



**OPEN MEETING**

**REPORT OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOLDEN RAIN FOUNDATION  
MOBILITY AND VEHICLES COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, April 3, 2019 – 1:30 p.m.  
Laguna Woods Village Community Center Board Room  
24351 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ray Gros-Chair, Don Tibbets, Jim Matson, Jon Pearlstone, John Frankel, Elsie Addington, Andre Torng, John Dalis

**ADVISORS:**

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Vashti Williams (Non-Voting Advisor)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Juanita Skillman, Diane Phelps, Cash Achrekar, Annette Sabol Soule

**STAFF PRESENT:** Chris Laugenour, Francisco Perez, Tiffany Rivas, Lulu Boctor, Elizabeth Cortez, Siobhan Foster (in audience)

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Gros called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**2. Acknowledgment of Media**

No press was present.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved by consensus.

**4. Approval of Meeting Report for February 6, 2019**

Elsie Addington made motion to approve meeting report, second by Jim Matson.

**5. Chair's Remarks**

Chair Gros mentioned that both the Community Workshop, held on March 20<sup>th</sup> with Fehr & Peers, and the new bus demonstration that occurred in mid-March went very well.

## **6. Member Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)**

Shelva Lenzkes 401 Towers: Spoke of how in the past the bus system was unreliable but recently she has seen improvements and is optimistic with the current Fehr & Peers study.

Shirley Niederkorn 184-A: Spoke of how when the buses all stop at one location it creates major traffic. She mentioned that Plan-A-Ride should look into picking up more than one person at a time. She also discussed issues to help make the Plan-A-Ride system more reliable.

Suellen Zima 823-D: Spoke about the history of the Plan-A-Ride and the overall Bus System. She believes that Plan-A-Ride is inefficient because it currently does not allow residents to share a ride with one another.

Geetha Harinath 785-D: Spoke about her experience riding the bus and using Plan-A-Ride, she suggested to the committee to consider allowing the larger buses into cul-de-sacs or using the smaller transportation vehicles in these areas. She also stated that the drivers are excellent.

Mary Wall 239-D: Spoke about Plan-A-Ride and how she believes it's a waste of money and continues to believe that the fixed-route bus system works better than our current system.

## **7. Response to Member Comments**

Chair Gross' generally responded to member's comments and asked for patience as staff is working with the consultant to make the bus system operate better in the future.

Elsie Addington generally addressed member comments.

Jim Matson generally addressed member comments.

## **8. Department Head Update**

Mr. Laugenour thanked those who attended the community input workshop provided by the consultants a few weeks ago. He stated the turn-out was successful having over 100 residents attend at CH1 and over 50 residents at the towers. Also announced the replacement vehicle ordered in December 2018 should be delivered within a week or so.

**Consent:**

None

**Reports:**

**9. Transportation & Maintenance Manager's Reports**

Mr. Laugenour provided an overview of the ridership data for Plan-A-Ride, the Fixed Route System, and Destination Shopping. He also provided an update on the bus demonstration conducted in March 2019. He thanked those committee board members who attended the demonstration. He stated he is currently working with the vendor to finalize specifications for bus purchases that are included in 2019 CIP.

**10. Transit Study Update (PowerPoint) – Fehr & Peers, Steven J. Brown, Senior Principal**

Mr. Steven Brown, from Fehr & Peers, delivered a power point presentation to update the committee on the status of the Transportation Study. This update included an overview of the study's purpose, and outline of the major milestones, and a summary of takeaways obtained at the Community Engagement meetings that took place on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Brown announced that additional surveys and discussions will be taking place over the next few months and draft recommendations will be provided in late May.

**Items for Future Agendas:**

**11. Federal Transit Administration 5310 Grant Requirements:**

- Service Animals on Buses and Plan-A-Ride Vehicles
- Oxygen Generators and Respiratory Support Devices on Buses

**Concluding Business:**

**12. Committee Member Comments**

No comments by members.

**13. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday, June 5, 2019**

**14. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

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Ray Gros, Chair  
GRF Mobility & Vehicles Committee

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