



PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues

Meeting Minutes

for the meeting on November 24, 2014

Members present:

Minnie Bell
Jean Crowe
Philip Jacobson
Deb Nelson

Public in attendance:

Charlene Hay
Mark B. Johnson
Mark Lee

Members absent:

Erik Gaikowski
Greg Johnson
Megan Myers

Staff present:

Dennis Erckfritz, Operations Manager
Amber Gibson, Planner II, SECOG
Randy Hartman, Assistant GM
Eric Meyerson, General Manager
Sam Trebilcock, Transportation Planner

Call to order

Deb Nelson, Chair, called the Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB) meeting to order at 3:46 p.m. and made introductory comments.

1. Approval of October 27, 2014, PTAB Meeting Minutes

Jean Crowe made a motion to accept the October 27, 2014, PTAB meeting minutes. Philip Jacobson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Public input on non-agenda items:

There was no public input.

3. New Business:

a. 2015 PTAB Calendar

Amber Gibson reviewed the 2015 PTAB meeting dates that were included in the agenda packets. This was informational only.

b. Fixed Routes Bus Accessibility Demonstration

Sam Trebilcock introduced the Fixed Route Bus Accessibility Demonstration. He stated that all fixed route buses are accessible to persons with physical limitations. Sam invited the Board and public in attendance to go outside to a fixed route bus that had been brought to City Hall for the demonstration. A demonstration by Sioux Area Metro staff of the various features of the fixed routes buses, including the bicycle racks, the bus kneeling down, the ramp extending to the sidewalk, the wheelchair tie-downs, and the lap-belts was provided. Information was also provided on the various fare options. This was informational only.

4. Old Business:

a. Update on Resolution Limiting Paratransit Service Outside the ADA Service Area

Sam Trebilcock provided an update on the Resolution Limiting Paratransit Service Outside the ADA Service Area. The resolution was moved to the December 2nd City Council agenda due to low City Council attendance at the originally scheduled City Council date. If approved, the changes would go into effect in the beginning of next year. This item was informational only.

5. Reports:

a. October Operations Report

Eric Meyerson provided a report on the ridership statistics of Sioux Area Metro for October. Fixed-route ridership was down 9%, school tripper route ridership was up 13%, and paratransit ridership was down 11%, compared to October 2013. Eric noted that fare-box revenue is up 38% compared to October 2013, however, year to date fare-box revenue is nearly equal to what it was in 2013. This item was informational only.

6. Other Business:

a. Future Agenda Item Ideas

Sam Trebilcock asked the Board to brainstorm ideas for future agenda items. Minnie Bell suggested a demonstration of riding the fixed route bus. Philip Jacobson suggested developing a program to have an ambassador at larger companies such as Citibank for employees to contact to ask questions about riding the bus. Sam stated that there may be an update in January on the Augustana College pilot project and using that partnership as an example for similar projects with other organizations. Deb Nelson suggested that a review of the progress of the Transit Task Force recommendations be presented to the Board. This item was informational only.

7. Adjournment

Jean Crowe made a motion to adjourn and Minnie Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Deb Nelson adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m.