



PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues

Meeting Minutes

for the meeting on November 23, 2015

Members present:

Erik Gaikowski
Cherie Gerry
Brett Glirbas
Philip Jacobson
Megan Myers
Jeri Reed

Public in attendance:

Kay Gollesch
Tina Lemieux
Brooke Pape

Members absent:

Greg Johnson

Staff present:

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

Call to order

With a quorum present, Erik Gaikowski, Chair, called the Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB) meeting to order at 3:47 p.m. and made introductory comments.

1. Introductions

Board members and staff introduced themselves.

2. Approval of October 26, 2015, PTAB Meeting Minutes

Phil Jacobson made a motion to accept the October 26, 2015, PTAB meeting minutes. Brett Glirbas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public input on non-agenda items:

There was no public input.

4. New Business:

a. 2016 PTAB Meeting Dates

Sam Trebilcock reviewed the 2016 meeting dates listed in the memo included in the agenda packets. This item was informational only.

b. History of Transit in Sioux Falls

Sam Trebilcock reviewed the history of transit in Sioux Falls, which he had researched in preparation for the update to the Transit Development Plan. Sam noted that transit began in Sioux Falls in 1887 with a street railway system. Ridership peaked in 1945 at 8,000,000 rides per day under the Sioux Falls Transit system with a city population of only 46,750. The Transit Advisory Board, now known as the Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB), was established in 1976. Next year, the current transit management agreement will expire and the City will follow

the RFP process to select a transit management agency to continue operating the transit service. This item was informational only.

5. Old Business:

a. Travel Training Video "Ride with a Friend"

Sam Trebilcock played the new travel training video developed this summer as part of the update to the travel training program. Sam stated that the video will also be posted on www.siouxfalls.org/sam and the CityLink television channel. Megan Myers suggested that the video be posted on the Live Well Sioux Falls and American Heart Association websites. This item was informational only.

b. New Transit Rates Start Date – January 2016

Sam Trebilcock stated that the new transit rates will go into effect during the first week of January. New schedules will be printed and a news release will be sent out noting the new rates. Sam also noted that there has been renewed interest by the Council in increasing paratransit rates. Any rate changes would need to go through PTAB prior to being considered by City Council. This item was informational only.

6. Reports:

a. October Operations Report

Eric Meyerson reviewed the October Operations Report. Eric stated that in October, fixed-route ridership was down 9.5% and paratransit ridership was down 5.2%, compared to October 2014. Year to date, fixed-route ridership is down 7.8% and paratransit ridership is down 9%. Eric noted that every 5% reduction in paratransit ridership equates to being able to use one less paratransit vehicle and vice versa. Sam Trebilcock also noted that the remaining school tripper routes will be eliminated in 2016 leading to a decrease in ridership. This item was informational only.

7. Other Business:

a. PTAB Bylaws

Sam Trebilcock stated that a subcommittee may be asked to assist in reviewing the Board's bylaws as it has been a while since they have been reviewed and changes to the term limit language should be considered to allow for board members who are filling unexpired terms to serve more comparable terms to other board members. This item was informational only.

8. Adjournment:

Jeri Reed made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Brett Glirbas seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.