



**PTAB
Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2020; 5:30 – 7:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order

Mr. Andrew Ooms called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

2. Roll Call

PTAB Present:

Andrew Ooms
Doug Miller
Jennifer Ham
Genevieve Mina
Chelsea Ward-Waller

PTAB Absent:

Dawn Groth

Citizens Present:

15 unique logins were recorded for this meeting.

After roll call, a quorum was present.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Bart Rudolph recommended adding a public comment period; was added to the agenda before item 6.

and the motion passed as amended without objection.

4. Public Involvement Announcement

Mr. Andrew Ooms read the public involvement announcement.

5. Action / Information Items

a) Minutes of the June 11, 2020 Meeting (ACTION)

Mr. Doug Miller moved, to approve the minutes of the PTAB meeting of June 11, 2020

Mr. Genevieve Mina seconded,

and the motion passed without objection.

b) Director's Update (INFORMATION)

Information provided by Ms. Jamie Acton

c) COVID-19 Response (Information)

(a) Current Safety Protocols

(b) Ridership During the Pandemic

(c) Essential Service Transportation Update

Information provided by Mr. Bart Rudolph and Mr. Paris Butler

d) Service Change Update (INFORMATION)

Information provided by Mr. Bart Rudolph

e) PTAB Vacancies (INFORMATION)

Information provided by Mr. Bart Rudolph

6. Public Comments

Roberta Jamestown – I take 31 at 6:45am from Duben/Oklahoma to Fred Meyer to transfer to 25 inbound at 7:15ish. From when I get off 31 to wait on the 25; it's around a 25-minute wait. I wish to see this 31 go back to the time before this change, which was only around 10 to 15 minutes wait on the transfer. This 25-minute wait is a long wait, especially during the winter in the cold. Thank you for your time.

Ernie Weiss - I am a frequent bus rider and am pleased buses are operating again. I do not ride every day and was disappointed when I was no longer able to charge up my Smart Card with individual rides, but only 1-week or 30-day passes. Since People Mover is now asking riders to only take necessary trips on the bus, it seems it would be prudent to again allow Smart Cards to be charged with individual rides. Smart Cards are a good touchless fare option for customers who don't want or can't use the mTicket option. Allowing Smart Cards to be charged with individual rides will encourage safe, limited ridership rather than encouraging riders to ride more often, against People Mover Policy to make use of the 30-day pass. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Current Priorities as it related to Employment & Transportation in Eagle River Alaska

Senior Residents (55+) --

Change of the bus service: No longer goes farther than downtown Eagle River. Stopped service to Eklutna, Peters Creek and Chugiak.

There is limited bus service from Eagle River to Anchorage Transit Center. It runs in early morning and late afternoon. No service during the day. Chugiak Senior Center service is not designed for those who work full time. Daily use costs at least \$400 per month. Those who use it to go to medical appointments can spend the entire day waiting for a ride home to Eagle River. There were times when clients were left waiting outside their destination in Anchorage and were never picked up. Many people have cars for transportation but cannot afford the repairs. Many depend on family or their church for help but are aware that this is an imposition. Those with physical disabilities who need to modify their vehicles for transportation are charged up to \$36,000. Decision to remove bus stops in Anchorage left riders over a mile from their job. (Barbara Doran)

Current Priorities as it related to Employment & Transportation in Anchorage, Alaska

Senior Residents (55+) --

Currently the Anchorage Region MASST program has 24 active participants, ages 56-81. Over half of the participants have physical disabilities and most ride the bus. Of the riders one uses a walker without a seat. If the bus is full on three passes, that participant would be forced to stand for forty-five minutes for a bus. Then there are the three participants who are visually impaired. If the bus is full and they are alone at the bus stop, how will they know that the bus is going to pass them by? * Received a call from Megan at People Mover assuring me that they are implementing a new policy as of 6.8.2020 that all drivers will now stop and inform waiting customers that the bus is full and when the next should arrive. This will also assist customers for whom English is a second language or for those that are functionally illiterate.

Additionally, the job center is half mile from the nearest bus stops, in either direction, with most catching the bus at Walmart on A Street. With winter fast approaching, the sidewalks will be become nearly impassable. The visually impaired (and those using walkers and wheelchairs) have been forced (like everyone) to walk in the road, but in their case it is infinitely more perilous to make a half mile walk to a bus stop in the winter when they cannot just call Anchor Rides because of sudden snowfall and they now need a ride because those rides have to be scheduled far in advance. (Laverne Robinson Kent, MASST Coordinator – Midtown Job Center)

At-Risk Youth --

We serve approximately 500 “at-risk” youth within the Anchorage bowl, which includes youth from Peter’s Creek to Hope, AK. The term “at-risk” is used to identify young adults between the ages of 18-24 that have transitioned from the foster care system and/or have had some engagement with Division of Juvenile Justice or Department of Corrections. Of these 500 young people, 60% used the public transportation – 60% or 300 “at-risk” youth within our Anchorage community that do not have the parental or familial support that many youth at this age still rely on; thus the importance of public transportation.

Rules/regulations to ensure safety is pertinent as we find ways to live through COVID-19. It is also imperative that we address the need of the various residents within our great community that rely on the public transportation system, including our youth. (Leslie A. Vines, Statewide Youth Coordinator)

7. Member Comments

Jennifer Ham mentioned that she is glad the buses are running and is looking forward to route 85. She also directed a comment to Paris Butler: "The CSR Reta is a Rockstar!"

Chelsea Ward-Waller mentioned that she's glad the system is back up and running and she looks forward to addressing any upcoming challenges that the PTAB may get to address in the next year.

Doug Miller mentioned that he's looking forward to meeting in person again. He's also looking forward to route 85. He also mentioned that he's concerned about the temporary transit center.

Genevieve Mina thanked the Public Transit Department staff for their efforts during the last few months. She is also concerned about the temporary transit center, specifically, winter accommodations.

Andrew Ooms thanked the public for attending the meeting. He is also happy to see buses running. He also stated that he is excited for the upcoming route 85. Lastly, he thanked the Public Transit Department for their efforts during the last few months.

8. Adjournment Time: 6:22pm

Ms. Genevieve Mina moved, to adjourn the PTAB meeting of
June 11, 2020

Mr. Doug Miller seconded,

and the motion passed without objection.

Mr. Andrew Ooms adjourned the meeting at 6:30pm.

The next PTAB meeting will be held on July 9, 2020, 5:30 - 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted,
Nicholas Abugel, Transit Planning Technician

For detailed Board discussion, please refer to the recording of this meeting located on the Municipal Website at <http://www.muni.org/Departments/transit/Pages/PublicTransitAdvisoryBoard.aspx>