

**Municipality of Anchorage
Public Transit Advisory Board
Meeting Agenda
February 9, 2023; 5:30-7:00 P.M.**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval of the Agenda**
- 4. Public Involvement Announcement:**

Audience participation at this meeting is limited to the Public Comments section of the agenda. However, the Chair may open any agenda item for public comment. Written comments will be addressed first, then verbal comments on a first-recognized basis by the Board Chair. Each commenter should state their name so it can be recorded in the minutes. Commenters will have two minutes to speak on each agenda item they wish to comment on. If you used the call-in number, please mute yourself when not speaking by dialing *6. A recording is being made of this meeting and will be posted on the Municipal website.

- 5. Action / Information Items**

- A. Minutes of the January 12, 2023 Meeting (Action Item)
- B. Director's Update (Info Item)
- C. Resolution 2023-01 (Action Item)
- D. Rider Survey Results (Info Item)
- E. Ridership Update (Info Item)

- 6. Public Comments [2 minutes each]**
- 7. Member Comments**
- 8. Adjournment**

Next PTAB Meeting Date:

PTAB regular meeting – March 9, 2023

Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB)

Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2023, 5:30–7:00 p.m.



Call to Order

Ms. Sarah Preskitt called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

PTAB Members Present

Nathaniel Lackey
Michael Williams
Doug Miller
Sarah Preskitt
Peter Hill
CB Brady
Ric Nelson

Citizens Present

N/A

PTAB Members Absent

N/A

After the roll call, it was identified that a quorum was present.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Peter Hill moved to approve the January 12, 2023 agenda.

Mr. Nathaniel Lackey seconded.

The motion passed without objection.

Public Involvement Announcement

Ms. Sarah Preskitt read the public involvement announcement.

Action/Information Items

A. Minutes of the December 8, 2022, meeting (Action item)

Mr. Nathaniel Lackey moved to approve the minutes of December 8, 2022.

Mr. Peter Hill seconded the motion.

The motion passed without objection.

B. Director's Update (info item)

Information was provided by Ms. Jamie Acton.

C. Conversation on Sidewalk Snow Removal (Info item)

Information was provided by Ms. Sarah Preskitt.

D. Ridership Update (Info Item)

Information was provided by Mr. Bart Rudolph.

Public Comments

No public comments were received for this meeting.

Member Comments

Mr. CB Brady said that he is thankful to be a part of the PTAB. He added that if there was anything he could do to help advocate for public transportation to let him know.

Mr. Doug Miller thanked Ms. Sarah Preskitt for leading the meetings. He added that he's a bit of a contrarian on some of the topics discussed. He said that he's happy to sign any resolution but added that the resolutions aren't read into the Assembly meeting minutes. He added the Disability Law Center of Alaska might be interested in participating in some of the discussions surrounding sidewalk snow removal.

Mr. Michael Williams suggested that the wording surrounding the prioritization of street and sidewalk snow removal should instead be the equalization of street and sidewalk snow removal. He added that getting around Anchorage is still painful and he looks forward to helping with the resolution.

Mr. Nathaniel Lackey said that he seconded Mr. CB Brady and Mr. Michael Williams's statements.

Mr. Peter Hill said that he was happy to have all the board members present.

Mr. Ric Nelson echoed what other members in the board mentioned about sidewalk snow removal. He added that it's really hard to get around, especially if you're in a wheelchair. He said that he really wanted someone in the Mayor's Office to follow someone in a wheelchair to see how it is.

Ms. Sarah Preskitt welcomed Ms. April White and she thanked People Mover staff. She replied to Doug and stated that previously she has read resolutions into the record at prior Assembly meetings.

Adjournment

Mr. Peter Hill moved to adjourn the PTAB meeting of January 12, 2023, at 6:42 PM.

Mr. CB Brady seconded.

The motion passed without objection.

The next PTAB meeting will be held on February 9, 2022, from 5:30–7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas Abugel
Transit Planning Technician

For details of the board's discussion, please refer to the recording of this meeting on the municipal website at

<http://www.muni.org/Departments/transit/Pages/PublicTransitAdvisoryBoard.aspx>

Municipality of Anchorage
Public Transit Advisory Board Resolution 2023-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD (PTAB) SUPPORTING FURTHER MEASURES TO PROTECT THE LIVES AND SAFETY OF PUBLIC PAVED SURFACE USERS OUTSIDE OF AUTOMOBILES.

