

MONTHLY REPORT

to the
Knoxville Transit Authority



May, 2008

Knoxville Area Transit



More than a ride.





BILL HASLAM
MAYOR
(865) 215-2040

SAM ANDERSON
SENIOR DIRECTOR OF
OPERATIONS AND EFFICIENCY
(865) 215-2090

THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

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VICE-CHAIR

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PATRICK RODDY

JOHN SIBLEY

BRIAN SIMMONS

WALTER WILLIAMS, JR.

CHRIS WOODHULL

JOHN LAWHORN
ATTORNEY TO THE K.T.A.

AGENDA
KNOXVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Thursday, June 26, 2008, 3:00pm
MAIN ASSEMBLY ROOM
CITY COUNTY BUILDING

- I. Determination of Quorum**
- II. Approval of Minutes – May 22, 2008**
- III. Report of Staff**
- IV. Old Business**
- V. New Business**
 - A. KTA Committee Reports**
 - a. **Advocacy and Ground Transportation Committee**
 - b. **Knoxville Station Committee**
 - c. **Community Advisory Committee**
 - B. New ATU Executive Board**
 - C. Budget Recommendations from June 10th Transit Planning Session**
 - D. Slate of changes for July 24th Public Hearing**
 - E. Proposed Minor Route Revisions for 50C: UT Off-Campus Housing**
 - F. The Proposed Change to Taxi Rates or Additional Charges**
 - G. Other New Business**
- VI. Public Forum**
- VII. Set Next Meeting and Adjourn**

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MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Main Assembly Room, City County Building
Thursday, May 22, 2008 at 3:00 P.M.

I. Determination of a Quorum

Chair Sproles acknowledged that there was a quorum. Commissioners in attendance were as follows:

Vice-Chair Holloway
Commissioner Carmichael
Commissioner Simmons
Commissioner Williams

**II. Public Hearings: CMAQ Smart Fix 40 Project Plan
Program of Projects 5309 Transit Grant**

Mrs. Melissa Roberson, KAT's CAO, reported that the CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality) grant is to support transit enhancements surrounding the TDOT SmartFix 40 construction project. This will also include a free fare program during the closure of I-40. She went on to report that the total funding for the project is \$290,500, where \$232,400 is federal share and \$58,100 is state funding. She also stated that there are no local funds involved.

Ms. Cindy McGinnis, KAT's GM, reported that TDOT has agreed to partner with KAT on this project. There will be 12 buses with a SmartFix 40 logo on the curbside of the bus. In addition to the logo, the writing on the bus will read, "ride smart, ride this bus free." This will be for the duration of the closure of I-40. The buses with the logo will be the only buses free to passengers. This grant will cover the cost of the logo plus the cost of the free fare.

Commissioner Carmichael responded that he couldn't in good conscience vote for this particularly the last section. He went on to say that the thing that really throws this off for him is the congratulations TDOT-FTA-SmartFix 40. He commented that he thought the project was badly implemented. He continued that he understands that the funds are badly needed, the free fares are great and the branding is good, but he can't vote for it.

Ms. McGinnis went on to say that the \$144,000 is for the rebranding of the 12 buses and that the rebranding for each bus is budgeted at \$12,000. She also reported that the logo is a very small logo on the back of the bus and that she could tell from the passion in Commissioner Carmichael's statement that this project rubs him the wrong way. She went on to say that KAT was pleased to get a transit component out of the

overall project. She added that she certainly understand Commissioner Carmichael's statement.

Public Hearing Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burks, West Knoxville, commented that she was against all grants because they are not used for the riders; they are not used for the buses. She also commented that we have more riders but they will not stay. Finally she added that the grant money should be used only for buses.

Ms. Sherrie Raymond, North Knoxville, commented that she agrees with Commissioner Carmichael and Ms. Burks. She went on to say that it is ridiculously frivolous that they offered to paint a logo that promotes themselves on buses when they have turned down funds that would provide some actual good to the bus authority and passengers as well.

Chair Sproles stated that KTA has a resolution for this grant. He went on to say that 12 buses in which the riders get to ride free throughout the service area would be a benefit to riders. He then stated that whether we always agree with what TDOT does, he thinks that the board needs to concentrate on the benefit for the transit authority and riders and the free rides they would have for the year that the interstate would be closed.

Chair Sproles made a motion to approve the resolution for CMAQ Smart Fix 40 Project Plan. Vice-Chair Holloway seconded the motion. Four KTA Board members agreed. Commissioner Carmichael opposed the resolution.

Mrs. Roberson reported that the second public hearing is for approval of the Program of Projects 5309 Transit Grant. This grant is for a portion of a TDOT Discretionary Grant for Capital Assistance to KAT in the amount of \$40,231 for the federal share for a total project cost of \$50, 288.75. This is a portion of a Discretionary Capital Grant Assistance Project that the State of Tennessee received and TDOT has allocated to KAT through the state under Project TN E-2006-BUSP-934.

Ms. Roberson went on to report that this funding would be used to purchase two pedestals lifts for our KAT maintenance shop.

Chair Sproles asked where the other \$10,057.75 balance would come from.

Ms. Roberson responded that it would be ½ TDOT and ½ City.

Public Hearing Speakers:

There were no speakers for this public hearing for the Program of Projects 5309 Transit Grant.

