



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Public Transit Advisory Commission

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

5:30 PM

City Hall
Conference Room
1A/1B
701 E. Broadway
Columbia, MO.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Present: 9 - Matt Wright, Gabi Jacobs, Sarah Johnson, Joy Rushing, Katharine Meagher, Adam Thorp, Joan Ferguson, Bryan Mink and William Brumbaugh

Absent: 2 - Tammy Teel and Randal Meyer

Unexcused: 1 - Christine Schneider

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motioned by Sarah, seconded by Joan, approved at 5:32 p.m.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motioned by Adam, seconded by Gabi, approved at 5:33 p.m.

May 20 Minutes

Attachments: [May 20 Minutes](#)

V. City Council & Other Commission Updates: Vision Zero, Disability, Bike/Ped, CATSO

None.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Annual Report

Matt reported that the item went to council, noting there was minimal discussion. Council expressed appreciation for the feedback regarding quorum issues and acknowledged the memoriam for Dawn. Mike added that the council also expressed strong appreciation for the quality of the report.

2. Bus Stop Evaluation Matrix

Joy mentioned she expects to have the remaining work on the Orange and Gold routes completed by next week. Matt stated he reviewed the parcels along the Gold route and noted that many are owned by the city. He inquired whether the city owns entire parcels and, if so, whether that allows for bus stops to be placed there. Mike confirmed that, generally, it does.

Sarah asked whether the city purchases those properties before placing bus stops. Mike clarified that the parcels are governed by community government, which decides what can or cannot be built. Matt then asked how the city contacts property owners about bus stop placement. Mike explained that large developers often own much of the land leased to businesses, making outreach difficult.

Joy pointed out that many existing bus stops are not handicap accessible. Mike responded that accessibility falls more under Public Works than Transit. Adam asked if property owners know to contact the city about bus stop issues. Mike said a call to the city's general phone number will route them to the appropriate person.

Sarah suggested it might be useful to identify which property owners would be open to upgrading the bus stops. Mike explained that Transit's role is to determine whether a stop can be placed on a site; decisions about shelter types and funding come from the city. Matt asked whether there are agreements in place with property owners regarding bus shelter placement, and whether the current grant includes options for different shelter materials. Mike confirmed both, adding that those discussions have already begun with vendors.

Katherine asked whether there used to be a shelter in front of the hospital. Matt responded that there hasn't been one for several years. Adam inquired about advertising on bus shelters. Mike said advertising has been tried in the past but often results in vandalism.

Matt noted there are more stops on university property than on city property and asked if agreements could be written to allow better shelters at those locations. Mike replied that MU has generally been supportive, but since it is state property, the process involves more steps and financial considerations.

Sarah asked whether liability for shelters falls on the property owner or the city. Mike clarified that liability rests with the city. Adam asked about the process for removing a shelter. Mike explained that it requires specific equipment and a truck to remove the structure and transport it to Grissum, with the main concern being the concrete pad that remains.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

VIII. RIDERSHIP

Sarah asked whether the drivers who previously operated on the Tiger Line are now assisting with paratransit or other routes. Mike explained that most of those drivers are dedicated solely to the Tiger Line and typically leave during the summer until school resumes.

Adam asked if there is a reason for the ongoing decline in Tiger Line ridership. Mike attributed the decrease to changes in the university's parking system and the locations where students are now permitted to park.

May Ridership

Attachments: [Go COMO Ridership Data - COMO Routes](#)
[ParaTransit - TigerLine May2025](#)

May Stop Data

Attachments: [DailyStopTotals-May 2025 \(1\)](#)

IX. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Mike reported that Google Maps integration is now functioning. He explained that Phase 1 has been completed, with all technical data in place, and they are now moving into Phase 2. Matt added that the service is already live on Google Maps, allowing users to view route times and plan trips.

Mike shared that the Tiger Line agreement was confirmed by City Council the previous night and has been sent for signatures. All Tiger Line routes are scheduled to begin service on August 1st. When Matt asked about the total value of the new agreement, Mike stated it is \$1.1 million, with a service rate of \$66 per hour. He also noted that the goal is to eventually transition Tiger Line to year-round service.

Mike mentioned they are currently hiring more temporary drivers than in previous years and that three drivers have recently completed the CDL class. Sarah asked whether the drivers who leave for the Tiger Line need to be rehired. Mike explained that it is a simple process involving a form to bring them back. Matt asked about the number of full-time drivers, and Mike responded that they currently have 27, with many interviews underway to hire more.

Mike provided an update on the ongoing study, noting that permission has been obtained from plant managers along Route B to collect data. Consultants are actively analyzing the survey results from that route.

Regarding federal funding, Mike stated that Shannon has been managing communications with the FTA and recently discussed the RAISE grant. There is no indication that any funding will be lost. The anticipated fiscal funding is expected to remain consistent with the previous cycle, approximately \$4 million. Mike added that they are applying for additional grants and, based on vendor conversations earlier in the year, funding should remain available, though potentially allocated differently.

Matt inquired about the city budget timeline, and Mike suggested that August would be a good time to begin drafting. When Matt asked if an update from Olsson would be available in July, Mike replied that it is likely too early for that.

Katherine asked for updates regarding CATSO and a potential ride service from Jefferson City to Columbia. Mike responded that the idea is still in the early concept stage. He also noted that Greyhound is currently serving the Wabash Station four times a day. When Adam asked about the possibility of moving the Midway ticketing stop, Mike said he does not believe that will happen and added that Greyhound received a grant specifically to serve university areas.

Zoom Link

Attachments: [Zoom](#)

X. NEXT MEETING DATE - 7/15/2025**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Matt Wright adjourned at 6:24 PM.

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