

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD
VIRTUAL MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2022

3:30 PM

Staff Liaison:

Sam Trebilcock, strebilcock@siouxfalls.org (605) 367-8890

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 (entered meeting at 3:50 pm), 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, Glenn Wright, Karla Resendiz, Kevin Hansen, Tierza Lanham, Pam Jump.

Public Participants: Cathy Brechtelsbauer, Trevor Mitchell.

Minutes

Facilitator: Allen Svennes, Chair

Call to Order and Quorum Determination: Erik Nelson, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:33 pm 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 Brett Glirbas and a second by Manny Gutierrez to approve the January 24, 2022 PTAB agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
3. PTAB Meeting Minutes November 22, 2021: A motion was made by Sean Garney and a second by Manny Gutierrez to approve the November 22, 2021 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Public input on non-agenda items: Cathy Brechtelsbauer suggested that free ridership for elementary students, convenient access, and community outreach

may increase ridership. She indicated that the potential for additional federal aid may help.

Unfinished Business

5. SAM On Demand – Data Analysis (Informational) – Pantonium provided data records and Sam Trebilcock provided a review. Rides are very dispersed around the service area. The peak ridership tends to be at 8am and 2pm. 74% of trips were completed early or on time. Most cancellations were no shows. Free rides helped increase app usage. 42% of rides were requested within the day. Distribution over time stayed the same. The depot had the most pickups. The east side Target and Walmart area were the most popular this year. The average ride time during the recording period was 18 minutes and the average wait time was 13 minutes. The data showed that SAM OnDemand provides services to new areas, although there are generally less rides than fixed routes. Erik Nelson asked if SAM OnDemand on Saturdays were still occurring. Trebilcock clarified that services are still provided and have expanded to routes 8 and 19 for paratransit.

On time performance was a main focus the past year. Concerns from riders, depot staff, and drivers have been heard and going to be reflected upon moving forward in the next couple of months. Cathy Brechtelsbauer asked if rides were still free with the app and why rides were taking 45-minutes. Trebilcock indicated that rides are no longer free using the app and that longer trips has to do with the number of stops that the bus has to do before getting to the destination. Since there are typically only three or four bus riders at a time, Staff has indicated that maybe smaller buses may work better with this system.

6. SAM Reduction in Service – Driver Shortage. (Informational) Around the nation, there is a driver shortage. 38 drivers are required to be fully staffed and currently there are only 33 drivers on staff. The starting wage is 90% of the driver's base salary or about \$22.50 for the training period then increases after that time. Routes 3 and 10 will be reduced once again, other routes will also be reduced as well to account for these changes.
7. COVID Vaccination Partnership – City Health/SAM (Informational). City Health is collaborating with SAM to take COVID vaccines to neighborhoods, schools, and libraries. Three to four days a week busses sit at a location for about 4-5 hours to administer vaccines. Cathy Brechtelsbauer asked how the word was getting out to the public about this service. Tierza Lanham indicated that there are mail fliers sent to neighborhoods where the bus will be located in advance.

New Business

8. Transit Route and Operations Analysis (Informational) – Trebilcock provided an update on route and operations analysis. Over the past 2 months automatic passenger counters (APC) have been collecting data on four SAM fixed-route buses. Four APCs were placed on four fixed-route buses and have provided data of bus stop ridership. This will help greatly with the route and operations analysis to help determine route changes and improvements This will be implemented by making changes to the fixed route system where there is highest demand for ridership and adding OnDemand services in areas where ridership is low or no services are currently provided.
9. Agency Transportation Contracts (*Informational*) – Trebilcock informed the board that two of three contracts have been approved by City Council. The school board contract has yet to be approved. Board members wondered when the mask mandated was extended. Speeks indicated that it will remain in place until at least March of 2022.
10. November 2021 Operations Report (Informational) – Robert Speeks informed the board that Ridership was up 8% in the month of November compared to November of 2020. Paratransit was up 69% respectively. The average cost per ride is \$12.57. The average cost for a paratransit ride was \$58.99. There were six reportable accidents all of last year. Sam informed the Board that the December 2021 PTAB report will be sent with these draft minutes.
11. Announcements: Next Virtual PTAB meeting: February 28, 2022
12. Adjournment – A motion was made by Brett Glirbas and a second by Mike Lynch to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.