Meeting Agenda

Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation
Board of Trustees

February 10, 2021
8:30 AM

107 Arrow Road
Greensboro, NC 27409

NOTICE: This meeting is being held via Video/Teleconference with adjustments being made to protect our communities during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Teleconference dial in number: +1 (224) 501-3412
Access Code: 219-241-133

Video access link - https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/219241133
Meeting ID: 219-241-133
## Agenda Items
### February 10, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| I) Call to Order – Roll Call of Teleconferencing  
   A. Consideration of Resolution for Teleconference and Electronic meeting for February 10, 2021 | 1 |
| II) Overview of Meeting Process and Procedures | ----- |
| III) Public Speakers Registered via contactus@partnc.org | 4 |
| IV) Consideration of Meeting Minutes | 5 |
| V) Consideration of PART Board Business Items  
   A. New Business  
     1) Resolution of Support for Federal/State Funding  
     2) Letter of Support – State Budgeting  
     3) Authorization to Sell Excess Fleet Vehicles  
     4) PART Organization Overview – TDM/Rideshare | 10 |
| B. Old Business  
   1) None | |
| VI) Departmental Staff Reports  
   A. Department Staff Reports  
     1) Executive Director  
     2) Department Reports | 16 |
| VII) Chairperson Report | 20 |
| VIII) Adjourn | |
Meeting Date: **February 10, 2021**  

**Action Requested:**  
Call to Order – Roll Call of Teleconferencing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary of Information:</th>
<th>Attachments</th>
<th>yes</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>no</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**A. Consideration of Resolution for Teleconference and Electronic meeting for February 10, 2021**

PART Board action is requested to adopt the resolution on page 2 for our business activities today, and our ability to restrict public meetings to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

| Board Vote: |  
| Motion by: | Second by: |  
| Vote: | For | Against |  

**Agenda Item No. 1**  
Page No. 1
WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared a national State of Emergency in response to a worldwide pandemic caused by a virus known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of North Carolina has declared a statewide State of Emergency and invoked powers enumerated in N.C. Gen. Stat. Chapter 166, Article 1A (the North Carolina Emergency Management Act) in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Guilford County Board of Commissioners, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §166A-19.2, declared a State of Emergency in Guilford County as a result of COVID-19; and on March 24, 2020, Guilford County and the cities of High Point and Greensboro amended the declaration to order all citizens not performing certain essential tasks to stay at home and self-isolate; and

WHEREAS, the Guilford County declaration applies to all meetings conducted within Guilford County, including the regularly scheduled meeting of the PART Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, PART has statutory, contractual, and fiduciary duties that must be regularly conducted by its Board of Trustees despite threats imposed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. §160A-639 (General Powers of the Authority) grants the Authority certain broad powers; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. §160A-639(22) provides that the governing board shall have the power “to do all things necessary or convenient to carry out its purpose and to exercise the powers granted to the Authority;” and

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees has determined that the only healthy, safe, and logical manner in which to conduct PART’s business at this time is by electronic means enabling remote participation by board members and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has also determined that it can implement certain safeguards to protect and facilitate the public’s right to participate electronically to observe all public discussions and decisions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board of Trustees hereby invokes the broad powers granted in N.C. Gen. Stat. §160A-639(22) to take all necessary steps to conduct public business safely during officially declared states of emergency related to COVID-19, including meeting by electronic means.

2. The February 10, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting shall be conducted electronically in a manner determined by the Executive Director to enable maximum remote participation by the board, staff, and public.

3. This Resolution applies only to the February 10, 2021 meeting but may, upon proper amendment, be extended by electronic vote of the Board of Trustees to apply to future meetings if states of emergency on local or state levels require its extension. Its execution may be accomplished by electronic signature, each on separate pages, as necessary, to verify its adoption.
4. The Executive Director shall duly notify the public through all print and broadcast media outlets on the PART media list and by prominent notice on the PART website that the February 10th meeting will be conducted by electronic means. Notice shall include explicit instructions to facilitate and protect the right of public participation.

5. The Executive Director shall also provide board members and the public with instructions for receiving technical support to ensure and protect each person’s ability to participate remotely by electronic means.

6. A copy of this Resolution shall be sent by electronic means to each member of the Board of Trustees, PART staff, all persons who regularly attend PART meetings, and the media.

7. The Board of Trustees may adopt this Resolution by electronic vote through email, fax, or text messaging without motion or second.

   Adopted by electronic vote this the 10th day of February 2021.

