

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

10:15 a.m.

Quincy Street Station

Committee Members present: Maria Ruiz, Brian Snodderly, Mike Nolting, Anthony Fadale, Mark Webb, Shelby Fry and Deborah Dawkins.

Committee Members absent: Nancy Johnson, Dennis Tenpenny, Mary Thomas, Libby Adams, and Linda Kehres.

TMTA Staff present: Al Bradley, Elizabeth Manson and Mike Spadafore.

The meeting was called to order by Al Bradley at 10:15 a.m. Guests Shyla Mason with Community Resource Council, Kim Dietrich with Topeka Independent Living Resource Center (TILRC) and Taylor Moore with TILRC were present.

There were no corrections to the prior minutes.

Mr. Bradley reminded the committee we have one consumer member spot vacant. However, we have two spots filled by representatives that have not been present during the last several meetings. Mr. Bradley will be contacting those individuals to inquire as to what their future intent might be.

Mr. Bradley discussed the importance of implementing a severe weather/tornado emergency plan. Topeka Metro has emergency cell phones that Quincy Street Station (QSS) and the administrative office can use in case of a power outage or the phone lines go out. Elizabeth Manson distributed the emergency numbers to the committee members. QSS has an inside/outside audio system that can announce inclement weather situations/instructions. Tornado shelters at QSS are the public restrooms located in the lobby.

Mr. Bradley announced Topeka Metro is working on creating a designated common location for pick-up and drop-off at facilities that have multiple pick-up/drop-off locations. By doing this, Topeka Metro hopes this will cut down unnecessary wait time for the passenger and the operator as well as no-shows due to passengers being at a different location.

Mr. Bradley updated the committee on the upcoming service changes. The only fare increase the Board voted in favor of was the 31-day reduced fare pass. It currently sells for \$25.00 and will be increasing to \$35.00 effective December 1, 2019. The Board voted to eliminate certain peak service trips and the last hour of all weekday fixed route and Lift service. The Board is moving forward with the Bikeshare Taskforce, facilitated by United Way, in hopes of being able to find a way to sustain the bikeshare program in some form or fashion. Deborah Dawkins asked what the bulk of the expense was in running the program. Mike Spadafore answered the majority of the expense paid for staff time and although the bikes were already purchased, there is a monthly connectivity fee associated with each bike for the computer software to be active.

Mr. Bradley presented the August 2019 ridership report. Fixed route ridership was down 5.3% compared to last year. Lift ridership increased by 4% over last year.

Mr. Bradley discussed various upcoming events at Topeka Metro:

- La Colonia/Oakland Bus Stop Ribbon Cutting Event – scheduled to take place in October

- Topeka Metro's new General Manager, Bob Nugent, begins – 10/9
- Veteran's Ride Free – Month of November – *fixed route only*
- Daylight Savings Time Ends – 11/3

Upcoming meetings for 2019 are scheduled as follows at **10:15 a.m. at QSS:**

- **Wednesday, November 13th**

Meetings for 2020 will need to be scheduled when the committee meets in November. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Manson
Topeka Metro Operations Assistant