



MEMORANDUM

To: Ted Anasis, San Diego Airport
From: Bonnie Nelson
Date: December 3, 2015
Subject: Transit Committee Meeting Summary November 18, 2015

ATTENDANCE

Ted Anasis	SAN
Brett Caldwell	SAN
Mark Thomsen	MTS
Chris Schmidt	Caltrans
Johnny Dunning	NCTD
Vickie White	City of San Diego
Miriam Kirshner	SANDAG
Wileen Manois	Port of San Diego
Tinya Hoang	Coastal Commission
Kanani Brown	Coastal Commission

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Introductions

2. Status of Trolley to Terminal

Brett Caldwell and Ted Anasis provided an update on the Trolley to Terminal shuttle. Implementation of this new access route is a major milestone in upgrading transit service to the airport:

- a. The roadway connection on the airport property and the transit shelter are complete and ready to begin service, which is expected to start January, 2016.
- b. Improvements on the pedestrian path between the station and the airport property, which are the responsibility of SANDAG will not be completed until the third quarter of 2016. In the interim the airport will work with the City and the Port of San Diego to receive permission to place “feather signs” with the Trolley to Terminal logo along the route. The airport will also coordinate with the City and Port to reduce the vegetation that has overgrown onto the sidewalk and could obscure the signage.
- c. The airport is also currently completing an update to its website, enhancing the transit information available, as well as developing new materials which will be

available through the information desks at the airport. Training for airport information assistants will also be provided prior to the launch of new service.

- d. Because the pathway from the station to the airport will not be completed, the initial opening of the service will be considered a “soft launch” with marketing focused on airport employees. Broader outreach will be done in conjunction with the opening of the pedestrian improvements.
- e. Airport staff will work with partner agencies to ensure that the new connection is identified and marketed through the Google Transit Trip Planner and other regional transit information.

3. Status of Fare Machine Implementation

Brett Caldwell reported on the implementation of MTS fare machines in each of the terminals. This cooperation between the airport and MTS is a significant milestone in transit improvement at the airport:

- MTS has dedicated two fare machines to the airport, one for each terminal.
- The airport and MTS have partnered to identify the best location for the fare machines, which are scheduled to be installed by the first of the year.
- In conjunction with the implementation of new fare machines MTS and airport staff have also looked at opportunities to consolidate transit stops at the airport and have agreed to consolidate the two stops at terminal 1 into a single stop. The two stops at terminal 2 will remain in operation given the location of the terminal doors and the distribution of passengers through the terminal.
- New signage identifying the location of fare machines as well as the location of bus stops will be implemented along with the machines. Information staff will be fully trained on the new operation.

4. Airport Transit Plan Study Recommendations

Bonnie Nelson made a presentation (available on line) discussing the work completed to date and the preliminary recommendations of the transit study. Committee members are asked to make any comments no later than December 30, 2015. During the comment period, study recommendations will also be reviewed with the Airport’s Executives. A final version of the full report will be completed after comments are received. The preliminary recommendations and status of each are:

- a. **Improve marketing and wayfinding to enhance the existing service.**
The airport is already well underway with improvements to marketing and wayfinding. In partnership with MTS, stop consolidation has been completed, along with identifying placement for ticketing machines. New information brochures are being prepared and website updates are being made. Signage upgrades are also planned to enhance wayfinding. Partner agencies, including MTS and Sounder plan to include updated information in their public information including the Google Transit Trip Planner for the region. These

regional activities are outside of the airport control, but will be supported by airport staff as needed.

- b. **Improvements to the current Route 992, including creation of a Rapid Route.** MTS staff supports the recommendation to consider additional improvements to the 992 including the creation of a 992 Rapid route. This recommendation will require the support of MTS and would require acquiring new Rapid style buses to replace the existing rolling stock on the 992, which is scheduled for replacement in the next procurement cycle.
- c. **Improved access to the Middletown station, going beyond the improvements planned by SANDAG to enhance the connection to the airport and to provide a safe and clear pathway between the station and the airport shuttle.** SANDAG has not yet contracted for implementation of the planned improvements to the pedestrian pathway. Recommendations include various ways to upgrade the existing plans, which could be implemented without further delay to the project. These improvements would ultimately be made by SANDAG as part of their pedestrian path improvement project. The elements of this project that are on airport property are all completed and ready for January service implementation.
- d. **Work with regional partners to consider implementation of an Old Town Shuttle which would connect Coaster, bus and trolley at the closest station to the airport with a short shuttle link.** An Old Town Shuttle is supported by MTS and other regional partners but is more difficult to implement because of neighborhood parking concerns and the capital and on-going operating costs associated with adding a new MTS route. Implementing a new service will require additional time and continued regional partnership to identify funding sources.

5. Next Steps

The Recommendation and Implementation Plan chapters of the report, as well as the presentation to the committee will be available on line. Committee members are asked to provide their comments prior to December 31, 2015. Airport staff and executives will continue a simultaneous review with the goal of completing a full draft report in January.

6. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting is scheduled for Feb 10, 2016

Happy Holidays!