

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Topeka Metro will host three public meetings in January to gather public input regarding a proposed system-wide service reduction as the result of a current shortage of bus operators. The labor shortage is NOT due to COVID-19 cases amongst employees, but due to difficulties in recruiting and retaining bus operators, the same difficulties currently experienced by so many employers.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Topeka Metro has maintained a reliable and high level of service, connecting people with jobs, groceries and medical appointments in the most difficult and trying of times. The ridership during these times highlights public transit's value, the community's reliance on public transit, and Topeka Metro's unfailing ability to deliver this critical service. Unfortunately, the shortage of bus operators requires Topeka Metro to explore reduced services so that we can maintain the same reliability that customers have come to expect.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend and offer input regarding Topeka Metro services. **Comments will also be accepted through Friday, January 21st, 2022** in the following ways: in person at the Quincy Street Station (820 SE Quincy St.); via regular mail; by telephone at 785-783-7000; via fax at 785-354-8476; and by email on our website at <u>https://www.topekametro.org/contact-us</u>.

The public meeting dates and times are as follows:

First Meeting

When:Wednesday, January 12th, 2022, 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.Where:Topeka Metro's Quincy Street Station lobby
820 SE Quincy

Second Meeting

When:Thursday, January 13th, 2022, 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.Where:Topeka Metro's Quincy Street Station lobby
820 SE Quincy

Third Meeting

When:Tuesday, January 18th, 2022, beginning at 4:00 p.m.Where:Topeka Metro's January Board of Director's meeting
Quincy Street Station board room (south end of QSS)