

Nantucket Regional Transit Authority

3 East Chestnut Street, Nantucket, MA 02554

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AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF THE

NRTA ADVISORY BOARD

JANUARY 21, 2015

6:00 P.M.

COMMUNITY ROOM, NANTUCKET POLICE STATION

4 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD

NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS

- I. Announcement: Regional Transit Plan public comment and review period.



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TO: NRTA ADVISORY BOARD

FROM: PAULA LEARY, NRTA ADMINISTRATOR



RE: REGIONAL TRANSIT PLAN PUBLIC COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2015

The NRTA Regional Transit Plan is being developed in accordance with State Legislation (MGL chapter 46 Section 63) of the Transportation Finance Bill. The primary goal of the Regional Transit Plan is to identify alternatives and recommendations that would result in improvements to the system for existing riders and potentially attract new riders. Chapters 1 through 4 include the project overview and purpose, performance analysis and determining need.

The public comment and review period will conclude at 4:00 p.m. on February 27, 2015.

Documents are available on the NRTA's website www.nrtawave.com and at the Administrative Office at 3 East Chestnut Street. Information and written comments are to be directed to the NRTA Administrator, 3 East Chestnut Street, nrta@nantucket-ma.gov or 508-325-9571.

Another public comment and review period will be announced when the remaining chapters of the plan become available. These chapters will include fare policy, environmental, recommendations and conclusion that will provide projected operational cost, capital needs and a phasing plan to implement the recommendations.

Copies of Chapters 1- 4 are attached for your information and review.

Additional information relative to the process of the development of the plan is attached. In the meantime if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 508-325-9571 or nrta@nantucket-ma.gov.



PLAN DEVELOPMENT

- In June 2013 the State Legislature passed the Transportation Finance Bill (MGL chapter 46 was Section 63) requiring the Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) in the Commonwealth (excluding the MBTA) to prepare a Regional Transit Plan (RTP) specifically for its fixed route services. A consultant was hired through a joint procurement of ten RTA's to produce the RTP for each RTA.
- The RTP is specific to the RTA's fixed route services.
- Each RTA's RTP will be a combination of goals/objectives setting, service evaluations, needs identification, identification of service implementation opportunities and strategic planning.
- The first step in the development of the plan was to establish a technical committee to provide comprehensive information and data on the NRTA's fixed route services. The information included, but was not limited to: core goals and objectives, vision and mission statements, several years of ridership and service data, land use information, fare collection technology and data, environmental policies and public comments. The technical committee included: Mike Burns, Transportation Planner; Chris Boynton, GM of the NRTA's operating company; and myself.
- An integral part of the process was the formation of a Study Advisory Committee (SAC) of approximately 7-8 individuals representative of the regional planning agency, local employers and business associations, labor organizations public transit advocate and an RTA rider to review the various chapters and provide comments. Members of the SAC include: Mike Burns, Planning Representative; Michael May – rider; Rachel Hobart; rider/public transit advocate; PJ Martin Smith, Executive Director, Nantucket Island Chamber of Commerce and Bill Tramosch, Executive Director, Nantucket Historical Association.
- The final step in the development of the RTP is to solicit public involvement and comment. The NRTA's approach is to provide a public comment period to review the completed chapters so various groups and organizations and the general public have an opportunity to provide comments and have input to the plan.
- Meetings of various island groups and organizations are currently being attended to inform them of the plan and the public review and comment period. At the conclusion of the plan and public outreach document will be included as part of the overall RTP.
- Legislation requires the RTP to be complete by the end of June 2015. The process of developing the RTP began in February 2014.