

**MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**OPERATIONS & SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

**April 27, 2016**

The Board of Directors Operations & Safety Committee met on April 27, 2016 at 10:01 a.m. in the Board Room on the 6<sup>th</sup> Floor of the MARTA Headquarters Building, 2424 Piedmont Road, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Board Members Present**

Roberta Abdul-Salaam  
Robert F. Dallas  
Jim Durrett, *Chair*  
Roderick E. Edmond  
Jerry Griffin  
Barbara Babbit Kaufman

MARTA officials in attendance were: GM/CEO Keith T. Parker, AICP; Chief of Staff Rukiya S. Thomas; Chief Operating Officer Richard A. Krisak; Chief Financial Officer Gordon Hutchinson; Chief Administrative Officer Edward L. Johnson; Chief Counsel Elizabeth O'Neill; AGMs Elayne Berry, Wanda Dunham, Robin Henry, Ming Hsi, David Springstead (Interim) and Terry Thompson; Executive Director Ferdinand Risco; Sr. Directors Joseph Erves; Directors Onyinye Akujuo, Lisa DeGrace, Johnathan Hunt, Jennifer Jinadu-Wright, Pat Minnucci; Executive Manager to the Board Rebbie Ellisor-Taylor; Sr. Executive Administrator Brenda L. Williams; Finance Administrative Analyst Tracy Kincaid. Others in attendance Davis Allen, Tobias Branson, Nicholas Gowens, Jayant Patel and Dansby Wade.

Also in attendance were Jim Schmidt of HNTB; Winston Simmonds of LTK Engineering; Sid Sparks of Virginkar & Associates.

**Consent Agenda**

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- a) Approval of the March 31, 2016 Operations & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

On motion by Mrs. Kaufman seconded by Mr. Dallas the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved by a vote of 3 to 0, with 3 members present.

## **Individual Agenda**

### **Resolution to Accept the Contract for Project P22526, Design/Build Doraville Structural Rehabilitation**

Mr. Minnucci presented this resolution for Board of Directors' approval authorizing the final acceptance of Project P22526, Design/Build Doraville Structural Rehabilitation, in the amount of \$1,717,405.00.

Mr. Dallas asked if the original contractor had any liability.

Mr. Durrett responded that MARTA performed the work.

Mr. Dallas asked what is the warranty period for the completed project.

Mr. Minnucci said the project is covered by a standard warranty period of five years.

On motion by Mrs. Kaufman seconded by Mr. Dallas the resolution was unanimously approved by a vote of 4 to 0, with 4 members present.

### **Briefing – MARTA Police Department Security Overview**

The Committee was briefed on MARTA Police Department (MPD) trends for Part I, Part II, and Part III crimes and the initiatives in place to combat these trends. The statistics show a downtrend in crime reporting, indicating MARTA's Safety & Security initiatives are working.

#### *MPD Crime Reporting*

- Reporting utilizes National Uniform Crime Reporting Standards
- Part I Crimes
  - Part I Crimes are specified by the FBI as part of their National Uniform Crime Reporting program
  - Definitions are used by all law enforcement
  - Examples: Homicide, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Larceny, Auto Theft, Arson, Rape, Burglary
- Part II Crimes
  - Examples: Other Assaults, Fraud, Gambling, Disorderly Conduct

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- Part III Crimes
  - Examples: Ambulance Calls, Lost and Mislaid Property, Vehicle Impounds

*FY 2015 vs. FY 2016 Comparison*

- Part I Crimes
  - FY 2015 – 527
  - FY 2016 (YTD) – 319
  - 39% Decrease
- Part II Crimes
  - FY 2015 – 4,345
  - FY 2016 (YTD) – 2,863
  - 34% Decrease
- Part III Crimes
  - FY 2015 – 4,357
  - FY 2016 (YTD) – 3,002
  - 31% Decrease

