



**PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD**

*Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues*

Meeting Minutes

for the meeting on July 24, 2017

<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>Members Absent:</b>
Cherie Gerry	Erik Gaikowski
Brett Glirbas	
Philip Jacobson	<b>Staff present:</b>
Mike Lynch	Melissa Gibson, Planner I, SECOG
Megan Myers	Randy Hartman, Assistant GM
Jerri Reed	Robert Speeks, Operations Manager
	Sam Trebilcock, Transportation Planner
<b>Public in Attendance:</b>	Ryan Weisenbach, Maintenance Manager
Jennifer Geffre	
Chad Powell	

**Call to order**

With a quorum present, Megan Myers, Vice-Chair, called the Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB) meeting to order at 3:48 p.m. and made introductory comments.

**1. Meeting Procedures**

Megan Myers reviewed the meeting procedures.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Brett Glirbas suggested the addition of a discussion of the displacement of the residents of the River Greenway apartments and their paratransit needs as Item D under New Business. Brett Glirbas made a motion to approve the modified July 24, 2017, PTAB agenda. Jerri Reed seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Approval of April 24, 2017, PTAB Meeting Minutes**

Mike Lynch made a motion to approve the April 24, 2017, PTAB meeting minutes. Jerri Reed seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Approval of June 26, 2017, PTAB Meeting Summary**

Mike Lynch made a motion to approve the June 26, 2017, PTAB meeting summary. Brett Glirbas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. Public input on non-agenda items:**

Chad Powell from Dakotabilities asked Sam Trebilcock about the possibility of the cost of paratransit rides going up. Sam Trebilcock said that it is being discussed, but no decisions have been made yet. If the cost does increase, the City Council will need to approve it. Chad asked for notification of that City Council meeting. Sam stated that there will be a public notification issued.

## **6. New Business:**

### **a. Election of PTAB Officers**

Jerri Reed made a motion to nominate Mike Lynch for PTAB Chair. Cherie Gerry seconded the motion. Brett Glirbas made a motion to cease nominations and elect Mike Lynch as PTAB Chair. Jerri Reed seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Jerri Reed made a motion to appoint Brett Glirbas as PTAB Vice-Chair. Mike Lynch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **b. Transit Mobile Ticketing**

Sam Trebilcock provided information on Token Transit. Token Transit is an app used in Lincoln, Nebraska, that allows transit users to buy bus passes on their smart phones. Randy Hartman explained that with the current fixed-route bus technology, the phone passes would not be scannable, but the bus driver would be able to push a button to record the use of the phone pass. This is one option that Sioux Area Metro is currently exploring. This item was informational only.

### **c. Fixed-Route Minor Changes**

Route 1 and VA Service: The current construction at the VA Hospital is causing turn-around difficulties for the buses. The route is now open, but Route 1 may need to be redirected, if the road is closed again.

Route 10 and Rehab Center for the Blind: The route for this service will be altered to remove the small circle around the Rehab Center for the Blind to reduce the Route 10 drive time, help keep bus on time and reduce unsignalized left turns for the bus. Sioux Area Metro, Rehab Center for the Blind, and SDN Communications (the building owner) have decided to move the shelter from 11<sup>th</sup> Street to 10<sup>th</sup> Street side of the Rehab Center for the Blind. Jennifer Geffre stated that the outbound riders will be able to request drop-off, or pick-up, at the old location, if they are unable to cross the street on their own. The Rehab Center for the Blind will also need to update the building and sidewalks to meet ADA requirements for access close to the new bus stop. The change will be implemented as soon as the new shelter is relocated.

### **d. Discussion of River Greenway Apartments Resident Displacement**

Brett Glirbas was concerned about the relocated residents of the Greenway apartments retaining access to paratransit. Sam Trebilcock stated that he would need more information about the situation before he could guarantee the residents continued, uninterrupted, paratransit service. It was decided that more information will be gathered, and that this topic would be added to the agenda for the next PTAB meeting.

## **7. Old Business:**

### **a. Transit Depot Reconstruction and Renovation Project**

Sam Trebilcock provided an update on the Transit Depot Reconstruction and Renovation Project. Construction is currently approximately two weeks behind schedule and is estimated to be complete by mid-October. While construction is taking place, a temporary bus depot is located on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, at the south end of Fawick Park, between the viaduct and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Phil Jacobsen says the new temporary stop works well. This item was informational only.

**8. Reports:**

**a. Public Transit-Human Services Coordination Activities**

Melissa Gibson reviewed the progress of the Travel Training, Bus Buddy and Drive To Help programs. This item was informational only.

**b. June Operations Report**

Randy Hartman reviewed the June Operations Report. Randy stated that fixed-route ridership was up 3.67% compared to June 2016 and paratransit ridership was down 15.15% compared to June 2016. Year to date, fixed route ridership is down 0.46% and paratransit ridership is down 12.24%. This item was informational only.

**9. Other Business:**

Brett Glirbas asked for an update on the paratransit software. Sam Trebilcock said that they are waiting for the trend report.

**10. Adjournment:**

Brett Glirbas made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Cherie Gerry seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.