___________________________  ___________________________
Marikay Abuzuaiter, Chairperson  Terry Anderson, PART Administrative Assistant
Board of Trustees  Clerk to the Board

Approved as to form and content:

___________________________  Seal:
Thomas E. Terrell, Jr.  
PART Board General Counsel
Meeting Date: February 10, 2021

Action Requested:
Public Speakers that have registered via Contactus@partnc.org

PART has communicated to the general public via our social media, Facebook, TransLoc, website, and electronic mail resources to make the general public aware of our monthly Board meeting. At this time, we will provide the opportunity for public comments.

Summary of Information:  
Attachments yes  no X

Board Vote: Motion by: ________________________ Second by: ________________________
Vote: For ________________ Against ________________
Meeting Date: February 10, 2021

Action Requested:
Consideration of Meeting Minutes

Summary of Information:
Attachments yes X no ___

The January 13, 2021 meeting minutes are enclosed for PART Board review and approval.

Board Vote: Motion by: ________________________ Second by: ________________________
Vote: For ________________ Against ________________
Board Members Present:
Abuzuaiter, Marikay – City of Greensboro TAC
Austin, Kevin - Yadkin County
Butler, Jim - City of Burlington
Coleman, Carolyn – Guilford County
El-Amin, Fleming – Forsyth County
Frye, Darrell – Randolph County
Fox, Mike – NCDOT Board of Transportation
Hightower, Sharon – City of Greensboro
Holmes, Michael – City of High Point
Horn, Mike – Winston Salem/Forsyth TAC
Marion, Mark – Surry County
Mengert, Paul - PTAA
Mundy, Kevin – City of Winston Salem
Perkins, Andrew – NCDOT
Richardson, Mark – Rockingham County
Truell, Don – Davidson County
Williams, Leonard – Burlington-Graham

Others Present:
Terry Anderson, PART; Connie Conklin, PART; Sabrina Glenn, PART; Mark Kirstner, PART; Toneq McCullough, City of Winston Salem; Scott Rhine, PART; Dianna Thomason; PART; Tammy Turner, PART; Tom Terrell Jr., Fox Rothschild.

Note: Michael Holmes arrived after the roll call.

I) Call to Order: Roll Call of Teleconferencing.
A roll call was taken, and a quorum established with 18 members of the PART Board in attendance.

A. Consideration of Resolution for Teleconference and Electronic meeting for November 12, 2021
Chair Marikay Abuzuaiter explained the virtual meeting conducted under the authority that the General Assembly has provided under Statutes §160A-639 and §160A-639(22) with regards to the current state of emergency due to COVID-19. With our voting today, Board members who are in attendance please state if you are a no or an abstain vote, otherwise all of those included on the call today will be considered a yes. A Resolution is presented to acknowledge the virtual meeting format.

Motion to adopt the Resolution for Teleconference and Electronic meeting for January 13, 2021: Sharon Hightower
Second: Fleming El-Amin
Discussion: None
II) **Overview of Meeting Process and Procedures**
Chair Abuzuaiter encouraged everyone to keep their audio on mute to allow agenda items to be explained; then will open for discussion giving everyone an opportunity to speak.

III) **Public Speakers registered via contactus@partnc.org**
Chair Abuzuaiter asked if anyone had contacted PART to register as a speaker from the floor. Scott Rhine indicated there was no public speakers. Chair Abuzuaiter asked if anyone who called in wanted to speak. There were none.

IV) **Consideration of Meeting Minutes**
There were no corrections or additions for the November 12, 2020 PART Board of Trustees meeting minutes.

Motion to accept the November 12, 2020 meeting minutes: Steve Carter
Second: Fleming El-Amin
Discussion: None
Vote: 18-Yes / 0-No / Abstain

Mike Fox arrived at the Meeting.

V) **Consideration of PART Board Business Items**
A. **New Business**

1) **New PART Board member Oath of Office.**
Mr. Rhine welcomed new PART Board member Kevin Mundy who was designated as the representative to the PART Board from the City of Winston Salem. Tom Terrell, Jr. administered the Oath of Office to Kevin Mundy being sworn in on Jan 13, 2021 Chair Abuzuaiter welcomed and thanked Mr. Mundy for his representation and service on the PART Board.

