

**Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB)
Municipality of Anchorage
Minutes for Meeting of March 13, 2025
Held at City Hall, Room 155**

1. Call to Order

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

The following citizens signed in and were present for at least part of the meeting:

Luis Polanco
Cathy Musser

The following Department staff were present:

Mr. Bart Rudolph, Director
Ms. Sandra McMahon, Travel Trainer
Ms. Maria Owens, Business and Community Outreach Coordinator??
Mr. Stephen Stone, Transit Planner
Ms. Cecelia Sanchez, Travel Advocate
Mr. Stewart Nagel, Anchor Rides

2. Roll Call

The Board roll call showed that

Ms. Sarah Preskitt was present.
Mr. Nathaniel Lackey was present.
Mr. Doug Miller was absent with excuse.
Mr. CB Brady was present.
Mr. Peter Hill was absent with excuse.
Mr. Mike Williams was present.
Mr. Michael J. Williams was present.
Mr. Kyle Mielke was present.

From the roll call, a quorum was declared.

3. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved, following the correction of a scrivener's error, upon motion by Mr. Mike Williams and a second by Mr. Michael Williams.

4. Approval of the Minutes for the February 20, 2025 Meeting

These minutes were not available.

5. Public Involvement Announcement:

Ms. Sarah Preskitt read the previously-distributed Public Involvement Announcement.

6. Action / Information Items:

a. New Business

i. People Mover Holiday Service Resolution

The previously-distributed resolution was moved by Mr. Kyle Mielke and seconded by Mr. Michael Williams. There was then a motion made by Mr. Nathaniel Lackey and seconded by Mr. Mike Williams to amend the resolution by changing “Day After Thanksgiving” to “Native American Heritage Day” in the first “Resolved” paragraph. That motion passed. After further discussion, the main motion passed by a vote of 5 to 1, with all members present voting for, with the exception of Mr. Michael Williams, who voted against.

ii. Transit Employee Appreciation Day

Mr. Bart Rudolph explained the previously-distributed letter from the Board regarding this annual event, to be held this year on March 18, 2025, and the letter was adopted without opposition.

iii. Service Reduction Recap: Driver OT, Retention, and Statistics

Mr. Stephen Stone and Mr. Bart Rudolph explained the previously-distributed handouts regarding the consequences of the 2024 service reduction, especially in levels of ridership, driver retention, driver morale, and use of overtime, all of which appeared to be positive. Mr. Bart Rudolph described the progress in trying to get in-house training for passenger endorsements for drivers, which involves classification certification by the Municipality.

iv. April 10th Meeting Rescheduling Discussion

Upon being informed that the room on the first floor of City Hall would be unavailable at the time currently set for the April 10, 2025, PTAB meeting, the Board discussed various solutions, and settled on holding the meeting on the scheduled date, but in the meeting room on the 8th Floor of City Hall. This solution was unanimously agreed upon.

- v. [New business] Mr. CB Brady explained that there was currently a bill being considered by the Alaska House of Representatives, introduced by Representative Mina, that would add public transit to a list of important matters in a state statute. There was discussion of whether there could be a letter signed by PTAB in support of the bill. Mr. Kyle Mielke stated that he would try to ascertain the status of the bill as the meeting continued.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Kyle Mielke explained that the current deadline for public testimony, at least for one committee, would be March 18, 2025. The matter was discussed, and it was agreed that it would not be possible to have a Board resolution by that date, but that Board members could offer their comments as individuals, and encourage others to do so.

b. Reports and Updates

i. Director's and Operations Update

Mr. Bart Rudolph reported on several recent developments and answered questions. Topics included the upcoming announcement of Driver of the Year; the governor's signature on an important letter that had been supported by an earlier PTAB resolution; a meeting with Assembly Member Volland about the location of the downtown transit center; and the possible awarding of a contract for the long-anticipated Muldoon project (coordinated with the Anchorage Library).

ii. Data Dashboard

Mr. Bart Rudolph explained the main trends in currently-available data, using a screen-share. Per policy adopted several months earlier, none of this data had been distributed as part of the meeting materials. Mr. CB Brady and Mr. Michael Williams asked if we could resume including summaries of this data in the meeting materials, and Mr. Bart Rudolph stated that the materials would be included going forward.

Mr. CB Brady asked whether data regarding "incident reports" could be made available (meaning service disruptions caused by passengers or other individuals, broadly speaking). The question was discussed, and Mr. Bart Rudolph stated that he would look to see what data was available, and in what form, and report back to the Board.

iii. Chair Report

Ms. Sarah Preskitt gave a report highlighting things to be accomplished in the near future, including a communication with Alaska's federal delegation and the creation of a list of "talking points" to share with those who might be interested to hear about public transportation in Anchorage.

7. Public Comments

Comments were made by Luis Polanco and Cathy Musser. In addition, new PTD employee Ms. Cecilia Sanchez was introduced; Cecilia works as a transit trainer and processes applications for Anchor Rides service.

8. Member Comments

All Board members present made comments, except that Mr. Kyle Mielke had to leave before this portion of the meeting began.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Mike Williams moved to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Michael Williams seconded. There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.