

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

SEPTEMBER 13, 2012, 5:30 PM

CITY HALL ASSEMBLY CONFERENCE ROOM, SUITE 155

PTAB PRESENT:

Sally Spieker
Jed Smith
Jay Dulany
Tim Sullivan
Carol Wren

Absent
Justin Kirkelie
Patrick Reinhart

STAFF:

Lance Wilber
Sandy Hansen
Matt Nolan

Guests:

Jamie Acton
Andrew Ooms
David Levy
Todd Logan

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chairperson Sally Spieker.

II. ROLL CALL, INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS, STAFF, AND GUESTS

After roll call, a quorum was present.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion for approval of the agenda was made. The agenda was approved as submitted.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for August 9, 2012 were approved after Sally requested clarification on the first page to be reworded from 'were adjust' to 'was adjusted'.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Levy from the Alaska Mobility Coalition provided an update on Legislative activities; \$2 Million was awarded to support Public Transportation across the state, of which Anchorage MOA will receive \$450,000 for improvements. The Governor's Public Advisory Board was approved and Carol Wren was appointed to the board which will meet for the first time on October 22, 2012. A facilitator will be selected within the next three weeks. AMC completed an impact study of Public Transit Agencies in Alaska and the results will be announced during the Transit Conference October 23-25, 2012 in Anchorage, held at the Marriott Hotel.

David stated that he is coordinating with People Mover to provide another Anchorage bus tour highlighting transit needs for Legislators and Assembly Members. He requests of the board members to encourage assembly members to participant.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Proposed Fare Adjustments

Lance provided a handout of the proposed fare increase and with regard to increased fuel costs in 2012 compared to 2005. Lance discussed providing the FTA with a Fare and Equity Analysis report as part of the process which included research from other U.S. Transit Agencies. The FTA made a request regarding the impact to low income population in our proposal and bus pass usage. Public hearing and Assembly approval are required prior to implementation. The proposal would raise the adult fare to \$2.00 (\$1.75 currently) and it would simplify the fare structure to create a half price fare category for seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and youth.

Lance asked the board to provide their input through a work session sometime in September prior to Mayor Sullivan's budget proposal on October 1, 2012. After discussion regarding the previous budget work session with Mayor Sullivan and Administration with Sally, Patrick and Carol, it was determined that the fare proposal work session would include additional revenue ideas. Lance volunteered to send an invitation with details to all members later.

The consensus of the Board members was that a new fare structure made sense going forward and if all riders were impacted the same; it would be fair to all.

VII. STAFF REPORTS

a. Bus Stop Enhancement Crew report

Matt Nolan, People Mover Site Enhancement Supervisor, presented a power point presentation outlining the challenges his crew faces each year such as winter snow removal, trash pick up, graffiti clean up and bodily fluid safety/removal. He expressed that he has been identifying the bus stops that create a homeless hangout and promote illegal activities for non-riders. Matt explained that he makes adjustments through environmental design such as removing walls that invite people to sit for long periods and installing fencing on them. He stressed that damaged furniture at the bus stops are refurbished and reused as much as possible to reduce expenses and offer more with less.

Jed inquired about the Adopt-a-Stop program and how it can be promoted to include more volunteers. Matt and Lance responded that there are currently 66 stops that are adopted for clean-up and trash bags are provided. Jesse Ferman with our department is in the process of expanding the program.

Matt informed the board that there are cameras installed at 'reoccurring issue' bus stops which capture film of illegal activities and individuals drinking which could be used to prosecute however a charter in the Municipal code prevents police enforcement from acting. The film would validate individuals as not People Mover customers. He would like the assistance of the PTAB to change the code allow law enforcement act and eliminate the individuals from the bus stops in the long term.

b. Ridership Report

Each member received a copy (50 pages) of year-to-date Ridership averages and individual trip numbers through July. Lance suggested providing a ridership summary each month and a detailed report every six months.

c. Fuel Costs & Budget Status

Lance provided a fuel delivery sheet outlining the weekly fuel costs and the budget adherence costs. He talked about the fluctuation of fuel costs throughout the year and the impact it has on our budget. He said he anticipates a shortfall of \$200,000 by the year's end that Transit may have to fund without supplemental funding from the Administration. An inquiry was made about the

\$450,000 from the legislator however Lance felt that that money would be better served in another application.

d. PTAB Matters (membership, Audit findings)

Lance stated that PTAB was scheduled to sunset in October of 2012. An audit of boards and commissions was completed through the Mayor's office and the findings revealed that the PTAB would be retained. He outlined that current membership status; Tim and Patrick are to be reappointed in October, Dianne Blumer has stepped down and Lance introduced a new member, Andrew Ooms, who would likely replace her in October. Lance is hopeful that another new member is in the process of approval and she is anticipated to join the board in October or November.

Lance offered every PTAB board member a free bus pass in the form of a smart card valid through each member's term. He encourages all members to use the People Mover buses with the new card as an incentive to learn our system and to embrace Public Transit in Anchorage.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS

- a. Discussion about bus stop issues and the acknowledgement that a few individuals create a negative impact for People Mover through visibility. Overall, the bus service and bus stops are providing a needed service and the system is meant to serve all of Anchorage, not just a few.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm

Next Meeting Date-

October 11, 2012, We will convene at 5:30pm, City Hall room 155.

Tentative Meeting items:

- a. October 11, 2012, Budget Resolutions
- b. November 8, 2012, Alaska Railroad Presentation