

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, April 26, 2021

3:30 PM

Staff Liaison:

Sam Trebilcock, strebilcock@siouxfalls.org (605) 367-8890

MEETING ASSISTANCE: UPON REQUEST, ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MEETINGS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. PLEASE CONTACT THE HUMAN RELATIONS OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, CITY HALL, 224 WEST 9TH STREET, SIOUX FALLS, SD AT 367-8745 (VOICE) OR 367-7039 (TDD) 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.

The meeting was recorded. WebEx meeting recording link:

<HTTPS://SIOUXFALLS.WEBEX.COM/RECORDINGSERVICE/SITES/SIOUXFALLS/RECORDING/2E13544CF7FE410CA3287CCC65415C51/PLAYBACK>

PASSWORD: SF83HVUF

Public Transit Advisory Board Member Participants: Brett Glirbas; Allen Svennes; Erik Nelson, Sean Garney, Mike Lynch, Jeri Reed.

Public Transit Advisory Board Members absent: Bailey Abbott.

Staff Participants: Ryan Weisenbach; Sam Trebilcock, Jim Feeney (SECOG), Robert Speaks.

Public Participants: Melanie Bliss.

Minutes

Facilitator: Brett Glirbas, Chair

Call to Order and Quorum Determination Brett Glirbas, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm and welcomed all participants. It was noted that the meeting was being recorded and provides for a list of participants. Member participants represented a quorum.

1. Meeting Procedures: Sam Trebilcock read the meeting procedures for the PTAB videoconference meeting.
2. Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Jeri Reed and a second by Allen

Svennes to approve the April 26, 2021 PTAB agenda. 5 yes - 0 no. The motion passed unanimously.

3. PTAB Meeting Minutes Approval of March 22, 2021: A motion was made by Jeri Reed and a second by Sean Garney to approve the March 22, 2021 minutes. 5 yes - 0 no. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Public input on non-agenda items: No public input was received.

Unfinished Business

5. SAM OnDemand Update (Informational) – Sam provided an update for the SAM OnDemand pilot project. Starting this Saturday (May 1st) two new fixed-routes will provide service directly to the west and east side Walmart areas. This service will help reduce phone calls to the Downtown Depot to schedule rides and also will be strong productive routes that are based on specific origin and destination trip data. Sam also talked about possible future changes to SAM OnDemand including expanding services on Saturday with the current fleet and also adding paratransit vehicles to the Pantonium system to see if mixing paratransit and public transit rides could work and create some efficiencies.

Sean asked if weekdays are still being looked at for testing with SAM OnDemand. Sam said that once Saturday iterations are complete and working well, then SAM will begin looking at lower performing routes for possible tests for SAM OnDemand for weekday evenings and then on weekday morning and afternoons. Melainie Bliss asked if the SAM OnDemand surveys asked if they ride the bus also during the week. Sam said the surveys did not ask that, but that might be a good idea to add in subsequent surveys. This item was informational.

6. Fare-Free rides for Voting – Sam told the Board that Sioux Area Metro could provide free rides for early voting at IPC located at 38th and Phillips. Fixed-route rides to IPC could be reimbursed and paratransit rides could be free when going to IPC. Erik said that it is important that this information be publicized so that people know about it. Mike Lynch suggested talking to DeAnn Konrad with the Sioux Falls School District. The board also discussed the best ways to provide free ride reimbursement for fixed-route rides. This item was informational.

New Business

7. American Recovery Act Funding. Sam announced that the City of Sioux Falls has received \$3.9 million as a part of the American Recovery Act. This money will be used to help renovate the bus offices and garage. Erik Nelson asked how this money will improve Sioux Area Metro's financial position. Sam said that if this money is used for the office and garage it may not help in a significant way, but it was intended to apply for another federal transit grant which could help

with long-term finances. Melanie Bliss asked that the federal money could be utilized to help provide free rides on transit. Jeri Reed echoed Melanie's comments and added that it would be important to use the federal funding to help increase and expand ridership and also reminded us to look at transit as part of the infrastructure of the city. Sean asked if there is any restriction on the funding. Sam said that the funding does not require a local match, but must be used by 2023.

8. March 2021 Operations Report. Robert Speeks presented highlights of the March monthly report. Robert pointed out that this will be the last monthly report that shows a major effect due to COVID. Brett asked Robert if there has been any problems enforcing the mask mandate on buses. Robert said that there have been very few problems and discussed the enforcement process.
9. Announcements: Sam told the Board that FTA Triennial Review is taking place during the month of May.
10. Next PTAB meeting: May 24, 2021: WebEx Meeting
11. Adjournment: A motion was made by Allen Svennes to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Sean Garney. 5 yes - 0 no. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 pm