*Part I Crimes: FY 2013 – 2016 (YTD)*

- FY 2013 – 539
- FY 2014 – 530
- FY 2015 – 527
- FY 2016 (YTD) – 319

*Part II Crimes: FY 2013 – 2016 (YTD)*

- FY 2013 – 3,248
- FY 2014 – 3,939
- FY 2015 – 4,345
- FY 2016 (YTD) – 2,863

*Part III Crimes: FY 2013 – 2016 (YTD)*

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- FY 2013 – 3,496
- FY 2014 – 3,840
- FY 2015 – 4,357
- FY 2016 (YTD) – 3,002

*High Profile Incidents and Accidents – FY 2016 (YTD)*

- July – September 2015
  - Copper Thefts (multiple locations)
- January 16, 2016
  - Aggravated Assault/Firearm (Oakland City Station)
- February 14, 2016
  - Aggravated Assault/Firearm (East Point Station)

*Safety Awareness Initiatives*

- Blow the Whistle Campaign
- Self-Defense Awareness Classes
- Courtesy Rides (320 from October 1, 2015 – March 8, 2016)

*Security Initiatives*

- Conducting Target Hardening Operations Response (THOR)
- Increased Bus Marshal presence
- Increased visibility
- Distribution of personal property pamphlets and "See Something, Say Something" flyers
- High Visibility clothing (vests and polo shirts)
- Hybrid Train Units
- Step On/Step Off initiative
- Utilization of Special Operations
- Officer vigilance & engagement
- Information gathering/sharing with local jurisdictions

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Mr. Griffin said MARTA tends to get in the news when crime happens near a station, even though it may be a jurisdiction issue. He asked what is MARTA's role if an incident occurs near a rail station.

Chief Dunham said MPD may assist by apprehending a suspect until he/she can be turned over to the local jurisdictions or by providing information for an investigation.

Dr. Edmond said that he witnessed the Step On/Step Off initiative during a recent ride. He commended MPD on the effectiveness of the initiative.

Mrs. Abdul-Salaam said she and Mr. Griffin were pleased to attend the Clayton County City Managers Meeting at the MARTA Police Precinct in Morrow. She thanked MPD for hosting the meeting. She asked about MPD's video analytics monitoring.

Chief Dunham said with video analytics MARTA can see a disturbance in a station. Once the program is complete MARTA will have approximately 10,000 cameras, which will lead to quicker response times.

Mr. Griffin said College Park Station has one restroom and that seems to be a problem considering some bus riders, particularly from Clayton County, are in commute for close to an hour before arriving at the station.

Mr. Krisak said College Park Station is a target for the restroom upgrade project for automation and capacity.

Mr. Dallas referred to a news report of a former MARTA employee's indictment on arson charges. He asked if that or similar issues is something the Board would be apprised.

Mr. Parker said it is not staff's intention to inundate the Board. The goal is provide the Board with information on significant items, but it is an ongoing balancing act. He said if board members hear of an incident and would like more information, staff would be glad to provide it.

Mrs. Kaufman asked what is MARTA doing to combat terrorism.

Chief Dunham said MARTA is a part of the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) that meets with the FBI quarterly. MPD is staying on top of the recent terrorist act in Brussels. At this time, there are no credible threats. However, MPD continues to monitor homegrown domestic terror and lone wolf terror.

Mr. Parker said MARTA conducts simulated terror drills annually.

Chief Dunham said MPD will hold its Tabletop Exercise in May and the Full Scale Exercise in October.

Mr. Parker said MPD also has a K-9 unit trained to detect explosives on the MARTA system. In addition, MARTA is hiring a Cybersecurity Specialist to combat cyber threats.

Chief Dunham said they are provided through grant funding.

### **Safety Briefing – Bus Collisions (July 2015 to December 2015)**

The Committee received a Safety Briefing on Bus Collisions from July 2015 to December 2015.

