

New North Transportation Alliance (NNTA)
 Advisory Board Meeting Minutes - FINAL
 Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 8:00-9:30 a.m.
 USF Center for Urban Transportation Research

Attendance

Raymond Mensah, Chairperson	USF Parking and Transportation Services
Mariann Abrahamsen	City of Temple Terrace
Julie Bond	NNTA/CUTR
Christopher Bowen-guest speaker	RManagement, LLC
Marie Bowen	USF Parking and Transportation Services
Barbara Donerly	Hillsborough County Public Works
Chris Cochran-guest speaker	HART
Christine Epps	NNTA/CUTR
Chaddy Hanwisai	USF Facilities Management
Sara Hendricks	NNTA/CUTR
Rebecca Hessinger	Hillsborough County Economic Development
Arlinda Karuli	Enterprise Rideshare
Katina Kavouklis	Florida Department of Transportation
Karen Kress	Tampa Downtown Partnership
Chris Leffert	Florida Department of Transportation, District 7
Nina Mabileau	City of Tampa
Julian Mackenzie	MOSI
Greg Pauley	City of Temple Terrace
Charles Stephenson	City of Temple Terrace
Phil Winters	NNTA/CUTR
Aiah Yassin	Hillsborough County Public Works
Fred Zerla	University Square Civic Association and THAN
Rob Zimprich	UACDC

Welcome/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m. by NNTA Co-Director, Sara Hendricks, who welcomed members and visitors.

Approval of Minutes

There was a motion that was seconded to approve minutes from the NNTA meeting held on January 9, 2019.

Presentation: HART Bus Service Improvements in the New North area
Christopher Cochran, Director of Service Development

Mr. Cochran presented information about progress of the Route 275LX that began in July 2018. This route runs hourly and connects Wiregrass Mall with the Tampa International Airport via downtown Tampa. The ridership goal was 10,000 riders per month, which was achieved in three months. It is currently stable at approximately 11,000 riders per month. HART may add one earlier trip in June/August. Park & Ride locations are at Lowe's and Wiregrass Mall on Bruce B. Downs Blvd.

Mr. Cochran also gave details about the proposed Uptowner circulator. Stops are proposed to include the University Area Transit Center, Advent Health Hospital, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, USF Engineering, Busch Gardens, Yuengling Brewery and the University Mall. It is proposed to start in July 2019 with a one year initial contract with a public/private partnership between FDOT and HART, the Innovation District and Moffitt. The bi-directional route would begin as a fixed route service and possibly grow into an on-demand or A/V service. The first year the fare would be free. After the first year, USF students would ride free and USF faculty and staff would pay \$.50. The Uptowner is to be featured as an entertainment route to take riders to restaurants, theme park, the Mall, etc. The route could also be expanded to other areas in the future, such as Downtown Tampa, Westshore, and the Innovation District. The service would be operated by HART.

Lastly, Mr. Cochran discussed the East/West Metro Rapid route improvements. HART has chosen a vendor and is currently working on legal and contract issues. It may be mid-2020 before funding is in place.

The potential use of surtax revenue could restore routes and service that were cut in 2017 as part of Mission Max. The 2017 realignment of routes and service resulted in a decrease of ridership, but since mid-2018, ridership has increased. The surtax revenue would help reduce wait times by increasing frequency. There also may be funding for improving sidewalks.

The transit development plan through 2024 will be submitted in September, including extended weekend service and increased frequency. The surtax may also be used for new capital, such as new buses.

The streetcar ridership has seen a 200% growth every month. Rides are free and has outgrown capacity. On April 21st 2019, the streetcars will start 15 minute frequency all day, every day. Prior to that, it was only weekday.

Members expressed gratitude for the restoration of service along 50th Street. HART currently has a shortage in buses and it takes a year to get a bus. HART is also having difficulty finding new employees, especially with strong competitors in the area who are hiring.

Presentation: Update on University Square Mall

Christopher Bowen, Chief Development Strategist, RDManagement LLC

Mr. Bowen gave a presentation about the potential future plans for the University Mall property, in the area rebranded as Uptown. The owners have a vision of making a walkable, mixed-use development that would include retail, medical research and collaborative space. More details will be shared in the future at upcoming community meetings.

Updates and Announcements

Nina Mabileau is the Project Manager of the N. 46th Street Design Project, a 1.5 mile segment between Fowler Avenue and Busch Blvd. These improvements will make it safer and easier to walk and bicycle. The proposed improvements include shared lane markings from E. Busch Blvd. to Bougainvillea Avenue; a shared use path from E. Bougainvillea Ave. to Fowler Avenue, and safety improvements at N. 56th Street and E. Linebaugh Avenue. There will be a public meeting in April.

Congratulations to CUTR for a great USF Transportation Day.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

The next NNTA meeting will be held Wednesday, May 8, 2019.