WHEREAS PTAB is charged with making recommendations to the assembly and the mayor on municipal policy with respect, but not limited to, the following:

- levels of service and service area of publicly owned and operated transit systems;
 - levels of service and service area of publicly owned and operated paratransit systems;
 - capital improvement programs and funding of publicly owned and operated transit systems;
 - aspects of transit that contribute to orderly and economic development within the municipality;
- and

WHEREAS everyone is a pedestrian at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS Anchorage is a winter city with an average annual snowfall of 78 inches¹; and

WHEREAS the 2021 Annual Traffic Report, the latest available released by the Municipality of Anchorage Traffic Engineering Department Data Division reports that fifty-nine percent of all crashes involving a pedestrian are fatal for said pedestrian; and

WHEREAS the assembly approved an increase of \$1.5 million on November 22, 2022 with the expressed purpose of aiding with timely snow removal; and

WHEREAS sidewalks in Anchorage are not cleared using a consistent plan, method, or time frame that is transparent to users; and

WHEREAS the Municipality of Anchorage shares a responsibility with the State of Alaska to clear the roads within 84 hours of a snowfall greater than four inches; and

WHEREAS the Americans with Disabilities Act requires that “a public entity shall maintain in operable working condition those features of facilities and equipment that are required to be readily accessible to and useable by persons with disabilities by the Act or this part”²; and

¹ United States. (2023, January 12). *NOAA's National Weather Service*. NWSChat. Retrieved January 24, 2023, from <https://nwschat.weather.gov/p.php?pid=202301121737-PAFC-NOAK48-PNSAFC>

² Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 (1990). Retrieved February 1, 2023, from <https://www.ada.gov/pubs/adastatute08.htm>.

WHEREAS there are pedestrian intersections that are repeatedly or continuously blocked by large snow berms, making them difficult for able-bodied pedestrians and impassible or life-threatening for pedestrians using mobility or vision aids; and

WHEREAS there is no time expectation outlined in municipal code regarding when public sidewalks, paths, and bike lanes will be cleared; and

WHEREAS sidewalks, paths, and bike lanes are often used to store snow plowed from Anchorage roadways; and

WHEREAS the users of public transportation report difficulty or an inability to access bus stops due to the lack of cleared pathways for non-motorized users; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that PTAB supports the prioritization of clearing sidewalks, paths, and other pedestrian routes of snow before or in unison with clearing the roadways designed for motorized transportation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that PTAB supports codifying the prohibition of storing or directing snow removed from another area by any method on sidewalks, paths, and bike lanes or in any way blocking routes designed for non-motorized users.

