



PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues

Meeting Minutes
for the meeting on
October 25, 2010

Members present:

Kate Heligas
Julie Johnson Dresbach
Greg Johnson
Jim Madsen
Thad Mooney
Deb Nelson
Chris Schiltz

Members absent:

Public in attendance:

Phyllis Arends, NAMI
Wayne Arends
Sheila Clink
Marge Dreesman
Joe Dvorak, DakotAbilities
Tim Hazelett, Vice Principal, Roosevelt
High School
Phil Jacobson
Chad Powell
Charles Santee
Harriet Scott, Help!Line Center
Seth & Koni Sims
Mary Standaert, SF School District
Nancy Surprenant, SECOG

Staff present:

Dennis Erckfritz, Operations Manager
Debra Gaikowski, Transit Planner
Randy Hartman, Assistant General Manager
Tierza Lanham, Paratransit Manager
Karen Walton, General Manager

Call to order

Kate Heligas, Chair, called the Public Transit Advisory Board meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. and made introductory comments.

1. **Approval of August 23, 2010, PTAB Meeting Minutes**

Deb Nelson made a motion to accept the August 23, 2010 PTAB meeting minutes as written. Jim Madsen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Public Hearing** – Proposed route changes
Kate Heligas opened the public hearing with statements about process and procedures. The proposed transit route changes were presented individually by route by Debra Gaikowski, Karen Walton, Dennis Erckfritz, and Randy Hartman. Several questions from the Board members were answered on each route. Comments and questions were also taken and noted from the public in attendance. Greg Johnson thanked the public for coming out to comment on the proposed changes. Julie Johnson Dresbach thanked the drivers for their work on the changes. She also commented on the number of “tight” routes that were highlighted in the presentations and feels that this most likely will not change for many of the routes. She would like this fact carried through to the City Council when presented. Julie was also concerned about the effect these changes will have on the Paratransit Service Area. Thad Mooney left the meeting at 5 p.m. Kate closed the Public Hearing at 5:30 p.m. Chris Schiltz left the meeting at 5:30 p.m.
3. **Public Input on Non-agenda Items**
Charles Santee had several questions regarding wheelchairs, fares, and snow removal at bus stops. Sheila Clink commented that the bus routes should be listed in the City Parks Activity Guide where specific information is given about activities and events. This would let people know which bus route to take if they wanted to take public transit.
4. **New Business:**
 - a. **August and September Monthly Report**
Karen Walton presented the Monthly Report which included current transit statistics and facts. This was informational only.
 - b. **2011 PTAB Meeting Dates**
Debra Gaikowski stated that the meeting dates have been set for next year and that if a Board member had any issues with the dates, to let her know as soon as possible. This was informational only.
 - c. **Transit Marketing Plan**
Debra Gaikowski handed out the final Transit Marketing Plan to the PTAB members and commented about the benefit of having this document for her and for the Transit Marketing Committee. This was informational only.
 - d. **Transportation Coordination**
Nancy Surprenant, Mobility Manager for the MPO, discussed recent efforts to distribute the User Survey. This was informational only.
5. **Other Business:**
 - a. Debra noted that she and Karen Walton attended the Mayor’s Listening and Learning Session on October 9. A presentation of the public transit system was given by Debra to the public in attendance which reviewed the basics of how to use the transit system, where the system can take you, when the buses run, and how much it costs to ride.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