2) **Approval of Contract Amendment-PART/NETS Operations, Maintenance, Management**
Mr. Rhine gave an update on the unionization of the bus operators with our contractor National Express Transit Systems. He stated the bus operators had a majority vote in favor of unionization and joined Teamsters Local 391 Union. He added; for administrative purposes and taking into consideration our existing contract as well as the original RFP, it is in the best interest for PART and our compliance regulations overseen by the Federal government under 49 U.S. C. A 5333(b), to have our attorney make amendments to include recognition of a unionized workforce, and stated collective bargaining agreements are done by our contractor and the local union. Sharon Hightower asked if Mr. Rhine still had concerns with unionization, and if the contract represents us in collective bargaining? She also asked if other staff was interested in joining the union as GTA’s Maintenance personnel agreed to become unionized in Greensboro, and stated, please be advised that may change. Mr. Rhine said there are concerns with unionization due to the size of our operations. We have no objections to our bus operators having protection. Our contractor National Express Transit Systems (NETS) has various contracts across the U.S. giving them experience working with union organizations. Collective bargaining is handled through NETS and their representative with the Teamsters 391 Union as these are NETS employees. NETS does not expect or plan to request any adjustments on what the PART Board had approved in November with contract extension or rates of service. They have not finalized on what the work force agreement will be. He stated the vote was for Bus Operators. Our contract with National Express represents Bus Operators, Maintenance and Supervisory Personnel. In total we average 43 people, and in that total, there are 34-35 bus operators. Maintenance and Supervisory Personnel are not included with the unionization. For protection purposes reviewing our contract and adding references of unionization should to be recognized.
Darrell Frye stated we are contracted through November 30, 2021 with renewal options. Mr. Rhine said that is correct, we are in our 4th year. Normally contracts are 3-5 years therefore it is not uncharacteristic to review the contract and entertain a solicitation process. If it is decided to issue an RFP, we could possibly start that process in April.

Motion to approve to Amend a Contract for Management / Operations / Maintenance Service with National Express Transit Corporation: Darrell Frye
Second: Fleming El-Amin
Discussion: None
Vote: 18-Yes / 0-No / 0-Abstain

Note: Mike Fox left the January 13, 2021 Board meeting 9am.

3) Overview of PART and 2021 PART Business activities
Mr. Rhine shared a presentation on the history and work activities for 2021 to acquaint new Board members with activities PART leads. He continued that prior to COVID19, there were several videos for outreach and business activities created in 2018 and 2019 to help educate riders on how PART operates as well as the new way of fare collection through our Smart Card and or iPhone application. Moving forward, the focus will be on the following: COVID19; maintaining safety procedures and Board of Trustees involvement. Another significant activity will be reshaping the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program. With COVID’s impact on the van pool program, new strategies need to be developed by working with MPO’s to embed programs at the local level. Meetings are already in process to advance this initiative. Financial for 2021; involvement with Finance Committee to access the local funding and short falls from COVID19 and strategy of funds involving the CARES ACT funds. PART Express 2021; involvement of Operations and Planning Committee and related to our current contract with possibility of a new RFP process, routes and items driven by businesses and rider usage. Darrell Frye asked with the loss of the Furniture Market this year how has that affected PART? Mr. Rhine stated it affects us financially, as the vendors of the Furniture Market rented vehicles, with no Furniture Market there is less Rental Vehicle Tax. Kevin Mundy asked if the CARES funding had been expensed or was that budgeted to go out into the fiscal year so the remaining months, we have revenue from CARES dollars? Mr. Rhine stated it was set up within the current fiscal year meaning the money we received a year ago was forecasted and projected for some of our routes. We have different CARES Act funds from four different MPO’s and that money is tied in with specific routes within that urbanized area. Some of our routes are covered one hundred percent by CARES Act funds through June 30 of this current fiscal year. We have more services in the Greensboro Urbanized area and expect those CARES ACT funds to be utilized before the end of the fiscal year. We have regular Federal funds in place meaning we have operating funds at a 50% level and in place from 2019 and 2020. Local funds need to match Federal funds. Fleming El-Amin stated, with the most recent allocations concerning COVID19 from the federal government, stimulus checks etc., did PART qualify for any of those funds? Mr. Rhine responded that the federal government announced funding for the CARES ACT, and he had not seen what that is from an FTA standpoint. Other funds dealing with personnel, your staff, things of that nature those go to other resources that are not a part of our funds sourced from FTA.

B) Old Business

1) Open Invitation – PART Board committee participation
Mr. Rhine invited participation with our various committees for PART. He gave an open invitation to all the Board members and stated that participation is voluntary and proves beneficial to PART Board members getting more engaged in the details of various programs, projects, and activities. He added that year 2020 Chair for each committee had agreed to continue in that position. Finance Committee Chair; Kevin Austin, Operations/Planning Chair; Neal Grimes, Personnel Chair; Fleming El-Amin. A summary of purpose and function of each committee is found in your Board package. Mr. Rhine asked Board members to reach out to him via email if interested. Chair Abuzaitei added, committees help give insight on how things work.
VIII) Departmental Staff Reports
A. Department Staff Reports
Reports are in your Board package for your review.

