

## PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

*Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues*

Meeting Minutes

for the meeting on November 25, 2013

### Members present:

Jean Crowe  
Philip Jacobson  
Greg Johnson  
Deb Nelson  
Erik Gaikowski  
Megan Myers ([at 4:15 pm](#))

### Public in attendance:

Joe Dvorak  
Chad Powell  
Charles Santee

### PTAB Members absent:

Minnie Bell

### Staff present:

Dennis Erckfritz, Operations Manager  
Amber Gibson, Planner II, SECOG  
Tierza Lanham, Paratransit Manager  
Eric Meyerson, General Manager  
Sam Trebilcock, Transportation Planner

### Call to order

Deb Nelson, Chair, called the Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB) meeting to order at 3:46 p.m. and made introductory comments.

### 1. Approval of October 28, 2013, PTAB Meeting Minutes

Philip Jacobson made a motion to accept the October 28, 2013, PTAB meeting minutes. Greg Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### 2. Public input on non-agenda items:

Charles Santee inquired about the installation of a safe crossing on Shirley Avenue across from Walmart. Sam Trebilcock stated that he would relay the concern to the City Traffic Engineer.

Charles Santee stated that the electronic sign in the Downtown Bus Stop had not been updated with the correct PTAB meeting date. Dennis Erckfritz stated that he would follow up on this.

Charles Santee also inquired about a complaint that he had submitted, but had not received a response on [it as of yet](#). Eric Meyerson stated that he would follow up on this [complaint](#).

### 3. New Business:

#### a. Transit Task Force Update

Sam Trebilcock updated the Board on the Transit Task ~~for~~ [Force](#) created by City Council to look at the long term sustainability of the transit system. Sam reviewed the member list and work actions developed for each priority of the Coordinated Plan. Discussion followed. This item was informational only.

**b. 2014 PTAB Calendar**

Sam Trebilcock reviewed the 2014 PTAB Calendar. This item was informational only.

**c. Annual Operations Report**

Amber Gibson reviewed an option for an annual operations report. Discussion followed. This item was informational only.

**4. Old Business:**

**a. Transit Coordination Activities**

Amber Gibson informed the Board of recent transit coordination activities including the completion of the Coordinated Plan, an upcoming meeting led by AARP and CTAA to explore work actions for priority two of the Coordinated Plan, and a recent meeting led by AARP to discuss options for transportation to Sioux Falls for medical appointments. This item was informational only.

**5. Reports:**

**a. October Operations Report**

Eric Meyerson provided a report on the ridership statistics of Sioux Area Metro for September. Fixed-route ridership is down 0.42% and paratransit ridership is down 6.49% compared with 2012. Randy noted that the decline in paratransit ridership is encouraging and may buy some time in maintaining existing service. This item was informational only.

**b. Transit Marketing Committee**

Eric Meyerson informed the Board that the Marketing Committee met early this month. The Committee has been working on getting new bus stop signs and the radio ads had just wound down. Next year, the Committee will be focusing on marketing efforts for the fixed route service changes. Sam Trebilcock also stated that more work needs to be done on incorporating technology such as Google Transit. This item was informational only.

**6. Other Business:**

Sam Trebilcock showed an example of the new bus stop signs. The request for bids will go out in December.

Sam Trebilcock also informed the Board that he would be asking for input on proposed fixed route changes and whether a public hearing would be necessary for those changes.

Megan Myers complimented Austin's transit system and its texting service to find out when a bus would be arriving at a particular stop.

Charles Santee suggested selling items such as caps with the SAM logo to market the transit system. Charles also mentioned that Boston released the GPS information of its buses, which led to the development of mobile route applications.

**7. Adjournment**

Erik Gaikowski made a motion to adjourn and Megan Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Deb Nelson adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.