

**BI-STATE DEVELOPMENT
SECURITY SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
(VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM)
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
June 11, 2020 @ 8:30 AM**

Sub-Committee Members in Attendance via Zoom

Missouri

Rose Windmiller, Co-Chair
Vernal Brown
Fred Pestello

Illinois

Herbert Simmons, Co-Chair
Irma Golliday
Derrick Cox – Absent

Other Commissioners in Attendance via Zoom

Nate Johnson
Constance Gully – Absent

Terry Beach
Justin Zimmerman – Absent

Staff in Attendance via Zoom

Taulby Roach, President and Chief Executive Officer
Barbara Enneking, General Counsel and Deputy Secretary
Myra Bennett, Manager of Board Administration
Brenda Deertz, Administrator/Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
Stephen Berry, General Manager - Public Safety, Central Facility - Public Safety
Kevin Scott, Director - Public Safety
Vernon Summers, Manager - Contract Security, Central Facility - Public Safety
Jessica Mefford-Miller, Executive Director Metro Transit
Patti Beck, Director of Communications
Ted Zimmerman, Vice President Marketing & Communication
Jerry Vallely, External Communications Manager

Others in Attendance

Lurae Stuart, WSP
Brett Runge, ASL Interpreter

- 1. Open Session Call to Order**
8:30 a.m. Chair Simmons called the Open Session of the Bi-State Development Agency, Security Sub-Committee Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
- 2. Roll Call**
8:30 a.m. Roll call was taken, as noted above.

3. Public Comment

8:33 a.m. Chair Simmons asked Ms. Bennett if any speaker cards were submitted for today's meeting. Ms. Bennett noted that two comment cards were submitted, and deferred to Barbara Enneking, General Counsel, for additional information. Ms. Enneking read the correspondence, as noted below:

Name: Liz Kramer

Representing: Self - City Resident

Topic: New Ride and Abide Policy Review

Comments: I'm concerned about the details of the new proposed Ride and Abide policy, and the vetting by policy experts who look for the impact on our most vulnerable populations. What protections are there to ensure that repeat offenders or those who are experiencing homelessness are not criminalized and punished? Will review committee members for appeals be specifically trained to address racial and socioeconomic equity? In general, I think the idea of being able to ban those who are causing the most problems makes sense, but I want to be sure that those with the expertise to assess the impact on vulnerable individuals have reviewed this thoroughly before it is adopted.

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Name: Mitch Eagles

Representing: Transit riders

Topic: Several Comments

Comments: I think it's ridiculous that we never stopped fare enforcement on Metro, and that metro fare enforcement are still regularly not wearing masks. Bi-State received a \$142 million grant: that's almost half your operating budget on Metro for a year, and yet we're still requiring fares and actively doing fare enforcement. And the system we've implemented seems half-thought-through. Riders who buy a cash fare get no transfer, so now they all must touch a fare machine at the MetroLink station if they are transferring. This just adds additional vectors. Given the demographics of our system, this has a disproportionate impact on Black St. Louisans, and I would guess that's even more true during a pandemic where only the most reliant on public transit are riding. If Bi-State believes that Black lives matter, then I think they really need to do a better job of showing it. I would ask the board to confirm their commitment to racial equity, rather than hand waving.

I also hope that Bi-State commissioners are listening to the national conversation about the role of police. I think any rider on our system has seen the racial bias of our "public safety" officers (I have regularly seen black riders asked to show their pass in a more discerning way than I, a white rider, am). Mr. Roach's response to my email about the coronavirus concerns was sorely disappointing: placing the perception of "safety" above the actual creation of "safety" (which would include reducing vectors of transmission for a deadly disease) is a succinct example of Bi-State's wrongheaded approach.

I have concerns about a policy allowing users to be banned from the system. While I appreciate that the policy only applies to serious issues, I have doubts trusting this in your hands when you have proven reticent to provide the public with the ability to actually oversee problems. A few months ago I brought a chart to this Board which suggested a serious increase in fare violations issued to our riders, which I made utilizing Metro's public safety data. Since then, the data I used

to make that chart has disappeared from Metro's website. I have received a response that this data will never be available to the public again. This is, frankly, bonkers.

