

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

10:15 a.m.

Quincy Street Station via Zoom

Committee Members present: Britney Stidham, Marty Winans, Mark Webb, Anthony Fadale, and Mike Nolting.

Committee Members Absent: Libby Adams, Debra Dawkins, Brian Snodderly, Mary Thomas, Libby Adams

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 concerning inclement weather preparedness. Mr. Bradley reminded everyone that clients that use our lift service should have a plan in place for clearing sidewalks, ramps, and pathways of ice and snow. He said this makes it safer for the operator and the client to navigate to and from the vehicle. He said that last year, there were volunteers in the community that would help with this task, but he was not sure how to get connected or if the program was still in place but would inquire and let them know if he found any information.

Mr. Bradley gave a brief update on the MOD program. He read some of the latest numbers as far as ridership and OTP. He said that the numbers are climbing on a regular basis. He encouraged those that can take advantage of the service, that live in the operating zone to do so. Questions were presented and Mr. Bradley said for time's sake, and to keep the meeting to a minimum, he would email those that wanted more informational materials, or they could visit our web site as well.

Mr. Bradley said that there had been some inquiries lately about the direction of the Freedom Pass and he wanted to get ahead of any rumors. He told them that the decision to continue the program is being decided by the board of Directors, but currently Freedom Passes are no longer being renewed as of the end of 2023. Mr. Bradley reiterated that he would keep them posted on any updated information pertaining to the program.

Mr. Bradley informed the committee that he would try to add hot topic issues pertaining to the "Lift Service Rider Guide" to our ACATS meetings. He talked about Reasonable Modification Request and a passenger assistance issue pertaining to multiple loads when boarding fixed route

and the lift service buses. Mike Nolting commented that sometime this is the only way for people to shop and wanted Mr. Bradley to elaborate on the definition of multiple bags. He told Mike that passengers must be able to board in one trip and not have so many bags or packages that multiple trips to the bus are needed. He also said that operators are not required to assist with loading these items.

Mr. Bradley went over the latest Ridership Report, which was explained in summary by former planner, he pointed out how the data is compared to the previous two years in the report. Mr. Bradley said that if anyone had specific questions later or wanted to get more information to contact him by phone or email.

At the end of the meeting Anthony Fadale shared with the committee some information he had from a recent Mobility and Access event in Hutchison that he participated in. He said the theme was incorporating active transportation from walking, cycling, or people that use mobility aids to navigate all our communities. Anthony said he would email the links to this information if they were interested or search "Mobility and Access for All: PROWAG and Active Transportation."

Mr. Bradley discussed the following events:

- MLK 1/15 (Limited holiday Service) schedule attached to zoom notice.
- Board Meeting – 1/16 at 3:15 at QSS.

Upcoming meetings for 2024 are scheduled as follows at **10:15 a.m. at QSS or via zoom:**

- **Wednesday, March 13th, 2024**
- **Wednesday, May 15th, 2024**
- **Wednesday, July 10th, 2024**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Al Bradley
Topeka Metro Operations Supervisor