



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Public Transit Advisory Commission

Tuesday, November 19, 2024
5:30 PM

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Matt Wright at 5:30 P.M.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

City Staff: Mike Sokoff, John Ogan, and Gus Harmon

Public: 3 members of the Public

Present: 9 - Matt Wright, Tammy Teel, Gabi Jacobs, Sarah Johnson, Katharine Meagher, Jack Russell, Adam Thorp, Randal Meyer and Joan Ferguson

Absent: 2 - Joy Rushing and Christine Schneider

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Sarah made a motion to approve the agenda, with a second from Tammy. The vote to approve the agenda was unanimous at 5:31 P.M.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Gabi made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second from Sarah. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous at 5:32 P.M.

Oct. 15 Minutes

Attachments: [Oct. 15 Minutes](#)

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

Matt reported that the transit study was presented to the council on the 4th, and the team gave their presentation. He noted that the council asked numerous questions, particularly about peer cities and requested a more detailed review of the Tiger Line. Mike added that they took notes during the meeting and plan to discuss the feedback further with the council.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Bus Stop Evaluation Matrix

Joan stated that the Blue Line has been completed. Gabi asked about the lighting section included in the evaluation. Matt explained the process for assessing lighting at each stop, emphasizing the need to determine whether there is sufficient lighting near bus stops to ensure passengers feel safe. Tammy noted that some stops currently lack signs. Adam offered to assist with the stops, and Matt responded that he would assign him the Black Route to complete.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

VIII. RIDERSHIP

Sarah asked if the previous system had been underestimating. Mike described the system as sporadic. Matt noted that the reported numbers are submitted to the FTA and asked if this could impact federal funding. Mike replied that while it could potentially affect the amount received, it is unlikely. Randall inquired whether this was a new passenger counting system. Mike clarified that it is not a new system but rather new hardware installed on all the new buses.

October Ridership

Attachments: [Go COMO Ridership Data - COMO Routes \(5\)](#)

IX. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Mike stated that the transition from DoubleMap to ETA would begin on January 1st and that the systems are currently running in parallel, but everything will switch to ETA after that date. He also noted a request from Public Works regarding their Safe Streets for All study, and they plan to speak to PTAC in January.

Matt inquired about the performance of the new app. Mike responded that it is going well and has been accurate, though customers have reported that it takes about 10 seconds to load the bus-to-bus picture. Adam asked if the app could reflect different schedules, such as Saturday and football schedules. Joan asked if a schedule template with all times and stops could be housed in the app. John replied that this feature is not currently in the app. Mike added that the app developers have been very responsive and easy to work with and that there will be many updates in the future. Gabi asked if there are plans to include stop photos in the app, and Mike confirmed this is planned.

Mike also shared that there are 31 full-time drivers scheduled, with only 28 available to drive, plus three part-time drivers covering the Tiger Line. He noted that the 28 drivers include Class E ParaTransit drivers. Tammy asked how many Class E drivers there are, and Mike responded that there are three to four, with interviews conducted every week or two. Randall asked what full staffing would be, and Mike mentioned it would require 40 drivers.

Adam asked about updates on the sleep study. Mike stated there were no new updates and acknowledged that resolving the issue does not appear to be trending positively. He added that the DOT physical doctor has discussed the strict guidelines with them.

Katherine asked if pay might be a factor in the difficulty of hiring younger drivers. Mike stated that their pay is on par. Randall noted that the younger generation may not view this as a valuable job.

Joan asked about the Google Maps integration target date of December 1st. Mike indicated it would likely happen on January 1st instead.

Mike also mentioned that the positions for Dawn Zeterberg and Donald Jackson would be posted soon.

Matt also shared that the city council had passed a bill allowing e-bikes and Bird Bikes in Columbia. Mike noted that the signature process for this would take some time.

Matt motioned to cancel the December meeting with a second by Tammy. Vote to approve the motion was unanimous at 6:21 P.M.

Zoom Link

Attachments: [Hyperlink](#)

X. NEXT MEETING DATE - 12/17/2024**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Matt motioned to adjourn at 6:27 P.M.

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