



## **Minutes of Board Meeting**

**Held on Friday 24 July 2015**

**At 10.30am in the NTA Offices**

**Present:** Mr John Fitzgerald (Chairperson), Ms Anne Graham (Chief Executive), Mr Hugh Creegan (Deputy Chief Executive), Mr Owen Keegan (CEO, Dublin City Council), Dr Berna Grist, Ms Linda Saunders.

**Apologies:** None.

**Staff in attendance:** Mr Philip L'Estrange, Mr Tim Gaston; Mr Conor O'Donovan (Item 4); Mr Barry Dorgan, Mr Garry Dean, Mr Patrizio Simeoni and Mr Eric Coetzee (Item 5); Mr Karl Seeber (Minutes).

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### **1. Minutes of previous meeting**

The draft minutes of the Board meeting held on 19 June 2015 were agreed without amendment.

### **2. CEO Report**

The Chief Executive updated the Board on developments since the last meeting and responded to issues raised by members. The matters discussed included

- progress on the tendering of bus services;
- enforcement of bus licensing regulations;
- trend in passenger numbers and revenue on subsidised bus and rail services;
- proposed national rail review;
- decision of Cork City Council to reject proposed Cork City transport plan;
- capital investment in public transport in Greater Dublin Area;
- proposed Dublin City Centre Transport Plan;
- proposed DART Underground project;
- Luas Cross City project;
- promotional activities;
- Visitor Leap Card;
- staffing;
- accuracy of real-time passenger information;
- city centre rail re-signalling project;
- SPSV Entry Test.

### **3. Finance Report**

Mr L'Estrange outlined the NTA's Management Accounts for June. He noted that overall the NTA was performing well to budget at end June.

Mr L'Estrange drew attention to an announcement by Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport of additional funding to be provided to the Authority to support bus, rail and cycling.

#### **4. Orbital Bus Route Study**

Mr O'Donovan outlined the progress to date on the Authority's planning for strategic orbital public transport routes linking the key centres of Swords, Blanchardstown, Tallaght, Dundrum, and Dún Laoghaire. He noted that the work undertaken by the Authority showed that there is significant orbital demand in Dublin but many of the movements are relatively short. At present public transport modes have a low share of orbital movements and demand levels are not sufficient to justify a rail solution.

Mr O'Donovan outlined the preliminary route options considered as well as the emerging preferred route options. The next steps will include the preparation of indicative route design, cost-benefit analysis and feasibility report.

#### **5. Leap Update**

Mr Dorgan outlined progress in the roll-out of the Leap Card in 2015 and planned enhancements to make Leap Card more user-friendly including an upgrade of the Leap Card website and introduction of a Leap Near Field Communication App for Android devices.

Mr Garry Dean, Mr Patrizio Simeoni and Mr Eric Coetzee demonstrated a new portable Leap Card ticket machine and Leap Card inspection device, which are to be deployed in the near future. The inspection device will greatly improve the efficiency of the ticket inspection system and the portable ticket machine is the first to contain the new generation Leap Card reader. Both were developed "in-house" by the Authority's Leap team.

The Board welcomed these developments and congratulated the Leap technical team on their achievements.

#### **6. Any other business**

The Chief Executive noted that following the Board's last meeting the Authority's written procedure had been used to request and secure Board approval for a material post balance sheet event affecting the Authority's 2014 Financial Statements i.e. the decision by the Revenue Commissioners to agree the NTA request to include the Regional Bike Scheme as an activity subject to VAT.

**Next Meeting: Friday 4 September 2015 @ 11.00am in the NTA Offices.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
**John Fitzgerald, Chairperson**

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