

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

10:15 a.m.

Quincy Street Station via Zoom

Committee Members present: Deborah Dawkins, Kristen Stock, and Anthony Fadale.

Committee Members absent: Taylor Moore, Marty Winans, Nancy Johnson, Libby Adams, Brian Snodderly, Mark Webb, Mary Thomas, Mike Nolting, and Britney Senton.

TMTA Staff present: Al Bradley and Rachel Padilla

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 announced the 24-hour adult and reduced passes are now in stock and available to sell in bulk. Agencies purchasing in packs of 100 passes would receive the discount, which is half fare. Mr. Bradley also commented on the misunderstanding with agencies about when the passes would arrive.

Mr. Bradley reminded the committee that we were in the middle of “Severe Weather Awareness Week” and briefly talked about our participation in the annual statewide tornado drill yesterday. Mr. Bradley stated it is a good time for employees, riders, and contractors, to refamiliarize themselves with home-based emergency preparedness, as well as safety tips related to tornados.

Mr. Bradley announced the MOD (Metro on-Demand) is a convenient service that provides customer transportation within the designated southeast zone. Roughly 70% of the riders are submitting their ride request using the MOD passenger app. Riders can also schedule their ride by calling QSS and we can schedule the rides for them. The difference between the MOD and the Lift is that the passenger can bring more on board with them and on the Lift, they can only bring on board what they can carry. The average wait time for pickup requests with the MOD is less than 10 minutes.

Mr. Bradley told the committee that we have been having issues with receiving staff at group homes. When the Lift is dropping the rider at home or at the end of the day there needs to be staff to receive them. We do not want to leave them, so sometimes the drivers must do other pick-ups and drop-offs and will need to return to drop the passenger off. This mostly happens at group homes, and it is very critical that staff be available to receive the passengers when they are being dropped off at their facilities. There is a \$10.00 fee when a driver must return to a location for a 2nd attempt to drop off. However this still affects the schedule for other passengers.

Mr. Bradley discussed the importance of passengers having mobility devices that are in good working conditions for transportation. Passengers cannot be denied transportation with a mobility device that meets ADA requirements, but if the mobility device is in poor working condition and causes a safety issue to the passenger or the operator, this may be a concern that has to be addressed before we can transport.

***Mr. Bradley presented February 21, 2023, ridership report. We do not have accurate data as far as the fixed route. The fixed route total is an estimate based on patterns and data derived from the Doublemap Passengers counter. We have had an increase in the riders from our Lift Service this time compared to last year. Limited MOD data is shown as a starting point for this report. If you have any questions concerning ridership email Al or call him.

Mr. Anthony Fadale announced that the National ADA Symposium will be held May 21 -24, 2023, in Kansas City, Missouri. There will be in-person and virtual sessions.

Mr. Bradley discussed various upcoming events at Topeka Metro:

- 3/10/2023 Board Study Session – 8:30 am
- 3/12/2023 Daylight Saving time begins – “Spring Forward”
- 3/17/2023 St. Patrick’s Day
- 3/17/2023 National Transit Driver Appreciation Day
- 3/20/2023 Board meeting – 3:15 pm
- 5/29/2023 Memorial Day
- 7/4/2023 Independence Day
- 11/23/2023 Thanksgiving Day
- 11/24/2023 Thanksgiving Friday - Limited Holiday Service
- 11/26/2023 Christmas Day (Observed Monday) Closed

Upcoming meetings for 2023 are scheduled as follows at **10:15 a.m. at QSS or via zoom:**

- **Wednesday, May 10th**
- **Wednesday, July 12th**
- **Wednesday, September 13th**
- **Wednesday, November 8th**

Topeka Metro Operations Supervisor

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Al Bradley