#### *Collision Definitions*

- MARTA defines a collision as any contact between a vehicle, an object, a pedestrian or an animal
- NTD defines a collision as a vehicle/vessel accident in which there is an impact of a transit vehicle/vessel with another transit vehicle, a non-transit vehicle, an object, a person, an animal, a rail vehicle, a vessel or a dock

#### *Bus Collisions: FY 2016 – Quarter 1 (Q1) & Quarter 2 (Q2)*

- July (Q1) – 95
- August (Q1) – 103
- September (Q1) – 95
- October (Q2) – 102
- November (Q2) – 110
- December (Q2) – 87

#### *Bus Collisions: Quarterly Comparison FY 2011 – FY 2015*

- FY 2011
  - Q1 – 353
  - Q2 – 418
  - Q3 – 371

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- Q4 – 373
- FY 2012
  - Q1 – 368
  - Q2 – 408
  - Q3 – 474
  - Q4 – 372
- FY 2013
  - Q1 – 348
  - Q2 – 288
  - Q3 – 217
  - Q4 – 262
- FY 2014
  - Q1 – 213
  - Q2 – 250
  - Q3 – 292
  - Q4 – 232
- FY 2015
  - Q1 – 241
  - Q2 – 254
  - Q3 – 279
  - Q4 – 292

*Agency Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Comparison*

- MARTA
  - Total Miles Operated (2015) – 26,853,728
  - Total Collisions (2015) – 1014
  - KPI 2015 – 3.78
  - KPI Goal – 3.7
- NJT (Newark, NJ)

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- Total Miles Operated (2015) – 95,165,128
  - Total Collisions (2015) – 3661
  - KPI 2015 – 3.49
  - KPI Goal – 3.45
- SEPTA (Philadelphia, PA)
  - Total Miles Operated (2015) – 46,019,837
  - Total Collisions (2015) – 2561
  - KPI 2015 – 5.56
  - KPI Goal – 6.36
- DART (Dallas, TX)
  - Total Miles Operated (2015) – 29, 175, 157
  - Total Collisions (2015) – 734
  - KPI 2015 – 2.52
  - KPI Goal – 2.4
- King County Transit (Seattle, WA)
  - Total Miles Operated (2015) – 46,679,766
  - Total Collisions (2015) – 1385
  - KPI 2015 – 2.97
  - KPI Goal – 3.0

### *Top Reasons for Preventable Bus Collisions*

- Operator did not utilize defensive driving techniques
- Operator failed to adhere to MARTA's operating procedures; examples: Scanning mirrors every three to five seconds, both hands on the steering wheel, and improper backing
- Distracted driving
- Human error; example: misjudging clearance

### *Top Categories of Non-Preventable Bus Collisions*

- Side swipes



- Bus rear-end while stationary
- Bus overtaken; example: passenger occupied vehicle (POV) cuts bus off
- Bus backed into; example: POV backing out of driveway

*Corrective Actions*

- Focus safety awareness through education and classroom interactions
- Collaborate with internal departments to review route hazard analysis results and reassess routes based on historical trends
- Partner with "sister" transit agencies utilizing site visits and information sharing

Mr. Parker said it is very difficult to find a peer to peer comparison. The best way to analyze trends is to compare year to year.

Mr. Griffin asked what is the status of the simulation training.

Mr. Krisak said the program is moving forward. Staff will be coming to the Board with a recommended vendor soon.

Mr. Dallas asked if MARTA has a recognition program for bus operators.

Mr. Krisak said MARTA had a recognition program several years, but it was discontinued because the requirements were not stringent enough. MARTA is tightening the criteria and plans to relaunch the program.

Mr. Dallas said perhaps moving things further from the curb will reduce non-preventable collisions.

Mr. Durrett said on Route 110 side mirrors and buses are hitting trees. He asked if MARTA has considered requesting that the trees be limbed.

Mr. Parker said that is exactly what staff has been instructed to do.

Mrs. Abdul-Salaam asked if a separate report will be presented on Mobility.

Mrs. Berry said yes, the Board will be briefed in June.

**Other Matters**

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Mr. Parker announced this was the last meeting for MARTA's Chief Administrative Officer, Edward L. Johnson. Mr. Johnson will be joining Orlando, Florida's LYNX system as the new Chief Executive Officer.

**Adjournment**

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The meeting of the Operations & Safety Committee adjourned at 10:48 a.m.