

The Wichita Transit Advisory Board met in regular session.**Present:**

Sanford Alexander, LeAnna Beat, Troy Bruun, Matt Byrum, Jason Gregory, Robert Hamilton, Patricia Hileman, Michael Loop, Michael May, Robert Metoyer, Rebecca Robertson, Moji Rosson, Greg Schneider, Janet Wilson

Absent:

Shannon Bohm, Jeff Preisner, Robert Yelverton

1. Opening

The regular meeting of the Wichita Transit Advisory Board was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on December 5th, 2018 in regular session by Chair Rosson. There was a moment of silence held in respect to the passing of George H.W. Bush.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chair Rosson presented a motion to the board to approve the minutes for the October 17th, 2018 Transit Advisory Board meeting. Minutes were approved as distributed, moved by Alexander and second by Loop.

3. Public Comment

Andrew Crane requested an update regarding the stop at 21st and Maize at New Market square. This stop has been in place for the last three years and it's at the end of the line. Mike Tann stated that because this is private property we have to work with the owners and to see that this area is addressed. Mike has an appoint scheduled with the concerned citizen and will address issues with him at a later date.

Craig Perbeck with the ILRC wanted to thank the staff of Wichita Transit for returning service to west 2nd street area. Craig requested clarification regarding snow removal for travelers using the bus system. Mike Tann addressed these concerns by letting him know we work closely with Public works and we work hard to get stops cleared. We are currently reviewing policies that would better address these needs.

Tracy A. requested to address the board regarding bringing back benches at various stops around the city. They didn't understand why they were removed from certain stops and why people no longer advertised on them. She also wanted to make the board aware of how expensive the passes are and how they should be discounted on the weekly and monthly rates. Lastly, she wanted the board to be aware that the stop at the new library isn't accessible and would like for Wichita Transit to work on correcting this issue. For

time considerations, Chair Rosson let the citizen know that staff would meet with her privately to additional discuss issues.

4. Discussion Items

a. Project Wichita

Chair Rosson stated that Project Wichita was still in the process of being finalized and completion would occur at the end of 2018. Board member Gregory stated that the following items were being addressed:

- Talent
- Life Long Learning
- Economic Prosperity
- Strong Communities and Neighborhoods
- Quality of Place

Board member Hileman inquired if this project was in reference to the Chung report. Chair Rosson stated that this project created in order to process all the data, essentially what do we want to do moving forward. Private/Public input was gathered and although it's owned by the greater Wichita area, however, there is a regional concentration. Board member Gregory stated that he would like Jerry Mendel come out to present at the January Transit Advisory Board meeting.

b. WAMPO Long Range Transportation Plan

Tricia Thomas from the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) conducted a presentation on the 20 year regional vision for transportation in the Wichita area. The current MTP (Metropolitan Transportation Plan) was approved in 2015, and the new plan will be due in 2020 and it is updated every five years. The planning area covers all of Sedgwick and parts of Butler and Sumner counties. We will go through an exercise to discuss what the future would like for transportation for our region. Information presented covered the following questions were addressed during this presentation:

- Where are we now?
 - Safety, Congestion, Finances, Air Quality, Demographics, Airports, Denser Neighborhoods, Freight Shipping and Technology
- What might the future look like?
 - Development of several scenarios – Maintain current direction, Urban Renaissance, Regional Transportation Investment, Repurposing Existing Infrastructure, Technology as a Transportation Driver.
- What do you think we need to consider?
 - Gathering input from the public and stakeholders to address this question.

Ms. Thomas gathered input from the Transit Advisory Board as an important stakeholder in the future of transportation. The board gathered

in small groups and the following are some of the ideas that were generated: Future Trends, Education, and Asset Management. A more in depth summary will be sent with these minutes.

5. Information Items

a. Ridership report

- Fixed Ridership - The fixed ridership was up 26% this October over last October there was one additional operating day in 2018. The Fixed ridership for November 2018 is up 16%.
- Q-Line - The Q-line ridership in October 2018 is almost equal to last year indicating a -4% change.
- Paratransit - Paratransit did a total of 7,622 rides in October, and 6,759 rides in November, with a weekday average of 320.

A member of the public inquired about the method used to count riders. Staff explained that riders are accounted for via fares and onboarding technology. Staff let the member of the public know that additional questions would be addressed after the presentation. Staff presented information regarding the upcoming route changes scheduled for December 15th, 2018. There were some significant route changes to 13/23, North Broadway route 13 now goes by Coleman every run and South Broadway route 23 was shortened and no longer goes through Spirit. Route 14 will operate from the Transit Center and will now provide service to the Independent Living Resource Center and Greenway Manor. The Q-Line will now run on Douglas only from Seneca and Hydraulic through the week and on the weekends the Q-Line will run from Seneca and Edgemoor. Staff announced that he would be leaving at the end of December.

b. Marketing Report

Chair Rosson opened the floor to Nate Hinkel for the marketing report. The billboards have been very impactful in gaining public interest in Wichita Transit. However, the digital ads with Google haven't been very impactful. On the December 14th, we will visit local businesses that are on the Q-Line and gather old schedules and distribute new schedules. There were several public engagement events, we had the Customer Appreciation at the Transit Center and we held a press conference at Lincoln Heights introducing the Q-Line service to the area, we also participated in the Mayor's Christmas tree lighting on Sunday operating four Trolleys, an all were positively received. Our other marketing efforts include a full page add in the Wichita Visitors guide and the WSU visitors guide.

c. Director's update

Chair Rosson opened the floor to for the Director's report. Mike Tann commented on the upcoming route changes as something that was small but would address the needs of the community. Our service with USD 259 is growing and it is providing more opportunities. We have been nominated to receive a Good Apple Award from Wichita Public Schools. Beginning in January 2019 we will offer service to Wichita State University, students will

be able to ride by showing their ID. This service will transport students from the Metroplex to Wichita State main campus. Mike Tann and Mike May had a productive conversation with Uber and we look forward to partnering with them for a potential Pilot Program. There are several scooter companies that have expressed interest in the Wichita Area and we are in talk with them. The fare box contract is completed and the change will make things better and more cost effective. Board members would like for the City Council members to attend the Transit Advisory Board meetings. The board agreed that if they were to extend an open invitation to the City Manager to attend a Transit Advisory Board meeting, then a specific agenda would need to be created to maximize the use of his time.

7. Other Business

None.

8. Announcements

One of the board members shared that Wichita Independent Neighborhood Association will have its annual dinner meeting on December 28th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m., they have reached out to the new county members to see if they would be able to attend. The next Transit Advisory Board meeting will be held on January 16th, 2019.

9. Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.