



**PTAB
MEETING MINUTES
October 8, 2020; 5:30 – 7:00 P.M.**

NOTE: It was discovered after the meeting aired via TEAMS Live that the recording of this meeting was corrupted. Thus, no video / audio recording is available for this meeting. Additional precautions will be in place at future meetings to ensure a recording is captured.

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
Dawn Groth
Sarah Preskitt
Brandon Roulet

CITIZENS PRESENT:

PTAB ABSENT:

N/A

After roll call, a quorum was present.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Ms. Chelsea Ward-Waller moved, to approve the agenda

Mr. Doug Miller seconded,

And the motion passed without objection.

4. Public Involvement Announcement

Mr. Andrew Ooms read the public involvement announcement.

5. Action / Information Items

A. Welcoming New PTAB Board Members (INFORMATION)

Both People Mover staff and the current Board members introduced themselves to the Sarah Preskitt & Brandon Roulet (the new board members). Then People Mover staff introduced themselves.

B. Minutes of the July 9, 2020 & August 13, 2020 Meetings (ACTION)

Mr. Doug Miller moved, to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2020 & August 13, 2020 Meetings

Ms. Genevieve Mina seconded,

And the motion passed without objection.

C. Director's Update (INFORMATION)

Ms. Jamie Acton provided an account of how People Mover is currently doing. She also responded to questions posed by the Board.

D. Service Change Update (INFORMATION)

Mr. Bart Rudolph provided an update on the next Service Change.

E. Fare-Free Update (INFORMATION)

Mr. Bart Rudolph & Ms. Christine Schuette explained what they found during their Fare-Free analysis. Originally this item was requested from Assembly Member Felix Rivera. Mr. Bart Rudolph first explained that there were 4 different types of Fare-Free Public Transport. Spatially Limited, Temporarily limited, Socially Limited and Full. PTD currently offers socially limited & Temporarily limited - Seniors ride free every Wednesday and youth ride free on Thursdays during the summer.

Mr. Rudolph provided a detailed explanation to the board. First, describing the potential benefits which deal primarily with income disparity and the environment. He then described some of the risks of a Fare-Free network. These risks deal primarily with over-crowding and the potential to attract non destination riders. Additionally, a Fare-Free system would not only affect People Mover but also AnchorRIDES paratransit would be required to also go Fare-Free.

Mr. Rudolph continued and explained that between March 18 and April 9, 2020 in response to COVID-19 People Mover went Fare-Free. Although there were rider limits in place which prevented over-crowding. Mr. Rudolph said that during that time there were reports that some riders were allegedly taking "non-destination" trips inflating ridership numbers.

Mr. Rudolph summarized that a decision to go Fare-Free should not happen quickly. That further research should be completed to determine that a Fare-Free Public Transportation is the right fit for Anchorage.

F. Public Transportation Department – 2021 Operating Budget; Resolution (ACTION)

Ms. Jamie Acton explained to the PTAB that the Public Transit Advisory Board Resolution #2020-01 document for which the PTAB could support. Supporting the

proposed 2021 Public Transportation Operating Budget. Which contained no changes or increases from the current (2020) budget.

Mr. Andrew Ooms asked the board members to vote,

The Board voted unanimously to support the Public Transportation Department – 2021 Operating Budget; Resolution.

G. AnchorRides – Alaska Mental Health Trust Grant; Resolution (ACTION)

Mr. Paris Butler explained to the PTAB that the Public Transit Advisory Board Resolution #2020-02 document for which the PTAB could support. Supporting the application for the SFY2022 Alaska Mental Health Trust Grant.

Mr. Andrew Ooms asked the board members to vote,

The Board voted unanimously to support AnchorRIDES application for the SFY2022 Alaska Mental Health Trust Grant Resolution.

H. Ridership Update (INFORMATION)

Mr. Nicholas Abugel explained the Average Weekday Ridership During COVID-19 graph. He explained that the blue line showed ridership for individual weekdays, that the black dotted line showed the percent change for the month compared to the same month of the previous year. He then explained that the gray line showed the average weekday ridership for the previous year. After explaining the chart he summarized by noting that People Mover ridership was down about 50% as compared to last year.

6. MEMBER COMMENTS

The current board members all again welcomed the two new Board Members and thanked the People Mover staff for their explanation of the Fare-Free analysis. As a general conscience it was also decided that the Board members would like the source material that Ms. Christine Schuette used to populate the Fare-Free analysis. People Mover staff acknowledged that the Board members would receive a packet in the coming week.

7. Adjournment

Mr. Andrew Ooms adjourned the meeting at 6:48

The next PTAB meeting will be held on November 12, 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>