XI) Chairperson Report
Chair Abuzuaiter added to move PART forward suggested having a thirty-minute orientation the orientation would be an overview of what goes on within PART and that it would be beneficial to understand what each staff member does and all programs of PART is engaged in. The second item; all Board members are truly the ones that can best to relate to community and discuss how important public transportation is. I think this Board does a great job being ambassadors for PART. In that vein, I would like for all of us to ride a PART bus from one city to the next, for marketing purposes. As elected officials’ folks may listen to us and everyone can gain a feeling of trust if they see us on the bus. Sharon Hightower added this is a great idea and I would like to ask is are we restricting the amount of people on the bus as I would not want to take up that seat as others may need it. Mr. Rhine stated the only restrictions on the bus is distancing and the front of the bus being restricted to those with disabling issues and wheelchairs. Everyone else separates themselves out. This is directly related to ridership and have not had any issues. Safety issues are in place and followed. We will set up an orientation for Board members. Sharon Hightower added if we are not social distancing on the bus and we want riders, but I feel we need to look at having some measures for social distancing. The other item is two years ago we spoke about adjusting routes in some places and look at factoring ridership in other areas such as Publix and Brown Summit. If we can increase ridership by looking at these options, I feel this would be beneficial. Steve Carter agreed with Ms. Hightower and said it may be good idea to identify we as PART Board members to riders to help them feel confident and comfortable riding PART. Chair Abuzuaiter asked to move forward with orientation and for Board members to stage rides on the PART bus for rider confidence in PART Board and the PART establishment. Fleming El-Amin commented on the ambassadors for PART, he stated he was filmed taking the vaccine for COVID19 and shared with the public for confidence in the vaccine, the thought is when you take a ride on the PART bus possibly use your phone to record a self-video of the ride to help market safety and confidence in public transportation. Mr. Rhine added he will each out to Finance Committee for a meeting before our in February Board meeting. Chair Abuzuaiter asked Mr. Rhine what the best way for Board members is to send responses or suggestions for bus rides etc., Mr. Rhine stated to reach out via email or phone call.

Adjourned: 9:35am
Consideration of PART Board Business Items

A. New Business:

1) **Resolution of support for Federal/State Funding**

   PART has prepared a project application seeking NCDOT approval for Federal SPR funds and NCDOT matching funds to support the Piedmont Triad Regional Model (PTRM). The project funding request is to undertake a Household survey to update data inputs for the Regional Travel Demand model.

   PART was awarded funding in 2019 for this project and established a PART and City of Greensboro Interlocal Agreement for managing the NCDOT funding agreement and project development roles and responsibilities. Unfortunately, our regional project and associated funding was rescinded from NCDOT due to the COVID19 pandemic and the NCDOT cash flow reviews during 2020. A new application has been developed to seek these Federal and state funds to get the project re-established and back on track for further development.

   A resolution is included on page 12 for PART Board consideration to support our funding request to update the Household survey data for the Triad Regional Model.

2) **Letter of Support for State Budgeting**

   A letter to Governor Roy Cooper is included on page 13. The letter is requesting the Governor’s office to support the restoration of State Maintenance Assistance Program (SMAP) funds for the FY22 NCDOT budget. For the PART agency the loss of SMAP funds represents roughly $650,000. With our current situation of having less local funding as a result of COVID19 and the CARES Act funding PART has received from our Urbanized areas not expected to fully cover the loss of local funds in FY22 the need to restore SMAP funding is an urgent necessity to maintain our public service of the future.

   Many local governments, the Metro Mayor’s coalition and local public transit agencies across the state are submitting this request while the state budget discussions are underway.

   PART Board action is to accept the letter to be submitted to Governor Cooper.

3) **Authorization to sale Excess Fleet Vehicles**

   This item is a continuation of previous discussions related to the PART Vanpool / TDM program. In October 2020 the PART Board authorized the transfer of 2 minivans to Beaufort Area Transit. Since that time we have worked at making other opportunities for organizations in our industry.

   We have been in communication with a Council of Government in South Carolina that is starting up a regional vanpool program. They are an FTA grantee that was made aware of our fleet vehicles and the plans to reduce the size of our excess fleet due to the number of vanpool groups that have been impacted by COVID19 in 2020. The
Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) sent some staff to our site to look at our vehicles and PART has provided them with a listing of fleet vehicle details that included fund source for purchase, original purchase price, mileage, fair market/net book value for each vehicle.

