

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

10:15 a.m.

Quincy Street Station via Zoom

Committee Members present: Deborah Dawkins, Anthony Fadale, Kirsten Stock, and Mike Nolting.

Committee Members Absent: Mary Winans, Brian Snodderly, Mark Webb, and Mary Thomas. Nancy Johnson, and Britney Senton.

TMTA Staff present: Al Bradley

The meeting was called to order by Al Bradley at 10:15 a.m. There were no guests present or public comments offered.

There were no corrections to the prior minutes.

Mr. Bradley started the meeting with safety, by asking members to remind their clients to be intentional about safely getting on and off Topeka Metro vehicles when the ramp is deployed. This applies to passengers using mobility devices as well as ambulatory passengers. Mr. Bradley said that if passengers are unsure about navigating the ramp, operators will assist if requested.

Mr. Bradley informed members that Topeka Metro has hired a new customer service clerk at QSS. He asked that members welcome Ashley Ortiz-Vizueth to our team. Mr. Bradley said that they may encounter Ashley when scheduling lift rides or calling for fixed route information. He also mentioned that Ms. Vizueth was bilingual, which is always a bonus when working in a public environment.

Mr. Bradley spoke on an ADA issue that he says comes up occasionally. He said that sometimes there seems to be confusion on what the mandates are concerning service animals. Mr. Bradley went over the bullet points on the agenda and reminded members that as of March 15, 2011, Only dogs are recognized as service animals under title II and title III of the ADA. Mr. Bradley explained that operators are allowed to ask passengers if the dog is required because of a disability and what service is their dog trained to provide for them. He also added that no proof is required from the passenger to support their claim. Mr. Bradley stated that if your animal doesn't meet the criteria for a service animal, it must be in an enclosed pet carrier. ACATS member, Anthony Fadale said that he had some supporting material that he could email to Mr. Bradley as well as information on the Walk, Bike, and Roll Kansas Active Transportation Summit in

McPherson in September. Mr. Fadale also agreed to send over 33rd ADA Anniversary information and Mr. Bradley accepted the offer.

Mr. Bradley spoke briefly about the progress of “Metro on Demand.” He read statistics from the last weekly report and encouraged members to promote the service if they had clients living in the MOD zone.

Mr. Bradley presented the April 2023 ridership report. He expressed that we continue to maintain awareness of ridership trends. He announced that fixed route ridership was also up from 2019. Mr. Bradley said that if anyone had specific questions later, related to the information on the ridership report to email him and he would get them an answer if he didn’t know himself.

Mr. Bradley discussed the following events:

- Board Meeting - 7/17/ at 3:15
- 33rd ADA Anniversary – 7/26
- Board Stud Session – 8/11 at 8:30
- Kida Ride Free Ends – 8/15
- Board meeting – 8/21 at 3:15

Upcoming meetings for 2023 are scheduled as follows at **10:15 a.m. at QSS or via zoom:**

Wednesday, September 13th

Wednesday, November 8th

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Bradley
Topeka Metro Operations Supervisor