

**LODI CITY COUNCIL  
SHIRTSLEEVE SESSION  
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2013**

A. Roll Call by City Clerk

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, August 13, 2013, commencing at 7:00 a.m.

Present: Council Member Hansen, Council Member Johnson, Mayor Pro Tempore Katzakian, and Mayor Nakanishi

Absent: Council Member Mounce

Also Present: City Manager Bartlam, City Attorney Schwabauer, and City Clerk Johl-Olson

B. Topic(s)

B-1 Presentation on Draft City of Lodi Short-Range Transit Plan Update (PW)

Traffic Engineer Paula Fernandez and Gordon Shaw with LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc. provided a PowerPoint presentation on behalf of the Public Works Department in regard to the Short-Range Transit Plan update. Specific topics of discussion included the purpose of the short range transit plan, existing conditions, service plan recommendations, capital plan recommendations, management plan recommendations, and performance measures.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Shaw confirmed that there is a bus stop within one quarter of a mile of almost every house in the City of Lodi and they are located approximately two blocks from one another.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Ms. Fernandez stated that there is no student discount per se but there is a youth pass available during the summer months.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Bartlam and Ms. Fernandez confirmed that the school district does not provide general bus service to students with few exceptions including out of town service.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Shaw stated the 218,819 figure represents the total number of rides for 2012-2013.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Shaw stated the decline in Dial-A-Ride usage may be due to higher fixed-route usage and a segment of the ridership aging so that they no longer use Dial-A-Ride. Mr. Shaw indicated routes can be adjusted as needed for Dial-A-Ride throughout the year.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Katzakian, Mr. Shaw stated express routes are designed to serve schools more than anything else and run during peak times.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Shaw described how individual rides are calculated and the process for gaining public input through poster service.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Shaw stated currently routes end at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday and 1:00 p.m. on Sunday. Mr. Shaw indicated the recommendation is to extend the hours to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday and 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.

In response to Mayor Nakanishi, Mr. Shaw indicated there is an increase in federal funds to cover the recommended extension of service hours and most if not all cities over 50,000 do provide transit services. Mr. Bartlam briefly explained the history of the City providing transit services through contract over the last 15 years while maintaining ownership of the equipment and infrastructure.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Katzakian and Mayor Nakanishi, Mr. Shaw stated transit service operations vary from city to city in that some are provided through contract while others may be in-house or provided jointly through the county or a joint powers agreement.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Ms. Fernandez stated Council acceptance of the plan is scheduled for September 4, 2013, and the extended hours would begin in mid-September.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Shaw stated certain loops will be available based on demand to ensure all buses can meet as needed for transfer requirements. Mr. Shaw stated the on demand service will be advertised and placards will be placed at bus stops and on the buses themselves.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Shaw stated the Costco stop is permanent and not on demand. Ms. Fernandez indicated staff previously spoke to Blue Shield about employee transit needs and will review the same if the company expresses an increased interest for transit use.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Ms. Fernandez confirmed that staff has not looked into options for electric charging buses in light of the fact that the City has its own electric utility primarily due to costs associated with the same.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Shaw stated that, with respect to general comments received, the biggest concern expressed pertained to the lack of seating and shelter at the bus stops and the biggest compliment expressed pertained to the great relationship between the riders and the drivers. Mr. Shaw stated comparatively out of all comments received the City performed very well.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Katzakian, Ms. Fernandez indicated that Public Works continues to make efforts to install shelters and benches at bus stops throughout the year at an average rate of 7 to 8 annually.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Shaw stated based on his experience with other communities there are both pros and cons to advertising on benches at bus stops.

In response to Mayor Nakanishi, Ms. Fernandez stated transit employees do receive customer service and courtesy training. She stated that, based on the responses at the public hearing, all riders with the exception of one, expressed good relationships with their drivers. Mr. Shaw indicated the City received a 4.9 out of 5 on the survey question pertaining to driver quality and interaction.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Ms. Fernandez stated the City currently does not have advertising policies for buses and any advertising funds generated would need to go back into transit for operations or capital projects.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Shaw stated the 12.75 number is paid for by federal funds and does not receive General Fund dollars. Mr. Shaw indicated the number will go down to the average of 12.40 based on increased ridership during extended hours and both numbers are good based on comparisons with other similar communities.

In response to Mayor Nakanishi, Ms. Fernandez briefly discussed the funding for operations in 2012-2013, which is paid through Transportation Development Act funds, Measure K funds, and fare box recovery.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Ms. Fernandez stated the standard numbers are created by the San Joaquin Council of Governments based on a formula and the City must meet two out of three criteria to receive funding.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Katzakian, Mr. Shaw confirmed that the fares are set by the City Council based on market conditions and the fare amount that patrons are able to pay for usage.

Myrna Wetzel expressed her concerns about advertisement clutter on buses and stops. In response to Ms. Wetzel, Ms. Fernandez stated Dial-A-Ride and Vine Line provide transportation between Lodi and Woodbridge.

C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items

None.

D. Adjournment

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randi Johl-Olson  
City Clerk