The BCDCOG is interested in purchasing some of our fleet vehicles and a Notice of Intent to purchase letter from BCDCOG is included on page 14. This potential sale would result with a spare ratio of 26 vehicles. PART has 7 2014 vans that have met their useful life and will be placed on GovDeals for sale in the coming months. At that point, our fleet vehicle and spare ratio size will be more manageable for us to continue to work on re-establishing vanpool groups in the Triad. In addition, potential purchasing of vans will be limited on an as needed basis that will be presented to the PART Board when the need arises based on the 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 vehicles we will maintain in our vanpool fleet and are in good working condition with useful life available for daily use.

A resolution is included on page 15 for PART Board consideration.

4) PART Organization Overview – TDM/Rideshare
   As a continuation of PART history that began at the January 2021 meeting; an update and overview will be provided to PART Board members in various segments.

Scott Rhine will provide a brief presentation to the PART Board on the history and current activities of the first regional program administered by the PART organization – RideSharing and Vanpooling of the Piedmont (RSVP).

B. Old Business
   1) None

Board Vote: Motion by: ___________________________ Second by: ___________________________

Vote: For ________________ Against ________________
RESOLUTION OF THE PIEDMONT AUTHORITY FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION REQUESTING FY2022 NCDOT STATE PLANNING & RESEARCH FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) is a regional transportation authority created under Article 27 and N.C.G.S. 160A; and

WHEREAS, PART works directly with our member agencies to enhance mobility for each of our citizens through Regional Cooperation; and

WHEREAS, PART has taken the responsibility to assist in transportation planning for NCDOT and our Triad MPOs by serving as the Model Custodian for the Piedmont Triad Regional Model (PTRM); and

WHEREAS, PTRM has been active in the Triad since 2004 and represents a transportation model program that replicates travel behavior and transportation planning forecast for the Metropolitan Planning Boundaries (MAB) of the Triad MPOs, and requires continuous updates to meet legal and federal compliances for the investments of transportation decisions on our road networks; and

WHEREAS, in order to replicate existing travel patterns and behaviors for a functional end user application of travel modeling various data input variables need to be updated; examples include population, housing, student enrollments, traffic counts, external station surveys, freight data, and household data; and

WHEREAS, the existing Household Travel Survey data that is contained within the PTRM is from 2008, and requires an update to maintain an accurate depiction of existing populations of the Triad for consistency of PTRM data tables; and

WHEREAS, PART received this funding in the past, but due to COVID-19 and other factors the funding was withdrawn by NCDOT and the project placed on hold; and

WHEREAS, PART in partnership with our Triad MPO partners is applying to NCDOT seeking FY 2022 State Planning & Research funds to assist with the funding of a Household Travel Survey for the PTRM.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the PART Board of Trustees supports the application requesting State Planning & Research funds for an updated Household Travel Survey for the Piedmont Triad Regional Model.

A motion was made by ____________ and seconded by ____________ for adoption of the above resolution, and upon being put to a vote was duly adopted on this 10th day of February, 2021.

I, Marikay Abuzuaiter, PART Chairperson does hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of an excerpt for the minutes of a meeting of the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation duly held on the 10th day of February 2021.

Approved: ___________________________  Witnessed: ___________________________
  Marikay Abuzuaiter                  Thomas E. Terrell, Jr.
  PART Board Chairperson              PART Board Legal Counsel

Attest: ___________________________  Seal: ___________________________
  Terry Anderson                      PART Administrative Assistant
February 10, 2021

Governor Roy Cooper
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Dear Governor Cooper,

On behalf of the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART), and our member agencies that encompass our Regional Authority, I am writing to request that state funding for bus maintenance for urban transit systems be restored in the State budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

For the current fiscal year, the General Assembly removed the State Maintenance Assistance Program (SMAP) for urban transit systems throughout North Carolina. That’s a total deficit of $3,755,455 for the Triad Region, and $32.5M Statewide.

While all public transit systems have been adjusting service in response to the COVID19 pandemic and many of our NC Urbanized areas have been afforded Federal Cares Act funding to support the loss of local funding due to the worldwide pandemic of COVID19. Our full and steadfast recovery of COVID19 is conditional of both local and state support to combat the COVID19 pandemic and maintain the public transit services throughout the state for all North Carolinians. Another year of lost SMAP funding in FY2022 will directly impact our public services to North Carolinians. Our citizens deserve better.

I am writing to ask that you include the restoration in SMAP funding in the final state budget for the upcoming year. I also ask that you help restore critical funding to transit systems around the state, as we work to provide access to jobs, education, health care and community services.