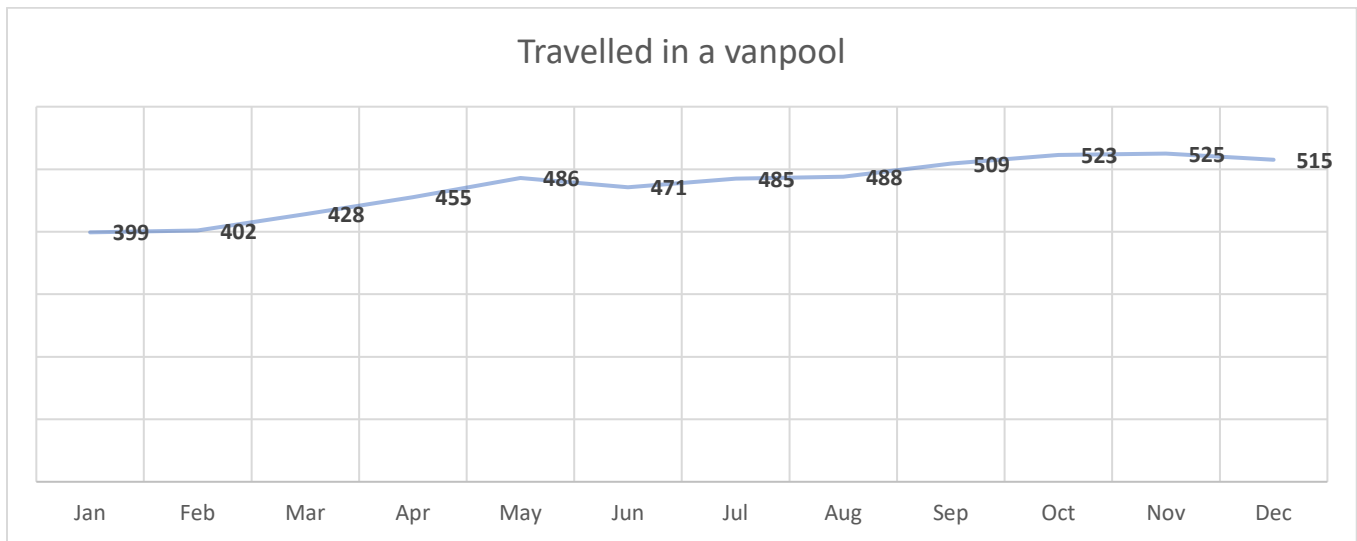
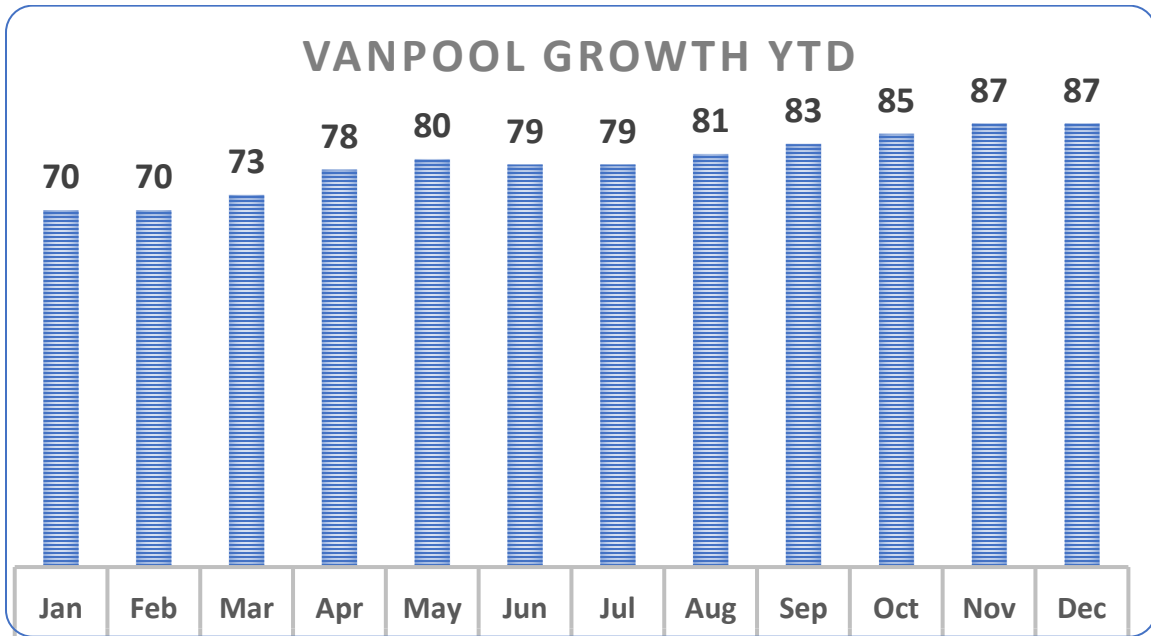
THE PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD ALSO SUPPORTS transparent and timely communication between the relevant Municipal departments and the people of Anchorage regarding the priority and status of sidewalk and pathway clearance.

IN CONCLUSION, PTAB recommends that the municipality create and facilitate a board, committee, or task force dedicated to finding sustainable solutions to the issue of maintaining access to non-motorized transit routes in order to facilitate access to public transportation stops following snowfall in Anchorage.

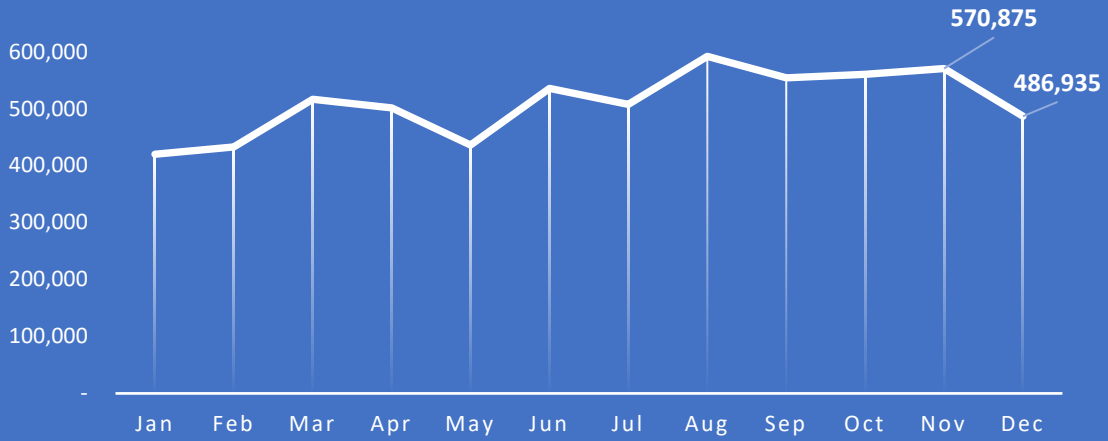
PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Public Transit Advisory Board
This 9th day of February 2023

Sarah Preskitt
Chair

February 9, 2023, PTAB Meeting RideShare Report



VEHICLE MILES SAVED



Program Goal is to reduce CO2 emissions

Emissions Reduced Monthly (in LBS)

