

## **MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2006, MEETING OF THE CITYLINK ADA ADVISORY BOARD**

A meeting of the CityLink ADA Advisory Board was held in the conference room at CityLink Transit, 1189 S. 2nd St., Abilene, Texas on Wednesday, March 8, 2006 at 3:30 p.m. Brigitte Lett – Board Chairperson called the meeting to order, the following members were present:

Brigitte Lett  
David Barnhill

Pam Barnhill  
David Alcala

Patsy Daniel  
Shirley Hudson

Bill Daniel

Also present and attending the meeting was: Bobby Sharpe, Special Services Administrator. Mr. Sharpe informed the Board that Amy Foerster, General Manager is traveling today and will not be in attendance. Mr. Sharpe has been appointed to act on Ms. Foerster behalf.

Members not present include: James Shepard

Board reorganization was discussed. Mr. Sharpe introduced Ms. Donna Reiff, Cooper High School Resource Teacher who is in attendance for today's meeting. Ms. Reiff is considering becoming an alternate member of the ADA Board. The next Board appointments will occur in May 2006 which is recommended by the City of Abilene Mayor and approved by City Council.

Mr. Sharpe thanked the Board for submitting support letters for the Congressional Earmark request to Congressman Neugebauer for the replacement of para-transit vans. The support letters along with CityLink's proposal will be hand delivered to Congressman Neugebauer by Abilene Mayor, Norm Archibald. Mr. Sharpe informed the Board that representatives from the offices of Randy Neugebauer, Kay Bailey Hutchinson, and John Cornyn toured the CityLink facility on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Foerster met with these representatives to explain CityLink's para-transit service, increased ridership, and to express the need for replacement vans. During this meeting, Ms. Foerster gave the following para-transit ridership statistics: November 2005 CityLink transported 9,000 people with 18 vans, 7 of which should be retired due to exceeding life expectancy of 100,000 miles or 4 years (dictated by FTA); Citibus of Lubbock TX transported 6,000 people in November 2005 with 28 vans. Ms. Foerster informed that one van CityLink operates is a 1996 model and has over 350,000 miles.

Mr. Sharpe informed the Board that CityLink is processing grants and that funding has been received and is being applied to vehicles and operations.

Mr. Sharpe reported to the Board CityLink's Evening Service ridership for the month of February 2006 has decreased over 5% as compared to the current month last year. Ridership for this fiscal year to date has increased almost 6% from last year. Revenue for the current month has increased by over 11%, compared to this month last year and the revenue for the fiscal year to date has also increased over 23%.

Mr. Sharpe discussed with the Board CityLink's ridership statistics covering the fourth month, February 2006, of the fiscal year 2006. Fixed route ridership for the current month has increased by over 5% compared to this month last year, reporting 41,278 passengers during the month of

February 2006. Passenger revenue for fiscal year to date has increased over 61% as compared to fiscal year to date last year. Demand response passenger trips equaled 7,089 for the month of February 2006, an increase of over 1% as compared to February 2005. Demand response ridership for the fiscal year to date has increased by over 8% compared to 2005. Passenger trips for the fiscal year to date totals 38,357 whereas fiscal year to date last year was 35,487. Revenues for February 2006 were \$6,524 and revenues from February 2005 were \$5,276, which is an increase of over 23%. Revenue for fiscal year to date is up over 16% as compared to last fiscal year to date. Evening service ridership has decreased by over 5% showing 1,572 passenger trips for the month of February 2006 as compared to 1,660 passenger trips for the month of February 2005 but has shown an increase for fiscal year to date of almost 6%. Revenue for February 2006 was \$1,945 and revenue for February 2005 was \$1,741, which is an increase of over 11%. Revenue for the fiscal year to date has increased over 23% compared to last year.

Mr. Sharpe gave a status report of CityLink's Charter Service. For the month February 2006, CityLink's Charter Service had 125 passengers compared to February 2005 which had 110 passengers.

Ms. Sharpe explained to the Board the status of the Capital Vehicle Replacement Program. The new bus specifications were sent to several bus manufacturers and we received proposals from two different companies that are interested. Bid opening is scheduled to occur on April 12, 2006. Once the bid is awarded, CityLink should receive the first bus in approximately 330 days.

Board members asked about limited transit service on Sundays. Mr. Sharpe informed that CityLink is making plans to request for another earmark of JARC funds in order to extend service to Sundays. The Sunday service would only be for work related trips.

Mr. Sharpe stated that CityLink continues working on other projects. The Request for Proposal that was written to have a consulting firm conduct a fixed route revision study has been at City Hall for about 2 months. CityLink's advertising program has been approved and is now underway.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

The minutes approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

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Chairperson, CityLink ADA Advisory Board