Thank you for your service to our state and your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Mark Kay Abuzuaier, Chair
PART Board of Trustees
City of Greensboro Council Member
Transportation Advisory Committee Chair - GUAMPO

Cc: PART Board of Trustee members
January 27, 2021

Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation
Attn: Scott W. Rhine, Executive Director
107 Arrow Rd.
Greensboro, NC 27409

RE: Notice of Intent to Purchase – Vanpool Vehicles

Dear Mr. Rhine:

Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) hereby issues this Notice of Intent to Purchase for the following vehicles in the amount of $273,431.08:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle ID Number</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description Make/Model</th>
<th>VIN</th>
<th>Current Van Mileage</th>
<th>Sales Price - January 15, 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Ford Transit</td>
<td>1FBZX2ZG3KKA45923</td>
<td>24,051</td>
<td>$27,391.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Ford Transit</td>
<td>1FBZX2AG3KKA58615</td>
<td>28,859</td>
<td>$26,767.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1932</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Ford Transit</td>
<td>1FBZX2ZG7KKB47099</td>
<td>13,881</td>
<td>$28,724.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Ford Transit</td>
<td>1FBZX2ZG5KKB47098</td>
<td>12,085</td>
<td>$28,898.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Ford Transit</td>
<td>1FBZX2ZG3KKB47097</td>
<td>3,907</td>
<td>$29,547.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Ford Transit</td>
<td>1FBZX2ZG1KKB47096</td>
<td>18,991</td>
<td>$28,113.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Ford Transit</td>
<td>1FBZX2ZG6KKB47093</td>
<td>11,038</td>
<td>$29,012.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dodge Caravan</td>
<td>2C4RDGBG4KR752291</td>
<td>8,950</td>
<td>$18,744.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dodge Caravan</td>
<td>2C4RDGBG4XR752294</td>
<td>22,064</td>
<td>$18,744.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dodge Caravan</td>
<td>2C4RDGBG6KR752292</td>
<td>4,124</td>
<td>$18,744.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dodge Caravan</td>
<td>2C4RDGBG8KR752293</td>
<td>843</td>
<td>$18,744.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$273,431.08

If you have any questions, please contact Jason McGarry at 843-529-2571

Sincerely,

Ronald E. Mitchum
Executive Director

PLANNING, PARTNERSHIP & PROSPERITY
5790 CASPER PADGETT WAY • NORTH CHARLESTON, SC 29406 • TEL 843.529.0400
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PART EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TO SELL ELEVEN VANPOOL FLEET VEHICLES

WHEREAS, The Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) has managed the RideShare and Vanpool Program (RSVP) of the Piedmont since 2000 to promote rideshare services to various employees and employers throughout the Piedmont Triad; and

WHEREAS, PART maintains a fleet of vanpool vehicles that includes 7 passenger minivans and 15 passenger vans to support the leasing and management of the PART Commuter Operations vanpool program with citizens and business that participate in rideshare services for their daily commutes; and

WHEREAS, the COVID19 pandemic has resulted in the loss of rideshare participation to various employees and employers that are adjusting to COVID19 with new telework measures, social distancing measures and some losses of employment to participants of our vanpool rideshare program since March 2020; and

WHEREAS, PART recognizes a loss of thirty vanpool groups due to COVID19 and realizes the time that will be needed for vanpool groups to be re-established and societies acceptance to ridesharing will be long term; and

WHEREAS, in order to manage our fleet vehicles and recognize the large influx on unused assets for our Vanpool program, PART provided notification to all Urban and Rural public transit providers in North Carolina on the opportunity for vehicles and various TDM organizations in our industry; and

WHEREAS, PART has received interest from the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments BCDCOG in North Charleston, South Carolina to purchase four (4) 2019 Dodge Caravans and seven (7) 2019 Ford Transit vans that where originally purchased by PART with 100% local funding; and

WHEREAS, the PART fleet vehicles on the accompanying Notice of Interest from BCDCOG and referenced herein as PART vanpool fleet vehicles 1927, 1928, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1937, 1938, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943; and

WHEREAS, the fleet vehicles made available for sale included all excess vehicles that had a market value or Net book value to confirm no loss of value for PART’s prior investment; and

WHEREAS, The BCDCOG has offered a purchased of $273,431.08 for the eleven (11) vehicles from PART.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the PART Board of Trustee’s approve the sale of the eleven vanpool vehicles aforementioned and authorize the PART Executive Director to work with Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments to transfer vehicle ownership from the PART Vanpool fleet to BCDCOG.

A motion was made __________________ and seconded by __________________ for adoption of the above resolution, and upon being put to a vote was duly adopted on this 10th day of February, 2021.

