

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues

Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2008

Members present:

Julie Briggs
Ryan Green, Chair
Kate Heligas
Julie Johnson Dresbach
Bill Sutton

Public in attendance:

Christine Fester
Koni Sims

Members absent:

Rochelle Hart
Steve Ahlbrecht

Staff present:

Debra Gaikowski, Transit Planner
Randy Hartman, DDS & Assistant General Manager
Kent Johnson, Operations Manager
Tierza Lanham, Paratransit Manager
Bill McCarty, Maintenance Manager
John Nardini, General Manager

1. Call to order

Chair Ryan Green called the Public Transit Advisory Board meeting to order at 3:47 p.m. and read introductory comments.

2. Approval of minutes from November 26, 2007 PTAB meeting.

With no corrections or changes, Kate Heligas moved to accept the November 26, 2007 Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Julie Johnson Dresbach. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Hearings:

- a. Semi-annual revisions to bus routes, schedules, and stops John Nardini

Chair Ryan Green opened the Public Hearing as scheduled. John Nardini read through each bus route, bus stop, and schedule changes included on the list and explained the justification for each change. He mentioned that each change was either for safety reasons or per the request of a rider or someone on behalf of a rider. Ryan then requested comments from the public. There were no comments heard. Julie Johnson Dresbach made a motion to accept all bus route, schedule, and stop changes as listed. The motion was seconded by Bill Sutton. Motion passed unanimously. Ryan Green closed the Public Hearing.

4. Open issues:

- a. Service hours options Ryan Green

Ryan Green read through the list of Service Hours Options. The board members had a discussion on the options and on the listing of paratransit service night rides. Kate Heligas commented that it is important to know how many of the night rides are 1) work related, 2) recreational, and 3) health related. This information will be available for the board members by the February meeting. Kate also asked Bill Sutton about Transit Plus. Transit Plus was a transportation coordination effort that was in service for a while a couple of years ago. Bill said SD Achieve subsidized it but it became very expensive and under utilized.

Other comments from the group revolved around prioritizing expansions. Route 12 (69th St.) is a top priority and the splitting of Route 10 is the second priority. The group will address the Service Hours Options again at the February meeting.

5. Public Input on Non-agenda Items

Chair Ryan Green requested public input on any non-agenda items. No comments were heard.

6. New business:

a. November monthly report

John Nardini

b. December monthly/year-end report

John Nardini

John focused his comments on the year-end report. Ridership was up for fixed route and down for paratransit for the year. 2007 operating costs came in slightly under budget. John also introduced new staff members in the audience, Kent Johnson as Operations Manager and Bill McCarty as Maintenance Manager.

7. Other business:

a. Transit Day at the Legislature

Debra Gaikowski

Debra Gaikowski commented on her trip to Pierre to attend Transit Day. Transit agencies statewide would like to see a \$5 increase on the license plate fee to help fund transit. A transit association lobbyist has suggested that the agencies not push for any new funding this legislative session due to many other state budget concerns. The board members received a copy of the informational sheet that was given to the legislators.

b. 2007 PTAB Summary

Debra Gaikowski

The board members made no changes to the 2007 Activity Summary. Debra commented that the list would be sent to the Mayor and Council members. It will also be given to new members as an informational piece.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.