



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, Shana Chivon Stephens, and Troy Tabor

Absent:

Mika Pyyhkala

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Wichita Transit Advisory Board was called to order at 10:00 A.M. on September 16, 2020 in regular session by Chair LeAnna Beat.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Member Kelly Jr. proposed a motion to the board to approve the minutes for the August 19, 2020, Transit Advisory Board meeting. The minutes were seconded by member Perbeck. Minutes were approved as distributed.

3. Public Comments

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

4. Discussion Items

A. Downtown Streets Project Presentation

Alyson Fletcher, with Wichita Downtown Streets, provided information to the Wichita Transit Advisory Board regarding the Downtown Streets Project. Downtown Streets is conducting a study on all the streets in the circulation of downtown using all means of transportation. The study covers the entire area east to Washington Street, west to the Arkansas River, South to Kellogg Ave, and ending north of Murdock Street. The primary focus points of this study are street safety, economic development, and better accommodating the community surrounding the downtown community. The City of Wichita is looking to receive feedback from the public. This feedback will help shape the current and the future of the downtown area. Ideas and feedback can be submitted from September 14th through October 12th, 2020, using the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/downtownstreetsict>.

5. **Information Items**

A. **Marketing Report**

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

- **Public input outreach for the Multimodal Center**
Garver has released a 10 percent design of the Multimodal Center. Transit is holding a 30-day comment period for the public to provide input on the conceptual summary and drawings. Comments can be submitted now through September 30th, 2020. For more information, please visit Wichita Transit's Facebook page and www.wichitaitransit.org.
- **Mobile Ticketing beta testing**
Transit staff started testing the functionality and automated messaging response for the mobile ticketing application. Progress will be released as they come.
- **Minor Fixed Route schedule and route updates**
Routes have been updated to better route efficiency. Route 29 is one of the routes that has been updated to go to South Webb Road and East Kellogg.
- **Veterans Ride Free Partnership with the Veteran Affairs and United Way**
Wichita Transit provides free bus rides to any veteran with proper identification. Veterans can use public transportation for any reason, not just for VA business. There was a total of 2,000 veteran riders utilizing the veteran ride free service in the first thirty days. Month to date, that total has increased to 3,500. Nate continued to encourage board members to promote this service on social media.
- **20 Ride Pass promotion has been extended through October 18th, 2020**
(20 Ride Passes are on sale for \$20 and are non-expiring)
- **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. Both routes have been well received by the public, especially route 202A.
- **Nate will provide the board with detailed social media reports to enhance understanding of marketing trends and will research ways to better educate the public for what is currently being offered with public**

transportation.

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:

- **Downtown Parking**

There is an ongoing parking study to reevaluate parking conditions during the Covid-19 pandemic. A presentation will be given to the board later this year to give the current and future of parking conditions in the downtown area.

- **Battery-Electric Buses**

Five of the seven battery-electric buses have arrived. Some of the electric buses will be completely dedicated to the Wichita State University (WSU) routes, and the remainder will be committed to the Q-Line. Transit staff is working diligently on getting the technology installed and the battery-electric buses wrapped. The next focus will be discovering ways to release the Q-Line during this pandemic, and how to obtain the best utilization for the service.

The final two redesigned, recycled-remanufactured buses should be delivered in the next couple of weeks.

- **Bike Share and Scooters**

An assignment of the previously owned company called Zagster has been agreed on. Zagster declared bankruptcy and went out of business back in May. The new company Movatic has agreed to purchase all assets belonging to Zagster and will relaunch the Bike Share. The advisory board will be updated on the Bike Share process.

Another mobility company by the name of Bird Rides expressed interest in deploying in the Wichita Area with the same number of scooters as VeoRide. Both Bird Rides and VeoRide pilots will expire in the Spring of 2021 and increase funds to the City of Wichita. A possible RFP may occur after the pilot period.

- **Multimodal Project Update**

Director Mike Tann provided the board with images of the current and existing conditions of the Multimodal site. He expressed the genuine focus to rehabilitate the area so that the project fits within the community and brings value.

6. Old Business

- **Strategic Board**

Several Wichita Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory (WBPAB) members requested to partner with the Transit Advisory Board members to establish a strategic plan for both boards. This will create a cohesive transportation message when interacting with the community and elected officials. Transit Advisory Board members expressed interest in partnering with the WBPAB and attending the virtual meeting next month on October 19th, 2020, at 5:30 PM CST. A meeting invitation will be sent to those interested in attending.

7. New Business

- FTA Section 5310 Call for Projects Application Workshop

Wichita Transit is a designated recipient for the 5310 Fund. The fund provides capital and operating funding to non-profit agencies for seniors or those with disabilities. The workshop is available to review applications and determine the amount of funding that's available. The application workshop will be held on October 2, 2020, at 2 PM. For more information please visit www.wampo.org/paratransit.

8. Announcements

- Transit Advisory Board Vacancies

All seats on the Transit Advisory Board have been filled. Thank you, board members, for spreading the word on vacancies.

9. Adjournment

Vice Chair McMurray proposed a motion to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was seconded by member Kirksey. The meeting adjourned shortly at 11:14 A.M.

The next meeting of the board will be held on **October 21, 2020 @10:00 AM**.