PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION & PARKING COMMISSION MINUTES May 21, 2014

The Public Transportation and Parking Commission met on the above date at 9:15 am in the conference room of the Public Works Department.

Members Present: Ms. Marsha Wyly, Ms. Jessica Faison, Mr. Dave Schwartz, and Mr. Brian Farkas

Member Absent: Mr. Bob Thompson and Mr. Charles Moore

Staff Present: Mr. Scott Godefroy, City Engineer, Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Operations Manager,

Mr. Stephen Mancuso, Transit Manager, and Ms. Geraldine Teel, Secretary

Council Liaison: Council Member Richard Croskery

WELCOME: Ms. Marsha Wyly called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and established a quorum was present.

AGENDA: Ms. Marsha Wyly asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none. Mr. Dave Schwartz made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brian Farkas and unanimously approved.

MINUTES: Ms. Marsha Wyly asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the March minutes. There were none. Mr. Dave Schwartz moved approval as written. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jessica Faison and unanimously approved.

GREENVILLE TRANSPORTATION ACTIVITY CENTER (GTAC): Mr. Stephen Mancuso gave an update on the GTAC. He stated the State allocated some old 5307 federal funding. The matter was taken to City Council, and it was approved. Mr. Mancuso noted a draft application has been submitted to obtain the funding. Necessary documentation was submitted for the Categorical Exclusion finding also. He noted staff supplemented additional documentation having to do with the public involvement process used in selecting the site. Mr. Mancuso stated staff was informed that no more documentation is needed; therefore, staff hopes to get the official notice of concurrence with the Categorical Exclusion soon and then approval. The next step is to proceed with the final design and ultimately with construction. Mr. Mancuso noted that we are only weeks away from moving forward with the project. Mr. Scott Godefroy, City Engineer, stated he anticipates late summer for approval of the design. Ms. Marsha Wyly had concerns about getting approval for the process for acquisition. Mr. Mancuso said he was informed by the Federal representative that it is not necessary in this case to have a Real Estate Acquisition Management Plan; however, we do need to follow the Uniform Relocation Assistance Act while acquiring property. Mr. Godefroy said that Request for Proposals for appraisal and design services will be going out soon. Mr. Godefroy anticipates selection of a firm for acquisition and design to be presented to City Council for approval in late summer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ms. Marsha Wyly asked if there were any public comments. There were none at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Marsha Wyly asked if there was any new business. There was none at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

PARKING UPDATE: Mr. Scott Godefroy gave a brief update on the parking deck. He stated City Council did approve \$4.49M for a guarantee maximum price from Barnhill Contracting Company for the project. The plaza improvements will be funded by the Redevelopment Commission in the amount of \$190 thousand dollars. Construction will begin around the first of June with demolition of the parking area. Mr. Godefroy noted the project is due to be completed in December. Mr. Godefroy stated he hopes adjoining owners will participate as well in order to have a nice plaza with extended brick work with traffic rated permeable pavers on the south side of the deck near Fifth St. Mr. Godefroy stated the west side will have brick pavers as well to have a consistent look; however, not traffic rated because there is not enough space for a fire truck or garbage truck. Mr. Godefroy said a French drainage system will be installed underground to intercept roof water and subsurface water.

E-TAG PROGRAM: Mr. Corey Barrett of Code Enforcement gave an update on the E-Tag program. He stated the program has been in effect for one year, and there are only eleven (11) people that have applied for the E-Tag. He stated after meeting with business owners of uptown Greenville, as well as employees, he has received a lot of positive comments about the program; however, they are saying the cost of the E-Tag is currently too expensive. Mr. Barrett informed the commission that Code Enforcement thinks it will be beneficial to reduce the price from \$150 per year to \$75 or maybe \$50 to get more participants. There are designated parking lots and onstreet parking for the E-Tag participants to park all day he noted. He stated the merchants want to transfer the tag from one employee to another because most of them are university students. Mr. Barrett said a hang tag would be beneficial in this case. The merchant would be responsible for obtaining the tag and getting the tag back once the employee leaves employment. Mr. Barrett noted they are also looking into a validation program for patrons in the uptown Greenville area. A discussion was held about lowering the fee. Mr. Brian Farkas made a motion to lower the E-Tag fee to \$75. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jessica Faison and unanimously approved. In addition, Mr. Farkas stated it would be beneficial to have some kind of data/feedback after the fee changes to see how it's going. Mr. Barrett said that someone from Code Enforcement will be back in September or October to give an update.

GREAT DATA & RGP SERVICE REPORT: Mr. Stephen Mancuso gave a brief update. He stated ridership for April 2014 is slightly higher than April 2013 based on the year-to-date figures just slightly under a year ago. Mr. Mancuso contributes this to a rough winter. He is looking forward to a better ridership in the spring. He stated revenues on a monthly basis and annual basis are over budget and expenses are less than budget. Council Member Richard Croskery had concerns about the complaints. Mr. Mancuso explained them and said he is pleased that he is receiving fewer complaints as time goes by.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2014, at 9:15 a.m. in the Public Works Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine Teel, Secretary Public Transportation & Parking Commission