



Behind the Scenes

Executive Director's Report

September Board Meeting Recap

The Access Services Board of Directors met on September 28, 2020.

The Board approved the Consent Calendar, which included items that extended the contract for website services, authorized the assignment of the contract for on-board vehicle recording to a new ownership group, and reappointed Transportation Professionals Advisory Committee members. The Board also approved the FY21 Budget, which continues COVID-19 pandemic operations through June 2021 at a cost of \$163.9 million dollars. Paratransit operations represent almost 81% of the total budget and will deliver 1.46 million trips.

The Board will be moving back to its committee structure beginning on October 19, 2020. The next full meeting of the Board of Directors will be on December 7, 2020.

Andre Colaiace
Executive Director

access

Access commits to industry standards for COVID-19 response

Access was recently confirmed by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) to be fulfilling the highest industry commitments of keeping transit safe during COVID-19. That commitment has earned Access APTA's Health and Safety Commitment (HSC) seal, which is now proudly displayed on our website (www.accessla.org).

This commitment to the safety of our riders, contractors, and employees focuses on five key areas:

- > Follow public health guidelines from official sources;
- > Protect each other by cleaning and disinfecting transit vehicles and facilities frequently and requiring face coverings and other protection;
- > Keep passengers informed and empowered;
- > Put health first by requiring riders to avoid riding our services if they have been exposed to COVID-19 or feel ill; and
- > Put health first by requiring employees and contractors to not come to work if they have been exposed to COVID-19 or feel ill.

Access continues to operate modified services, with updated policies and procedures, to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 to keep our riders, contractors, and employees safe.

These modifications include:

- > Enhanced vehicle disinfecting;
- > Face covering requirements;
- > No shared rides;
- > Temporary same day and curbside pickup service; and
- > Aggressive acquisition and distribution of personal protective equipment.

Access' response to the pandemic is being coordinated through Access' Emergency Operations Center, which will continue to monitor the situation and make necessary changes to enhance the safety of our riders, contractors and employees.

Mike Greenwood
Chief Operations Officer



International Autonomous Vehicle Roundtable Discussion

The 2020 APTATech Conference was held virtually on September 9. The conference focused on how the public can use innovative technologies to better navigate transit including emerging technologies in fare payment, autonomous vehicles (AV), safety, security, intelligent transportation system applications, and artificial intelligence. More than 500 virtual attendees participated in the conference representing various transit agencies, cities, state DOTs and business vendors.

As the APTA vice-chair of the Technologies for Vehicle Automation and Connectivity subcommittee, I helped organized three AV sessions with guest speakers from France, Taiwan and North America to present autonomous vehicle pilot projects around the world. The three sessions were (1) The Possibilities of Autonomous Vehicle Technology for Transit, (2) North America AV Roundtable and (3) International AV Roundtable.

I moderated the International AV Roundtable with panelists from EasyMile and RAPT Dev from France, and the City of Tainan from Taiwan's Ministry of Economic Affairs. The session covered recent AV pilot projects in France and Taiwan as well as a discussion on the different roles of government in transit policymaking.

Bill Tsuei
Director of Information Technology

Commendations

"I am filing a smile for my driver, Eric Vega. Eric was polite and I enjoyed our conversation during the ride. Upon exiting the vehicle, Eric offered me his arm to help balance myself and wished me a Happy Mother's Day. Thank you for an amazing experience."

Anna Swett
Rider since July 2001

"I am filing a commendation for my driver, Victor Zamora. During my ride, Victor was very professional and friendly, but the part that stands out to me is Victor's attention to detail. I require my wheelchair to be centered during my rides. Although Victor's notes did not specify, he asked if I had any specific requests and was able to accommodate me quickly. Very nice job, Victor. I appreciate your service."

Jasmine Burciaga-Terry
Rider since May 2009

