

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

10:15 a.m.

Quincy Street Station via Zoom

Committee Members present: Britney Laughlin, Marty Winans, Brandon Fell, Anthony Fadale, Deborah Dawkins, and Mike Nolting.

Committee Members Absent: Libby Adams, Brian Snodderly, Taylor Moore, mark Webb, Brian Snodderly, Mary Thomas, Libby Adams, Britney Stidham

TMTA Staff present: Al Bradley

The meeting was called to order by Al Bradley at 10:15 a.m. There were no guests present or public comments offered.

There were no corrections to the prior minutes.

Mr. Bradley started the meeting with safety concerning Severe Weather Preparedness Week. Mr. Bradley said this has been the topic of safety for the last couple of meetings. He explained what TMTA does when there are severe weather alerts as far as what the operators do on route. Mr. Bradley said they in the event of a tornado warning, the operator will be instructed to seek shelter off the bus along with passengers. He explained there are prearranged locations along each route. Mike Nolting asked if there were designated public tornado shelters in town? Mr. Bradley said he didn't know but would inquire and contact him with the information asap.

Mr. Bradley briefly discussed the progress of the MOD Service. He shared some of the metrics from January through March with average numbers to areas like passengers per day, median wait times, and number of registered accounts. He shared enthusiasm from TMTA for steady growth.

Mr. Bradley said QSS always get calls asking about the service hours, especially the Lift service. He went over the hours indicated on the agenda. He also emphasized the final pick-up times so members would be aware that it didn't coincide with Service hours. Mr. Bradley took this time to talk about passenger assistant issues by reminding everyone that operators are not allowed to handle groceries, parcels, or packages. He explained that multiple loads or trips to and from the vehicle are prohibited and bags and packages must not be stowed in the walkways, doorways, or seats. He pointed out that most of their concerns or questions pertaining to the lift service could be found in the "Lift Service Guide."

Mr. Bradley also took time to explain to members about an issue that came up involving the wheelchair securement area on one of our fixed route buses, he explained that all passengers may sit in the priority seating area, but if someone in a wheelchair needs to board, they would have to

move. He said if a passenger disagrees with this policy, they should only address it with the operator, not the passenger in the wheelchair.

Mr. Bradley briefly discussed the ridership report and asked if there were any questions later to contact him and he would get them answers. He also pointed out that operators wore orange t-shirts recently to bring awareness to larger trucks and buses on the road to promote safety. This coincided with Public Service Week 5/6 through 5/11.

Mr. Bradley discussed the following events:

- Kids Ride Free 5/15 through 8/15
- Board Meeting: 5/20 at 15:30
- Memorial Day: 5/27 (all facilities & services closed)

Upcoming meetings for 2024 are scheduled as follows at **10:15 a.m. at QSS or via zoom:**

- **Wednesday, July 10th, 2024**
- **Wednesday, September 11, 2024**
- **Wednesday, November 13, 2024**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Al Bradley
Topeka Metro Operations Supervisor