I, Marikay Abuzuaiter, PART Chairperson do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of an excerpt for the minutes of a meeting of the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation duly held on the 10th day of February, 2021.

Approved: ________________________  Witnessed: ________________________
  Marikay Abuzuaiter                  Thomas E. Terrell, Jr.
  PART Board Chairperson               PART Board Legal Counsel

Certified: ________________________  SEAL: ________________________
  Terry Anderson
  Administrative Assistant, Clerk to the Board
Executive Director Updates:

- PART has received additional CARES Act funds for services in the Greensboro urbanized area. These additional funds are related to the supplemental CARES Act funds of the FTA Section 5307 program.
  - $367,606 made available to PART
- PART has received preliminary confirmation of receiving FTA Section 5311 CARES Act funding from NCDOT for the services we provide in rural areas of our territorial jurisdiction that are not eligible for urbanized area funds.
  - $500,277
- PART has obtained the appropriate STIP amendments and Split Letters from local and state agencies to move forward in FTA grant preparation for related expense in the current fiscal year. Many of our services are supported by our CARES Act funding already in active status. These FTA grants are the “normal” allocation of funds and the project funds will be utilized for the current year and carry over in FY2021-22 for project activities not fully supported by CARES Act funding.
- PART staff will be working with local professional staff over the next several months in preparation of an updated Triad TDM plan. This planning exercise is a continuation of the plan development that was halted due to COVID19.
  - A preliminary project update and input session is planned for the PART Board Operations/Planning committee following our March 10, 2021 PART Board meeting.
  - Mark your calendars. A confirmation will be provided to members of the Operations/Planning committee.
- PART Express is investigating the feasibility of a “Micro-Transit” service design for our rural routes. Additional information will be presented at an upcoming PART Board meeting on the purpose of Micro-transit, coordination needs with local service and how that ties in with Regional service.
- PART would like to recognize and welcome three new staff members to the PART Team.
  - Bonita Wellington (PT), HR Administrator
  - Francis Ryu (FT), Travel Demand Model Associate
  - Dawson Lassiter (FT), Call Center Associate

Department staff report is on the following pages.
The New Normal

Since Augst 2020, PART has been tracking a number of factors related to COIVD-19 and its impact on traffic volumes and patterns. Understanding when a return to normal has occurred or when the new normal arrives is important to several initiatives related to data collection for the regional travel demand model and being efficient with PART Express service. Below are several factors that are being tracked and how they compare to January 2020.

- **Unemployment**: still 2% to 2.6% higher in our region
- **Traffic Volume**: in the Greensboro area traffic volume remains 6% below last year’s baseline
- **Transit Ridership**: for the fixed routes system in the region, ridership was 21.3% below last year’s baseline

A new factor that is being monitored is vaccinations. The prevailing thought is all factors will begin improving by the fall of 2021. At this point universities are planning to allow students to be on campus and stay at home restrictions will be lifted. PART is planning on initiating a freight driver survey later this year and household travel survey in the spring of 2022. By April of this year, post-COVID months in different years can be compared. Additionally a comparison of transit ridership seasons can begin to give us a more meaningful measure to the return to normal.

Black History Month and Transportation

In 1922, Garrett Augustus Morgan Jr., an inventor and businessman, made one of the most significant advancements to traffic control when he improved the traffic signal. After witnessing a major car crash, Morgan applied for and received a patent in 1923 to add a warning light to the then two-light system. Back then, most traffic signals only had two positions: stop and go. Morgan’s t-shaped design added a third position halting all traffic. This would allow the intersection to clear before a light turned green once again. Vehicle crashes decreased significantly and we still use this innovative safety technology in traffic control today.

In 1955, the Montgomery Bus Boycott championed by Rosa Parks and a young Dr. Martin Luther Jr. was a major blow to segregation on buses throughout the nation. Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man when the Jim Crow laws in the South required her to do so. Rosa, a secretary for the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement for Colored People) became the face of the boycott that, nowadays we say, ‘went viral’ nationwide. The boycott led to the United States Supreme Court ruling segregation on buses unconstitutional. The high court decision changed the public transportation experience for people of color and ensured equality for all generations to follow.

“You must never be fearful of doing what you are doing when it is right.” ~ Rosa Parks

Continued on page 2
Transit’s response to COVID-19 and what it tells us

PART Express ridership has mirrored the ridership trends of other systems. As service is reduced then restored, PART Express ridership has decreased then increased. WSTA’s ridership showed a significant decrease in ridership from December to January likely because their fare free policies ended in early January.

