



The Wichita Transit Advisory Board met in regular session.

Present:

Ellen Abbey, LeAnna Beat, Shannon Bohm, Matt Byrum, Jason Gregory, Darryl Kelly Jr., Dorsha Kirksey, Catherine McMurray, Mika Pyyhkala, Shana Chivon Stephens, and Troy Tabor

Absent:

None.

1. Opening

The regular meeting of the Wichita Transit Advisory Board was called to order at 10:00 A.M. on August 19, 2020 in regular session by Chair LeAnna Beat.

2. Oath of Office

Jamie administered the oath of office for newly appointed and reappointed board members who were present. Ellen Abbey, Jason Gregory, Darryl Kelly Jr., Dorsha Kirksey, Shana Chivon Stephens, and Troy Tabor all were sworn in.

3. Approval of Minutes

At the beginning of the meeting, Chair Beat tabled the approval of minutes to give board members time to review the corrected July minutes. Member Tabor proposed a motion to the board to approve the minutes for the July 15, 2020 Transit Advisory Board meeting. The minutes was second by member Byrum. Minutes were approved as distributed at 10:26 AM.

4. Public Comment

No one signed up to make a public comment to the board.

5. Discussion Items

A. WT Transit Projects

Kristin Zimmerman, Senior Planner, with the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning

Organization (WAMPO), provided information on the environment review process for the Delano Multimodal Facility. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is the initial environmental screening of the site that ensure compliance with federal laws and the environmental impact. NEPA requires all federal action to consider the environmental impact before implementing or constructing. Currently, the project is in the preliminary planning (NEPA Review and Conceptual Design) phase and will move to the implementation (Engineering Design and Construction) element. Project updates will be available to the board.

6. Information Items

A. Marketing Report

A copy of the marketing report was emailed to the board with the current focus points:

- Veterans Ride Free Partnership with the Veteran Affairs and United Way
There was a total of 548 veteran riders utilizing the veteran ride free service from 07/28-08/05/2020. Nate encouraged board members to continue promoting this service on social media.
- Wichita State University Transportation Service (21A and 202A)
This pilot was launched on August 18, 2020. Both routes 21A and 202A are free sub-routes to the existing public transportation routes. These routes provide free transfers between the Transit Center, the WSU main campus, and Hughes Metropolitan Metroplex Monday through Friday.
- Minor Fixed Route schedule and route updates
(Starting approximately in September to better route efficiency)
- 20 Ride Pass promotion extended through September 18th, 2020
(20 Ride Passes are on sale for \$20 and are non-expiring)

In addition, Nate gave updates on upcoming community involvements.

B. Director's Report

Director Tann informed the board members of the Director's report. Key points were presented as follows:

- Multimodal Project Update
The Multimodal Project is now in the planning stages. Wichita Transit is working with Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) to complete the NEPA Environment Study.
The next focus would be to work with Garver to initiate a design with the following features and to receive public input:
 - Large platform with solar power to power the entire facility and charging stations for buses and electric vehicles

(Partnered with Evergy to maximize solar power)

- Retail Space on Sycamore between Texas and Burton Street
- Restaurants with outdoor dining
- Connectivity (Bike Share and scooters)
- Irrigation System

Overall this Multimodal Center Project will provide high-quality service that will connect the community to a better transit service than ever before.

- Battery-Electric Buses

Three of the seven battery-electric buses have arrived. The redesigned, recycled-remanufactured buses are delivered one every seven business days. We expect to install the technology and complete the bus wrapping by mid to late September. Once the concepts are ready, they be presented to the advisory board for approval. Transit intent is to show off the new electric bus to the board by mid to late fall and have a roll out for the public later.

- WT operation updates with the COVID-19 pandemic

A third party company continues to deionize and disinfect buses every evening Monday through Friday. Transit staff continue to externally and internally clean the buses throughout the day.

Fixed route ridership is slowly increasing while Paratransit services are back to pre-covid levels. We anticipate pilot programs will continue to promote ridership.

- Status of Service Contracts

USD259 meets on Thursday evening to discuss the uncertainty with the start of school. Wichita Transit is still prepared and available to meet USD259 needs.

- Wichita State University

On August 18th, Wichita Transit started piloting transportation service for WSU. We continue to focus on expanding or incorporating our route system with the newly 201A and 21A sub-routes for the community, and WSU faculty and staff. Currently, we are in the process of finalizing a contract that meets the requirements of the City of Wichita, the Federal Transit Administration, and Wichita State University.

7. Old Business

- Strategic Board

At upcoming meetings, the board will continue discussing areas for board

development.

8. New Business

- Q-Line

Discuss how to maximize and expand the Q-Line service

9. Announcements

None.

10. Meeting adjourned shortly at 10:59 A.M.

The next meeting of the board will be held on **September 16, 2020 @10:00 AM.**