



**Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)
Authority Advisory Committee
MINUTES**

DATE

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

A special meeting of the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) Authority Advisory Committee (AAC) was held Wednesday, May 11, 2022, via teleconference/videoconference and was called to order by Chair Baker at 1:34 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen Baker, Chair, Merced County representative
Sandy Hogan, Vice Chair, Mono County representative
Jim Donovan, Yosemite National Park representative
Dana Hallett, Mariposa County representative
Lisa Mayo, Tuolumne County representative
Matthew McClain, Mono County representative*
Candy O'Donel-Browne, Mariposa County representative
Hilda Sousa, Department of Transportation representative
Nanette Villegas, Merced County representative*

MEMBERS ABSENT

Chris Baker, Madera County representative
Jonathan Farrington, Mariposa County representative
Terri Peresan, Mariposa County representative
Rhonda Salisbury, Madera County representative
Moses Stites, Fresno County representative

GUESTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Madeline Brown
Denise Demery
Michael Draper
Lanie Sudermann

STAFF PRESENT

Alexandra Arroyo, Transit Admin Assistant
Nav Bagri, Deputy Executive Director
Christine Chavez, Transit Manager
Xavier Garcia, Staff Services Analyst
Stephanie Jackson, Executive Assistant
Navneet Mattu, Staff Services Analyst I
Alicia Ochoa-Jones, Procurement Manager
Jose Perez, Assistant Transit Manager
Mary-Michal Rawling, Public Affairs Manger
Griselda Villa, Public Program Specialist

*After Roll Call

1. Call to order

- a. Roll call
- b. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Karen Baker led the introductions and called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present. Xavier Garcia led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Discussion

a. Proposed Operation and Maintenance Contract and YARTS Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Operating and Capital Budgets

Nav Bagri and Christine Chavez gave a presentation on the Proposed Operation and Maintenance Contract and YARTS Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Operating and Capital Budgets and discussed the following topics:

- The requested action
- Current Contract with VIA Adventures
- Status of proposals and process
- Procurement Process next steps and the recommendation of the selection of First Transit
- Variations from current to future contract costs and terms
- Fiscal year 2021/2022 achievements and financial challenges
- Anticipated financial challenges/opportunities in FY 2022/2023
- YARTS Workshop in October 2022 to further discuss opportunities for YARTS

4. Action items:

a. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a five-year base contract with two, one-year options for operations, maintenance, and bus fuel services in the amount of \$18,991,534.29 with the selected vendor, First Transit, Inc.

Christine Chavez summarized the request to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a five-year base contract with two, one-year options for operations, maintenance, and bus fuel services in the amount of \$18,991,534.29 with the selected vendor, First Transit, Inc.

AAC members thanked VIA Adventures for their excellent work and professionalism during the 22 years of partnership.

Denise Demery commented that VIA Adventures will continue to provide the same level of service through the remainder of their contract as they have provided over the last 22 years and that the transition to the new contractor will go as smoothly as possible.

Sandy Hogan moved to recommend the YARTS Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into a five-year base contract with two, one-year options for operations, maintenance, and bus fuel services in the amount of \$18,991,534.29 with the selected vendor, First Transit, Inc.

Seconded by Candy O' Donel-Browne

Roll call vote:

Ayes – Members Baker, Donovan, Hallett, Hogan, Mayo, McClain, O'Donel-Browne, Sousa

Notes – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Adopt the YARTS Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 and adopt Resolution No. 2022/05-16-01 authorizing funding under FTA Section 5311 with the California Department of Transportation

Christine Chavez summarized the request to adopt the YARTS Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 and adopt Resolution No. 2022/05-16-01 authorizing funding under FTA Section 5311 with the California Department of Transportation.

Candy O'Donel-Browne moved to recommend the YARTS Governing Board adopt the YARTS Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 and adopt Resolution No. 2022/05-16-01 authorizing funding under FTA Section 5311 with the California Department of Transportation.

Seconded by Matthew McClain.

Roll call vote:

Ayes – Members Baker, Donovan, Hallett, Hogan, Mayo, McClain, O'Donel-Browne, Sousa

Noes – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Transit Manager's report

Christine Chavez reported that YARTS would be holding a public hearing on Monday, May 16, 2022, for the YARTS Operating and Capital Budget for the Fiscal Year 2022-23 item. Christine Chavez thanked AAC members for attending the YARTS special meeting and mentioned that she would be reaching out to AAC members who volunteered to be a part of the Private-Public Partnership subcommittee to schedule a time to meet in June 2022. Christine Chavez also mentioned the kick-off of the 2022 Summer Services.

6. Member remarks

Sandy Hogan asked if Tuolumne County decided on a representative/appointment for their AAC representative.

Christine Chavez responded that Tuolumne County is still deciding on a candidate.

Mary-Michal Rawling introduced Griselda Villa as the Public Program Specialist.

Jim Donovan reported that the Day-Use Reservations would start Friday, May 20, 2022 (no reservations required before 6:00 am or after 4:00 pm). Mariposa Grove Shuttle Service will resume Thursday, May 26, 2022. Glacier Point is closed until the Spring of 2023 (renovation projects).

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OF THE YARTS AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 2:28 P.M.