



## PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

*Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues*

### Meeting Minutes for the meeting on August 23, 2010

**Members present:**

Kate Heligas  
Julie Johnson Dresbach  
Greg Johnson  
Thad Mooney  
Deb Nelson  
Chris Schiltz

**Members absent:**

Jim Madsen

**Public in attendance:**

Chad Powell  
Charles Santee

**Staff present:**

Debra Gaikowski, Transit Planner  
Dennis Erckfritz, Operations Manager  
Tierza Lanham, Paratransit Manager  
Bill McCarty, Maintenance Manager  
Karen Walton, General Manager

**Call to order**

Kate Heligas, Chair, called the Public Transit Advisory Board meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. and made introductory comments.

1. **Approval of July 26, 2010, PTAB Meeting Minutes**

Chris Schiltz made a motion to accept the July 26, 2010 PTAB meeting minutes as written. Julie Johnson Dresbach seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Public Hearing** – None

3. **Public Input on Non-agenda Items**

Charles Santee commented on tie-downs for wheelchairs in the new buses. He feels they do not securely hold the wheelchair. He also complained about the non-slip surface on the ramps of the buses and that it does not prevent slipping.

Charles stated that the police had confronted him at a bus stop. He was in the street because of no ramps or sidewalks. Karen Walton explained that if the stop is

inaccessible, he is to call paratransit for a ride since that is Transit's policy. Charles said he would do that in the future.

4. **New Business:**

a. **July Monthly Report**

Karen Walton presented the July Monthly Report. She highlighted the fact that ridership was down for the month. This can be attributed to several factors. First, the new fare boxes were installed and drivers were most likely not counting passengers as they should due to lack of experience with the new equipment. Secondly, weather conditions typically impact ridership and throughout the month there were some extremely hot days and several heavy rain events. Other factors include one less working day in the month and a very slow ridership day on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July which can occur after some holidays.

b. **Transit Marketing**

Debra Gaikowski said there was nothing to report at this time in regard to transit marketing.

c. **Transportation Coordination**

Nancy Surprenant, Mobility Manager for the MPO, reviewed recent accomplishments and goals regarding transportation coordination. She reviewed the agency meetings that took place in June and the compilation of information from the inventory sheets. She stated that the User Group Survey is almost complete and will be reviewed by the sub-committee next week. She also mentioned the potential for a ½-day or full-day seminar for agencies to attend to address several reoccurring items of concern in coordinating services such as insurance coverage, funding, and joint procurement and training.

d. **Transit Development Plan**

Debra Gaikowski talked about the Focus Group accomplishments in regard to route analysis and review. She stated that the group is now quickly reviewing and finalizing all of the suggested options that came out of the meetings. She also mentioned that there may be meetings set up with large users of the system such as SD Achieve so they can review the proposed changes and make suggestions.

e. **ARRA Projects update**

Debra Gaikowski reviewed projects completed with the Stimulus Grant money. Bill McCarty, Transit Maintenance Manager, discussed in more detail the Transit Facility Improvements project. Debra stated that all of the project information is on Transit's website for the general public to access.

5. **Other Business** - None

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