I miss my ability to attend these meetings in person. I hope you will forgive this letter sounding terse, but these are serious issues and Bi-State continues to act like a clown. I am sad to see Commissioner Holman go, as she always seemed to be the most willing to actually work towards serving transit riders. I welcome the newest commissioner, although I would really have liked to have seen a transit-reliant person on the board (and not one who lives in the Central Corridor and primarily uses MetroLink, as that is not representative of our ridership).

Looking forward to being on the bus with regularity once this pandemic is over!

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It was noted that copies of these cards would be sent via e-mail to the Commissioners at the conclusion of today's meeting.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the May 14, 2020 Security Sub-Committee, Open Meeting 8:38 a.m. The minutes of the May 14, 2020 Security Sub-Committee, Open Meeting were provided in the Committee packet. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Pestello and seconded by Commissioner Brown. **The motion passed.**

5. WSP Scorecard for Metro Transit – Report 8:39 a.m. Lurae Stuart, WSP, addressed the Committee, to give a summary of the most recent WSP Scorecard for Metro Transit (Metro), related to security updates. She noted that Metro has made progress in several areas since September 2019, including: Security Strategy; Police & Security Staffing; Procedures & Training; and Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED); and Technology. (President and Chief Executive Officer, Taulby Roach, stated that the “Scorecard” with a full breakdown, will be distributed to the Commissioners after today’s meeting.)

In the area of Security Strategy, the following progress was noted:

- Collaborative functional working relationships – law enforcement, Metro & contracted security
- Defined roles documented in the Security Plan and contracts
- Security Plan developed collaboratively, approved and implemented
- Security, Safety & Emergency Management combined under a single organizational unit
- Proactive communication and media strategies
- Emergency Management program functional and integrated

With regard to Police & Security Staffing, Ms. Stuart noted the following progress:

- Leadership of all three partnership programs aligned
- Staff position reallocation in process
- Transit security program direction supported by all partners
- Each level of security staff provided the proper tools for their role
- Coordinated, collaborative and complementary deployment

- Oversight at each security layer strengthened
- Active security staff deployment being implemented
- Total agreement on resolving issues out of the public realm

In the area of Procedures & Training, the following progress was noted:

- Standard operating procedures updated to support current roles and responsibilities
- Passenger Code of Conduct approved and posted
- Ride and Abide policy slated for June Bi-State Board approval
- Revised training program being developed to support revised roles
- Law enforcement partners included in training opportunities

Ms. Stuart noted that Fare Enforcement continues to need some focus; however, these items are currently being reviewed. Commissioner Windmiller posed questions regarding the Ride & Abide Policy and fare enforcement, and whether we are adhering to best practices as they relate to racial equity. Ms. Stuart stated that this issue has been reviewed, and are we are ensuring training on equitable enforcement. She stated that the policies are in line with best practices; however, it is oversight of the program, training and thoughtfulness that makes the difference regarding enforcement. Kevin Scott, Director Public Safety, noted that there is now an analytical process in place to track how citations are being issued and to ensure that staff is balanced and fair in how these policies are enforced. Upon the request of Commissioner Pestello, Jessica Mefford-Miller, Executive Director Metro Transit, gave her perspective on this issue, noting that Metro is developing a program that it has never had before and it will enable us to take a close look at these issues.

With regard to Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED), Ms. Stuart noted the following progress:

- Security design criteria under development to guide consistent application of security concepts
- Signage and wayfinding being culled and updated
- CPTED evaluation of system elements in process
- Lighting and sight line strategies being developed to support security
- CPTED concepts being applied during design reviews

Stephen Berry, General Manager Public Safety, noted that CPTED evaluation should be completed by July. It was noted that design criteria has not yet been established; however, funding must also be a consideration. Ms. Mefford-Miller noted that funding for many of these projects is included in the FY21-23 Budget.

