHER BUSINESS
7. FUTURE MEETING SUBJECTS
8. ADJOURNMENT

****NEXT LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING****

September 25, 2020 – 8:30 AM

Online via Zoom

Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority meetings are open to the public. If a decision made at a meeting is appealable, any person who decides to appeal will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in a Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 2 business days before the meeting by calling 1(800) 998-7433. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800) 955-8770 (Voice).



July Legislative Subcommittee Meeting

Friday, July 17, 2020 – 8:30 AM

ONLINE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT

Cliff Manuel, Jr (Chair)

Jim Holton

Commissioner John Mitten

Rich McClain

Commissioner Kathryn Starkey (Vice Chair)

Executive Director David Green

Legal Counsel Jennifer Cowan

TBARTA Staff

ABSENT

Commissioner Janet Long

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Accept June Legislative Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept made by Commissioner Mitten, Seconded by Rich McClain.

Voting Yea: Cliff Manuel, Jr, Jim Holton, Commissioner Mitten, Commissioner Starkey, Rich McClain

Motion passes 5-0.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Federal Legislative Update (Harry Glenn and Steve Palmer, Van Scoyoc)

Congress has been working on appropriations, the effort to provide additional COVID-19 funding and the multi-year surface transportation authorization bill. The HEROES Act, an extension of COVID-19 funding went to the ten largest urban areas in the Country. Tampa Bay was not be eligible to get that funding. Lobbyists are working with the Senate in order to see additional funds go to transit relief. They expect to have a bill finished by early August. The House passed its bill, a \$5 billion/5-year bill for transit funding. Republicans will need to be convinced to provide additional funds on the next COVID-19 bill for transit. Appropriations work has been put on hold from the Senate due to police reform. There are only 3 weeks left before the August recess. The House took up ten of their twelve appropriations bills and will begin packaging them up.

State Legislative Update (Ron Pierce, RSA)

The Governor acted on the budget and vetoed our \$1.5 million dollar appropriation. He also vetoed just over \$1 billion dollars in projects, which leaves \$6 billion in reserves. RSA is in the process of setting up meetings with incoming House and Senate leadership to talk about a dedicated funding source and bringing back our enabling act with revisions. The support for TBARTA is still there. There has been talk of innovative changes at the authority, ways to do some larger projects, and what our long-term future goals are. Executive Director David Green voiced the continued need for sustainable recurring funding from the State general operating budget.

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ACTION ITEM: State Government Relations and Lobbying Services

Action: Recommend the Governing Board award a final one-year contract to RSA Consulting Group, LLC.

Staff Resource: David Green, Executive Director

Details:

- On September 17, 2018, Bryant Miller Olive (BMO) brought to the Governing Board at their request a short list of local contracts for state government relations and lobbying services from which the Agency could execute a piggyback agreement.
- On October 26, 2018, the Governing Board approved piggybacking from PSTA's agreement with RSA Consulting Group, LLC, and awarded a one-year contract. On August 23, 2019, the Governing Board approved another one-year agreement with RSA Consulting Group, which will expire on October 25, 2020.
- The current fee is \$8,000 per month funded by local contributions.
- PSTA exercised its final option with RSA Consulting Group on June 22, 2020, for a term of one-year.
- TBARTA remains eligible to piggyback from PSTA's agreement.

Fiscal Impact:

\$8,500 per month funded by local contributions.

Recommendation:

Award a final one-year contract to RSA Consulting Group, LLC.

August 21, 2020

Secretary Kevin Thibault
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

Dear Secretary Thibault:

On behalf of the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) Board of Directors, I would like to request an opportunity to meet with you and your team to discuss recurring operating funds for TBARTA starting in 2021-2022 and review our long-term vision for the future of transit in Tampa Bay. As you know, the non-recurring line item of \$1.5 million was vetoed by the Governor and, as we have discussed, a non-recurring line item each year creates challenges for developing a long-term strategy and long-term budget for regional transportation.

TBARTA was created by the Legislature in 2007 to plan and develop a multimodal transportation system that would connect 7 counties of the Tampa Bay region. In 2017, the legislature changed the mission of TBARTA from evaluating projects more broadly as a transportation authority, to one where we focus specifically on transit improvements. In that same legislation, the regional footprint was reduced to 5 member counties.

Today, we work to advance regional transportation needs in Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas counties. Our purpose is to plan, develop, fund, implement, and operate a regional transit system in this area.

TBARTA is also required to produce a regional transit development plan (RTDP), integrating the transit development plans of participant counties, with priority assigned to regionally significant transit projects and facilities. We recently completed this plan entitled Envision 2030 and the Department received a copy in July. As part of Envision 2030, the Board is focused on innovative transit options such as air taxi service, autonomous vehicle technology, hyperloop, and cable propelled transit.

Recurring funding will support continued development of the Envision 2030 Plan including the development of institutional, organizational, and management structure to plan, implement, and operate mobility improvements and expansions for the Tampa Bay Region. TBARTA wants to be a true partner with DOT and all recurring funds would be focused on annual agency operations to complement and support FDOT's transportation work plan.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your team to discuss our funding request as well as the long-term vision of TBARTA. Please let us know if you have questions or need additional information. We look forward to meeting in the near future.

Sincerely,

David Green
Executive Director

cc: Secretary David Gwynn, Florida DOT District 7
Secretary L.K. Nandam, Florida DOT District 1

DRAFT