

**Minutes of Board Meeting**

**Held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2013**

**At 10.30am in NTA Offices on Harcourt Lane**

**Present:** Mr John Fitzgerald (Chairperson), Mr Gerry Murphy (CEO), Mr Hugh Creegan (Director of Transport Investment and Taxi Regulation), Mr Frank King, Ms Linda Saunders, Mr James Deegan, Dr Berna Grist, , Ms Margaret O'Shaughnessy, Mr Damian Usher, Mr Daithí Alcorn.

**Apologies:** Mr John Tierney (Dublin City Manager), Ms Valerie O'Reilly

**Staff in attendance:** Ms. Anne Graham (Item 2), Mr Philip L'Estrange (Item 3), Mr. Frank McCabe (Item 6) and Ms Jackie Mullen (Minutes).

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**1. Minutes of previous meeting**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2013 were agreed.

**2. CEO Report**

In relation to the rural transport programme, the Chief Executive stated that the new structure is almost decided.

The Chief Executive informed the board that there had been a successful launch of the Smarter Travel Campus by the Minister for State this week. The Smarter Travel Workplaces project has been hugely successful since its inception, consistently meeting its targets over the years.

In relation to staffing, the Chief Executive stated that he has reached agreement with the department on approved staff numbers.

The Brady Shipman Martin study on Residential Density will be brought back to the Board before it is made public.

A review of design options review and cost engineering exercise for Kent station in Cork have been completed and a preferred option has been selected, which will deliver a new access and a sustainable transportation mode interchange on the Horgans Quay side of the station. Irish Rail have now been authorised to proceed to apply for planning permission for this design and a planning application is expected to be submitted during April.

In Galway construction has commenced on footpath widening works on Bridge Street, which includes rationalisation of the current taxi rank arrangements. Design work is continuing on the reconfiguration of the bus interchange facilities in Ceannt Station in Galway City and for the relocation of the taxi rank at Ceannt Station to Fairgreen Road.

### **3. Finance Update**

Mr L'Estrange outlined the main features of the Authority's Management Accounts to end February 2013. He noted that the accounts were in line with expectations. Mr. L'Estrange responded to a query about PSO Subsidies.

### **4. Luas Cross City**

Mr. Hugh Creegan gave an update on the Luas Cross City project. On the Communications side a new brand and website have been developed for the project. The NTA and Dublin City Council are in the process of appointing a Communications Director to oversee the project communications. It is hoped that an appointment will be made by June.

The Cellars infill and investigation will commence in June with the heritage works are commencing in September. It is hoped to have the Utilities diversions contract in place by September.

A query was raised in relation to the permanency of the bus re-routing from the Dawson Street area. Mr. Creegan stated that the bus re-routing was in the main permanent. The board members advised that the needs of those not in the LUAS catchment needed to be carefully considered.

Mr. Creegan informed the board that the NTA were looking at options to reintroduce a north bound Luas stop on Dawson Street.

### **5. Legislative Developments**

The Chief Executive gave an update on the NTA/RPA merger bill and the Clamping Bill.

### **6. Canal Cordon Count**

Mr. Frank McCabe presented the findings of the 2012 Canal cordon count. The following points were raised by board members

- The Rail mode share is down significantly since 2006, Dart services in particular have declined.
- It would be better if small goods vehicles/vans could be recorded separately in counts and not included in the Car category.

### **7. Any other business**

It was agreed to discuss the Free Travel Scheme at a meeting later in the year

**Next Meeting: Friday 17 May 2013 @ 10.30am at NTA Headquarters.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**John Fitzgerald, Chairperson**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_