It was noted that the following progress has been made with regard to Technology:

- CCTV access provided to law enforcement
- Grant application submitted to DHS support additional cameras and technology
- Passenger Assistance and Emergency Telephones being evaluated for functionality

- Location of Fare Machines and Validators being assessed as part of the fare evaluation program
- High visibility uniforms being worn by the TSS's and contracted security

Commissioner Beach posed questions pertaining to the status of communication between the three Police Departments. Mr. Scott and Mr. Roach gave an update regarding the current status, noting that the police partners continue to discuss this issue. Commissioner Simmons stated that communication between the first responders is of utmost importance, and lack of communication is a problem waiting to happen. He stated that the channel to allow for these communications has been there since inception; however, the partners cannot agree. Mr. Roach stated that he could use some assistance from the Board members, in working with our police partners, regarding this issue.

Ms. Stuart noted the following focus areas for additional progress:

- Some elements of progress are dependent on funding: Camera; CPTED application for existing stations; Updating of lighting and communication technologies
- Some elements are depending on governmental agreement: Single radio channel
- Cohesive fare enforcement program, supported by streamlined fare instruments and technology
- Training program being revised to support updated roles and responsibilities
- Solid data to support program development, deployment and staff

6. Update – Response and Coordination to Protests

9:43 a.m. Stephen Berry stated that Metro has been working in tandem with TSA, FBI, emergency operation centers and law enforcement partners regarding recent events. He noted that over 28 rallies were held from June 3 to present. He noted that unmanned drones have been used to ensure that everyone is staying safe. Mr. Berry noted that the investigation of the incident involving a packaging truck and looters is ongoing. He stated that Security has been able to identify problem areas during these events, and has had a heightened awareness to our vulnerabilities. Mr. Berry stated that he would like to give a “shout out” to the MetroLink and MetroBus operators during these events, who continued to operate at nearly a 100% level.

Kevin Scott stated that additional security measures were put into place on June 2nd, along with a readjustment of security personnel. He noted that these redeployments remain in place. Mr. Scott noted that Metro has been in close collaboration with its municipal partners to rebuild and revamp relationships throughout the region.

7. Update – May 29, 2020 Belleville Station Incident

9:46 a.m. Kevin Scott gave a brief update regarding the May 29, 2020 Belleville Station incident; however, he noted that information is limited, due to the fact that this is an ongoing investigation. He noted that the incident involved an apparent overdose, and that the subject was found unresponsive and in possession of narcotics. Narcan was administered; however, it had no effect.

9:48 a.m. Chair Simmons stated that the only Executive Session item on today's agenda is the approval of the Minutes of the May 14, 2020 Security Sub-Committee, Executive Session Meeting. He stated that if no discussion is needed regarding this item, the Committee can forego today's Executive Session, and move forward with taking a motion and roll call vote to approve this item. Being no discussion, Chair Simmons asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2020, Security Sub-Committee, Executive Session Meeting, as presented, as a closed record. The motion was made by Commissioner Windmiller and was seconded by Commissioner Brown. The poll of the Board being:

Rose Windmiller – yea
Vernal Brown – yea
Fred Pestello – yea
Nate Johnson – yea

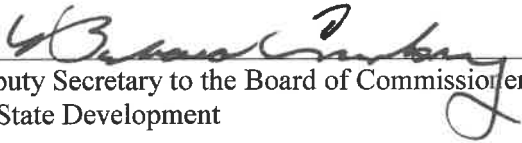
Herbert Simmons – yea
Terry Beach – yea
Irma Golliday – yea

Motion passed.

President and CEO, Taulby Roach noted that there will be two items coming before the Board in the near future. He stated that the Ride & Abide Policy will be coming before the Board of Commissioners in June, and asked that the policy be thoroughly reviewed. In addition, he noted that Ms. Jessica Mefford-Miller and Ted Zimmerman are moving forward with a mobile ticketing project, and there will be an update on that item in June as well. Mr. Roach thanked Ms. Mefford-Miller, Mr. Berry, Mr. Scott, and the entire Safety team for working diligently through the recent events.

8. Adjournment

9:55 a.m. Chair Simmons asked if there was any further business, and being none, Commissioner Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. Unanimous vote in favor taken. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:55 a.m.


Deputy Secretary to the Board of Commissioners
Bi-State Development