The Wichita Transit Advisory Board met in virtual session.

Present:
LeAnna Beat, Matt Byrum, Diana Edmiston, Troy Tabor, Dorsha Kirksey, Mika Pyyhkala
Shannon Bohm

Absent:
Cat McMurray, Darryl Kelly, Jason Gregory, Ellen Abbey and Shana Chivon Stephens

1. Opening
Chair Beat called the regular meeting of the Wichita Transit Advisory Board to order at 10:05 a.m. on January 19, 2022 in virtual session.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
Chair Beat proposed a motion to the board to approve the minutes for the December 15, 2021 Transit Advisory Board meeting. Motion to approve minutes made by Member Kirksey and seconded by Member Byrum. Minutes unanimously approved.

3. Discussion Items

A. Paul Gunzelman provided an update regarding the revised building concept. Original plan was for a 4-level parking garage and has now been reduced to a 3-level garage with a loss of 150 stalls. Office spaces have been eliminated. Two elevator towers instead of three. Car Park office space has been eliminated. Lobby space has been resized. Review aesthetic. None of the 12 bus bays, ticket vending, Greyhound office space, restrooms and security area has not been affected at this time. Member Bohm requested updates on the schedule. Three to four months of the project has been lost due to COVID.

B. Raven provided an update on the Section 5310 Program. Subrecipients have begun submitting reimbursement request with their quarterly reports since October 2021. There were price increases on vehicle purchases due to increase in cost of materials and chassis shortages. Amendment due to these increases have been sent to agencies. Staff will continue to monitor agencies for compliance.
Recap of program; Section 5310 Program provides funding for public transportation programs that support services for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Park City is new to the program.

C. Mancell provided an update on hiring status for Transit. During the 4th quarter, there were 18 hires, however there were 11 exits (some due to retirements). CDL market is very high demand. Outreach efforts include postings of four job sites, attended in person and virtual job fairs, TV advertising, KS workforce and communications with local colleges, specifically Butler County as they have a diesel program for mechanics.

4. Information Items

   A. Marketing Report
      None.

   B. Director’s Report

Director Tann provided the Director’s Report. There are currently 5 drivers out with COVID and some on 5-day quarantine. Transit staff is continuing to manage with masking up in the offices and on buses. Transit will be offering a vaccine clinic in the month February. Transit will also serve as a drive thru for vaccine and testing site in partnership with Sedgwick County. Employees are frontline we want to make sure they are vaccinated and booster’d. Transit will offer free bus rides to for those traveling to testing sites.

Wichita Transit is expanding their partnership with International Rescue Committee (IRC). This was established by Mayor’s initiative to provide incoming refugee individuals with access to transit. They will each be provided an ID with a six month expiration date in order to utilize transit services. These passes are to get to medical appointments, grocery shopping and employment.

In partnership with Mental Health Coalition, a pilot program will be launched soon for the selection of 20 individuals to be provided month passes for 90 days. These pass will be available by using the RIDE Wichita app only. By using the app, the sponsoring agencies are able to have these funds added to the individual’s accounts, ridership is tracked and no paper passes are made available for potential trades or potentially sold.

5. Public Comments

   None.

6. Old Business

Chair Beat advised that Nate responded to her about the AA ridership program project needing more discussion. The project was not implemented in November, as previously discussed. Per request, Jay Hinkel will review the information, for legal purposes, to see what needs to be
addressed. Chair Beat also advised that City Council has been informed of her project update request. Mike and Council Member Ballard will have a meeting to discuss the AA program project.

7. **New Business**

   None.

8. **Announcements**

   None.

**Adjournment**

Member Tabor made motion to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was seconded by Member Edminster. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:12 AM.

The next meeting of the board will be held on **February 16, 2022 @ 10:00 AM**.