

LAKELAND AREA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC HEARING  
AUGUST 12, 2008

Directors:

City of Lakeland Commissioner Glenn Higgins (Chairman)  
Polk County Commissioner Sam Johnson (Vice-Chairman)  
City of Lakeland Commissioner Jim Verplanck (Secretary)  
Polk County Commissioner Bob English  
City of Lakeland Commissioner Gow Fields

Executive Director: Danny Ours  
Attorney: Ben Darby

Chairman Glenn Higgins called the August 12, 2008, Lakeland Area Mass Transit District Board of Directors Public Hearing to order at 8:47 a.m.

*Roll Call.* Commissioner English, Fields, Higgins, Johnson, and Verplanck were present at the time of the Roll Call. Quorum was called.

Agenda Item #1 – Proposed Fare Increase

Executive Director Danny Ours presented the Board with a chart outlining the Florida Counties with Transit and their current fares and various other information. Commissioner English inquired on the potential impact of the USF Campus being built in Lakeland. Mr. Ours briefed the Board on the recent talks with Dr. Goodman with USF and how the proposal for service would work and how other transit agencies and colleges/universities systems work.

Mr. Ours presented the Board with the results from the public workshops held on August 6 – 7, 2008, at the Lakeland Downtown Terminal. There were a total of 127 surveys filled out with 95 of the surveys recognizing the need for a fare increase. He outlined the results of all questions and answers on the survey. A discussion followed. Mr. Ours pointed out the Winter Haven Area Transit staff will be conducting public workshops over the next week in order to ask the WHAT Policy Board to approve the same fare increases as the LAMTD Staff is proposing to the LAMTD Board today.

Agenda Item #2 – Public Comments

Chairman Higgins opened the floor to public comments on the proposed fare increase. No one addressed the Board at this time. Chairman Higgins closed the floor to public comments.

### Agenda Item #3 – Staff Recommendation

Mr. Ours recommended a 25% increase of the District fare structure changing the adult fare from \$1.00 to \$1.25 effective October 1, 2008. A discussion followed regarding the fare structure and considerations including that no changes were being made to transfers and that no changes were being made to Handy Bus fares.

Commissioner Fields moved for approval of the Staff recommendations to increase the fare structure as presented with a change to the proposed student fare from \$.95 to \$1.00 effective October 1, 2008. Commissioner Verplanck seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

Chairman Higgins adjourned the Public Hearing at 9:19 a.m.