In the chart to the right, PART Express ridership is compared to changes in service during 2020. Ridership clearly mirrors changes in service hours. As expected, ridership decreased in November and December, and an estimate shows a further decrease in January. These three months are referred to as the Holiday ridership season. During the next season, Spring Break, ridership typically increases as students return to school and there are fewer holidays and weather related service disruptions. However, with COVID still impacting in-class learning and remote work remaining prevalent, ridership will remain stagnant. As referenced above the vaccination program and achieving immunity will play a key role in the return to normal. Hopefully this will be apparent by the end of October.

Triad TDM Plan launch

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) is the application of strategies and policies to reduce travel demand, or to redistribute this demand in space or time. In transport, as in any network, managing demand can be a cost-effective alternative to increasing capacity. For the past 20 years PART has managed the Regions Vanpool program and coordinated with NCDOT on the statewide initiatives for promoting a regional TDM program.

Two years ago, PART and NCDOT began discussing modernizing our regional program. Then a global pandemic hit. COVID-19 has had a detrimental impact on the TDM program, specifically the vanpool program. At its peak there were 52 active van pools, today there are 15. These events along with lowered transit ridership, electric vehicles, autonomous vehicles, more emphasis on bike infrastructure, scooter, Uber, micro-transit, and most recently a focus on teleworking, have led us to this point.

The PART Board of Trustees and the transportation directors of our local MPO’s are interested in the development of a more comprehensive regional TDM plan. Numerous efforts are already underway in each jurisdiction that include TDM related activities. Being part of a larger effort can leverage funding and resources PART has access to, to help accomplish local goals. This is not an answer to all the needs that exist, but we are at a the point where our region needs expand our collaboration to enhance mobility across jurisdictions. An initial meeting will be held on February 11, 2021 with stakeholders from PART and the four MPO’s. The goal is to develop a working strategy by July 2021.

continued on Page 3
More COVID relief funding on its way

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) includes $14 billion to be allocated to support the transit industry during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The funding eligibility was restricted to areas with high operating cost and was called at 65% of 2018 operating costs as identified under the CARES Act. In North Carolina, Charlotte, Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill and Greensboro areas are eligible. The Greensboro Urban Area MPO received a total of $5,692,613. GTA will be allocated $5,286,954, PART $367,506, and Guilford County Transporations (TAMS) $38,053. PART will utilize the additional CARES Act funding to support the PART Express services we operate in the Greensboro UZA. These funds will help offset the loss of local funding that has not fully recovered from the impacts of the COVID19 pandemic.

Another funding opportunity has been made possible through a partnership with NCDOT and the NC Department of Health and Human Services. On January 21, 2021 they announced that approximately $2.5 million in Coronavirus Relief Funding will be distributed to local transit agencies across the state to pay for rides for individuals who need transportation to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Each local transit agency will receive a set amount of funding, and the initiative will continue until funds are exhausted for that agency. The funds can be used to offset operating costs associated with transit rides to and from vaccination sites for people who are receiving or assisting someone in receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

[Source: Joint agency press release issued January 21, 2021.]

The City of Winston-Salem takes another bold step

The City of Winston-Salem received $1,000,000 a Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning grant from the Federal Transit Administration which assists communities that are developing new or expanded mass transit systems. The grant will fund the development of a comprehensive plan for the proposed North-South Urban Circulator route corridor. This plan would provide recommendations in a variety of areas, including but not limited to mixed-use development, affordable housing, multimodal transportation opportunities and connections, business attraction and retention, and zoning. This study builds upon the Winston-Salem Streetcar Feasibility Study completed in December 2014. The kick-off meeting was held in January and the study will take 18-months.

“No one should ever be left on the side of the road, or pushed off the sidewalk or without a way to get to the way that they are destined to go. Especially not because of what they lack, or are perceived to lack. Making those ways clear, open and available, that’s the justice of transportation equity. And why it’s necessary for justice for us to get right.”

— Kristen Jeffers - Black Urbanist and Greensboro Native

“Every North Carolinian has a spot and needs to get their shot.” said Governor Roy Cooper. “As vaccine supply increases, we are deploying every resource to make sure people have access and are not held back by barriers like lack of transportation.”

“Fighting the COVID-19 pandemic is everybody’s business and every organization has something they can do to help.”

~ DOT Secretary J. Eric Boyette.

www.PARTNC.org 336.883.7278 contactus@partnc.org
Chairperson Report

PART Chair, Abuzuaiter will provide additional updates and news to the PART Board.

Board Vote: Motion by: ________________________ Second by: __________________________
Vote: For ________________ Against ________________