

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD
VIRTUAL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2022
3:30 PM

Staff Liaison:

Sam Trebilcock, strebilcock@siouxfalls.org (605) 367-8890
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MEETING ASSISTANCE: UPON REQUEST, ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MEETINGS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. PLEASE CONTACT THE HUMAN RELATIONS OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, CITY HALL, 224 WEST 9TH STREET, SIOUX FALLS, SD AT 367-8745 (VOICE) OR 367-7039 (TDD) 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.

Public Transit Advisory Board Member Participants: Allen Svennes, Erik Nelson, Brett Glirbas, Sean Garney, Manny Gutierrez, Mike Lynch,

Public Transit Advisory Board Members absent: Bailey Abbott

Staff Participants: Sam Trebilcock, Jim Feeney, Robert Speeks, Karla Resendiz, Kevin Hansen, Tierza Lanham, Pam Jump, Bren Schweitzer, Jeff Eckhoff

Public Participants: Cathy Brechtelsbauer, Trevor Mitchell, Melanie Bliss, Phyllis Arends, Taneeza Islam, Jeri Reed.

Minutes

Facilitator: Allen Svennes, Chair

Call to Order and Quorum Determination: Allen Svennes, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:40pm and welcomed all participants. Member participants represented a quorum.

- 1. Meeting Procedures:** Sam Trebilcock read the meeting procedures for the PTAB videoconference meeting.
- 2. Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Sean Garney and a second by Erik Nelson to approve the March 28, 2022 PTAB agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3. PTAB Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made by Sean Garney and a second by Mike Lynch to approve the February 28, 2022 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.
- 4. Public input on non-agenda items:**

a. Cathy B. felt April would be a prime opportunity to promote

transit with reduced fares because of recent events:

- *Fuel prices, Foreign Oil situations, Lifting of Mask Mandate, Earth Day, Elections*

b. Phyllis A. – Voiced concerns about Sam on Demand for the communities of those with mental illness. Representation from COSF and SAM will work with providing presentations for the Clubhouse and possibly others.

Unfinished Business

5. SAM Reduction in Service – Driver Shortage. (Informational) SAM fixed routes are currently reduced to hourly services. Driver numbers are still much lower than what is required for full services. Despite the adjustment made to compensate drivers, March is a difficult time to recruit, however April/May typically is better. Current driver wage is at \$22.50/hr., which was negotiated in collaboration with the Union. COVID has prevented ridership numbers from maintaining. SAM has entered into a partnership with Southeast Tech to collaborate on finding some entry-level drivers as well as working with the new CDL testing requirements. Exit interviews find that people leave for *other opportunities*, which Covid continues to make an impact on these decisions.

6. FTA 5310 Capital Grant Recommendations - Bren S. presented the recommendations for Capital funding through the 5310 program. These applications that were reviewed and agreed upon through the committees of: TCC, CAC, TAC, and UDC. A total amount of \$267,500 has been awarded. There were four total applications for five vehicles and operating costs for CCTS. With the limit of the award, the decision was to consider the five vehicle requests. No consideration was able to be recommended for the request of CCTS for operational costs. The grant is awarded at an 80/20 match formula. The total of the five vehicles came in just over the 80% funding federal funding level. With the approval of all five vehicles, the match each entity will be responsible for will be at 23.2% vs. 20%. The level of interest in vehicles was encouraging. The recommendations were submitted to the South Dakota Department of Transportation is as follows:

Recommendations for 2022 FTA Section 5310 Funding

Applicant	UDC Recommendations			Project Summary
	Total Project	5310 Funds	Local Match	
LifeScope	\$74,600	\$57,303	\$17,297	1 - Minibus with 4 wheelchair positions
Community Coordinated Transportation Systems	\$739,000	\$0		Day program trips for Lifescape, DakotaAbilities, and Pathways To Life clients
	\$115,913	\$89,037	\$26,876	1 - Medium Duty Bus configured for 4 ambulatory and/or 7 wheelchair positions
	\$77,000	\$59,147	\$17,853	1 - Bus configured for 12 ambulatory & 2 wheelchair positions
Glory House	\$40,732	\$31,288	\$9,444	1 - Light Duty Van, 130" WB, OEM Int, 9 Passenger
Project Car	\$40,000	\$30,725	\$9,275	1 - full size sedan or crossover
TOTALS	\$1,087,245	\$267,500	\$80,745	

BALANCE / (SHORTFALL)

\$0

- 7.** Transit Development Plan/Public Involvement Plan (TDP/PIP): Sam presented the public involvement plan for the Transit Development Plan (TDP/PIP). The PIP will be implemented from April through the summer to assist with development of the TDP. A beginning point would be developing a survey and establishing the stakeholders. PTAB will be updated each month to the progress of the TDP and the associated public involvement activities. Motion by Erik and Second by Manny to approve the TDP/PIP. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- 8.** The Press Release has been released for the city's collaboration with SAM to offer free rides to the polls for early voting. This will include the incentive of a free day pass. These rides would run from today (3/28 through 4/11), and also include any potential dates for a runoff election.

An interview was done with Dakota News Now to further describe the routes involved to provide these rides to the Minnehaha County Admin Building.

There was discussion of challenges for those voting on the very north edge of the city on Election day. This would be conversation for the county.

- 9.** Planning and Development Director Jeff Eckhoff presented a proposal from the Mayor to offer free rides for youth year around. This concept of the Mayor's will focus on safety, service and opportunity. There has been conversation with the Sioux Falls School District, with continued communication to come. The final deployment will most likely be this fall; the following processes must be followed:
- PTAB Public meeting
 - City Council adoption of transit fare ordinance revision
 - Develop the parameters and marketing of the plan

Erik asked if this would possibly replace the school transportation of the trippers and pusher. No, this would not be the case.

Brett asked if this would include free rides for youth on Paratransit as well. Sam said that youth paratransit riders will also ride for free.

Free rides would be limited to the youth at this time. Jeff mentioned that other proposals may be considered in the future also.

- 10.** February 2022 Operations Report (Informational) – Robert Speeks informed the board that ridership was slightly below the month of February compared to February 2021. These numbers continue to be reflective of Covid. There was one fixed route complaint recorded this month.

Cost per ride and cost per mile were discussed when questioned by Brett. Lower ridership and decreased miles are divided into the total expenses, determining these numbers. Many of the cost elements are regular expenses. The cost per ride and cost per mile will increase with

decreases in ridership and service miles. These numbers will be reviewed again for any other factors and brought forward to PTAB for further review. With the TDP/PIP, free youth rides and other marketing opportunities, the goal is to rejuvenate ridership.

- 11.** Announcements: Next PTAB meeting: April 25, 2022 with both in-person and virtual options.
- 12.** Prior to adjournment Sam did inform the attendees that the 41st St. Interchange construction project is underway and will affect routes 10 and 11 and as such will be detoured. This will be a 2-year change.
- 13.** Adjournment – Allen Svennes declared the meeting adjourned the meeting at 4:46 pm.

Minutes prepared by Bren Schweitzer