# AMERICAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

**State Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes** 

JW Marriot at LA Live Pershing Place North Los Angeles, CA

Sunday, September 11, 2016 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

**Attendees:** Lisa Bacot; Tuck Duncan; Meredith Greene; Darnell Grisby; Todd Horsley; Kristen Joyner; Crystal Martin; Becky Miller; Jennifer Mitchell; Jacklyn Montgomery; Anthony Mortillaro; Susan Schruth; Joshua Shaw; Jennifer Dubruhl; Ahilasha Bhola; Gus Fuguitt; Rhonda Briggins; Bruce Robinson; Henrika Buchanan; Art Guzzetti; Rich Weaver; Zach Smith

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

Lisa Bacot, Chair, welcomed committee members and guests which was followed by a round of introductions.

# **Approval of Minutes**

The APTA State Affairs Committee approved the minutes from the previous in-person meeting on August 15, 2016 during the State Public Transportation Partnerships/Transit Midwest Conference.

## **APTA Executive Committee Perspectives**

Michael Sanders and Jennifer Mitchell, APTA Executive Committee, gave brief remarks to the Committee and emphasized the important role that the State Affairs Committee plays within APTA and on the Board of Directors They also discussed a few items that APTA would be focused for the next year including revenue and bylaws.

## **FTA Update**

Henrika Buchanan provided an update on current and upcoming FTA initiatives:

- Rides to Wellness Demonstration and Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Grants program will be announced soon. There were more applicants than funding available, which is a good sign (shows pent up demand).
- CCAM had a successful meeting in June to develop the strategic plan. CCAM will meet again at the end of the year.
- NCMM has convened Rides to Wellness Forums across the country focused on the intersection between transportation and health and will have a state-focus within the next year.
- FTA is working with FRA on PTC.

#### **Welcome from California Members**

Josh Shaw, Executive Director of the California Transit Association, and Jackie Montgomery, Executive Director of the California Association for Coordinated Transportation, welcomed committee members to California and provided updates on issues and initiatives that they are working on in the state.

Shaw mentioned the upcoming ballot initiatives to support BART and LA Metro on November 8 and how the association is supporting those measures. CA Transit Association also organizes iTransit (www.itransitca.com), an advocacy network of organizations and citizens that support better transit in California. CA Transit Association is also using phone2action.com, an advocacy tool to acquire and engage supporters for better transit in California.

Montgomery mentioned that CalTrans has contracted with CalACT and RLS & Associates to review agency policies and procedures on FTA drug and alcohol programs. CalACT is also working with their members on issues related to Buy America, ADA and maintenance requirements as well.

# **Update on the APTA Industry Footprint Tool**

Darnell Grisby, Director – Policy Development and Research, APTA provided an update on the APTA Industry Footprint Tool (www.apta.com/industryfootprint). The tool helps members connect with congressional leaders, has where public transportation services offered, and other facts and statistics organized at the state and congressional district levels.

# **Updates from the State Affairs Committee**

FL: The FPTA is updating their strategic plan. Lisa is also curious if any other associations have sample reserve and investment policies.

CT: The state is dealing with a budget crisis. The Governor has promised a major capital investment program, but the special transportation fund has a \$75 million deficit. Also, both rail and BRT ridership has increased this year.

WI: The WURTA annual meeting is on Oct 4. The association has also hired a new legislative director. The transportation fund in WI continues to be underfunded.

KS: Held a successful multi-state conference in August. Now, KPTA continues to focus on advocacy efforts at the state capitol.

NM: There is a \$150 million deficit in the budget that will affect projects in the state. The association is also considering an increase in the cost of dues.

VA: There is a new performance based methodology to allocate capital. Other initiatives and issues in the state include Richmond building BRT, state oversight component for WMATA, the continued building of major highway projects.

TX: The association is preparing for a Fall training and will host an EXPO in March.

SWTA: SWTA is hosting a Transit Marketing workshop in Baton Rouge in two weeks.

AzTA: Meeting on a monthly basis with mobility managers across the state and preparing for the next annual meeting.

Adjourn.

