



PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues

Meeting Minutes

for the meeting on July 27, 2015

Members present:

Erik Gaikowski
Brett Glirbas
Philip Jacobson
Greg Johnson (in at 3:57 PM)
Megan Myers
Jeri Reed

Staff present:

Jean Crowe, Planner I, SECOG
Dennis Erckfritz, Operations Manager
Amber Gibson, Planner II, SECOG
Tierza Lanham, Paratransit Manager
Bill McCarty, Maintenance Manager
Eric Meyerson, General Manager
Sam Trebilcock, Transportation Planner

Public in attendance:

Neisha Broussard
Sierra Broussard
Martha Burks
Joe Dvorak
Terry Paulsen
Chad Powell
Jeff Wilka

Call to order

With a quorum present, Erik Gaikowski, Chair, called the Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB) meeting to order at 3:46 p.m. and made introductory comments.

1. Approval of July 1, 2015, PTAB Meeting Minutes

Philip Jacobson made a motion to accept the July 1, 2015, PTAB meeting minutes. Brett Glirbas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

2. Public input on non-agenda items:

Jeff Wilka stated that Sioux Area Metro has very good paratransit drivers.

Sierra Broussard stated that the bus drivers work for the public and not vice versa. Broussard also stated that human trafficking and prostitution are prevalent on transit, drivers should be trained on LGBT and cross dressers, and that late buses can cause employees to be late and lose their positions due to South Dakota being an at "at will" state. Broussard suggested that supervisors use vans to pick up people when the buses are running late. Broussard added that bus shelters should be replaced at stops and that police should remove people who are homeless from bus shelters.

3. New Business:

a. 2016 Transit Budget and 2016-2020 Transit CIP and OCEP

Sam Trebilcock reviewed the 2016 Transit Budget. Sam stated that the budget includes City contributions increasing over time, decreased federal fund

contributions, and continuing paratransit service while attempting to manage expenses. Trebilcock also reviewed the 2016-2020 CIP, which includes replacement of the downtown bus stop canopy, and the OCEP, which includes the planned bus purchases. This item was informational only.

4. Old Business:

a. Transit Fare Revisions Ordinances Update

Sam Trebilcock stated that the Transit Fare Revision Ordinance is on the August 4th City Council agenda. Although the wording of the ordinance has not been revised, PTAB's recommendation to not increase paratransit fares will be provided to City Council. This item was informational only.

b. Augustana Pilot Project Update

Sam Trebilcock stated that the Augustana Pilot Project has been successful and is included in the budget to continue. The Project includes Augustana College paying \$0.85 per ride, similar to the per ride cost of a monthly pass, in arrears. Megan Myers and Philip Jacobson suggested that the University of Sioux Falls and Southeast Tech be approached to do a similar project. Trebilcock stated that he will plan to contact them as hopes that this project can be mirrored with other organizations. This item was informational only.

5. Reports:

a. Transit Coordination Activities

Amber Gibson and Jean Crowe updated the Board on Transit Coordination Activities including the Drive To Help Program, ongoing discussions on possible revisions to the Pass It On Program, and the upcoming River Cities/CCTS pilot project. This item was informational only.

b. Ridership Committee Report

Sam Trebilcock provided a report on the Ridership Committee. The upcoming meeting will include filming the Committee riding the bus to utilize in updating the SAM Ride With a Friend travel training video. This item was informational only.

c. May and June Operations Reports

Eric Meyerson reviewed the May and June Operations Reports. He stated that approximately 150 rides per day have resulted from this summer's Dog Tags Program, which includes free bus passes for children. Meyerson also stated that in May, fixed-route ridership was down 9% and paratransit ridership was down 7%, compared to May 2014. This item was informational only.

6. Other Business:

Sam Trebilcock recommended that the August PTAB meeting be cancelled. Greg Johnson made a motion to cancel the August PTAB meeting and Philip Jacobson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Adjournment:

Brett Glirbas made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Megan Myers seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.