



# City of Columbia, Missouri

## Meeting Minutes

### Public Transit Advisory Commission

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Tuesday, March 19, 2024

5:30 PM

Conference Room

1A/1B

City Hall

701 E. Broadway

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Matt Wright at 5:25 pm.

#### II. INTRODUCTIONS

**City Staff:** Mike Sokoff, John Ogan, Gus Harmon, and Shannon Hemenway

**Present:** Christine Schneider, Sean Strate, Clay Stem, and Linda Godwin

**Present:** 10 - Dawn Zeterberg, Matt Wright, Candy Comman, Tammy Teel, Donald Jackson, Gabi Jacobs, Sarah Johnson, Joy Rushing, Katharine Meagher and Jack Russell

**Absent:** 2 - Heath Immel and Adam Thorp

**Unexcused:** 1 - Robert Boone

#### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Sarah made a motion to approve the agenda with a second from Matt. The vote to approve the agenda was unanimous at 5:27 pm.

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Joy would like to add the word quorum to Adams' motion.

Matt wants to update the wording for the motions from last month's meeting with the following:

Adam motioned to adjust membership to move the Stephens and Columbia College members from required to recommended.

Adam motioned to adjust quorum requirement to be based on a majority of the current number of appointed members rather than the full commission membership.

Matt motioned to add an annual report duty to the list in 2-337 as point 8, moving the existing 8 to 9.

Dawn suggests forwarding these motions to the city council.

Matt made a motion to approve the minutes after corrections with a second from Katherine. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous at 5:30 pm.

February 20 Minutes

Attachments: [Feb. 20 Minutes](#)

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

Matt mentioned that we have two newly appointed members Jack and Katherine. Mike also noted that Adam was reappointed.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS****1. Driver Appreciation Day**

Matt mentioned that Gabi, Joy, and MU brought over various items including sandwiches, gift bags, and coffee to the Wabash for Driver Appreciation Day. Mike relayed that the drivers wanted to say thank you on their behalf and he quoted Adnan “It feels good to know that we are being thought of.” Tammy mentioned that she thought Driver Appreciation Day was on Friday and she plans on bringing cupcakes.

**2. Earth Day**

Matt mentioned that he will send Gus a sign-up sheet to email out for the commission to register for a time slot. Sean expressed uncertainty about whether or not they would be able to attend but stated they would know by the end of the week.

### 3. Olsson Study Update

**Attachments:** [Olsson Presentation](#)  
[Service Concepts Handout](#)

Sean goes over the presentation. See the presentation attached.

Katherine asked what cities were similar to Columbia in ridership. Sean referenced the cities from the slide.

Tammy asked about whether the towns with micro transit also have regular routes and if they will be operated at the station. Sean explained that the coverage would involve many of the surrounding areas that are not covered as well within the city. Donald asked when they started this study. Sean stated that they started about six months ago and are about halfway through. Joy inquired if this micro transit would be under a contract. Sean prefaced that it could be operated in many different ways but would run much like Uber. Sarah asked about bus rapid transit and would Columbia be feasible for this. Sean clarified that it could be an option.

Sean continued with the presentation.

Sarah noted that she was getting more notifications about delays and cancellations from the app, which was nice. Katherine expressed concern about the lack of night services.

Jack mentioned that it is odd to require approval for ParaTransit solely from a Columbia doctor. He also pointed out that there are no routes from downtown or areas like the Domain to grocery stores due to the lack of stores downtown. Additionally, he noted that Tiger lines only take you to parking lots. Sarah recalled that previous bus routes from the university took you to grocery stores or Walmart. Mike noted that they stopped those routes in 2020.

Tammy mentioned that there is no route near the Social Security office. Matt stressed the importance of routes going near polling places. Tammy asked if there was a way to allocate one bus for polling. Mike stated that it is not feasible.

Sean goes over some service concepts with a handout. See attached.

The commission discussed near-term ideas. Tammy asked if there was a way to install more shelters. Gabi expressed a desire for increased frequency in routes. Matt found micro transit interesting for the short term and suggested that a short trial run could be beneficial. Sarah explained that the longer coverage will not benefit ridership because many people remain under served. Tammy suggested running trial routes for a limited time to see how much ridership we get. In addition, she would like two routes on Sunday one in the morning and one in the evening. Sarah opposed the 2-hour split.

Donald asked if we could do a park and ride. Jack advocated for 60-minute routes. He also inquired about a proposed budget to be presented to city council. Matt explained that this is what the Olsson study is addressing and once it is complete we can have a proposed budget for city council. Mike mentioned that we receive no funding from the city and that all of our money is federal funding and is dependent on ridership.

Sean continued the presentation.

Sean asked the commission if they had any long-term ideas. Katherine liked the idea of the bus rapid transit. Jack questioned if there were any plans to change routes entirely. Sean acknowledged the idea but highlighted possible capital needs issues. Matt recalled that there was a system like that before and it was not feasible. Matt mentioned that he favors a hybrid approach of combining a grid option with a central hub. He suggested BRT would be amazing but TSP could be difficult and that CID could be an option for a trolley.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

## VIII. RIDERSHIP

February Ridership

Attachments: [Feb. Go COMO Ridership Data](#)

## IX. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

No comments.

Zoom Link

Attachments: [Hyperlink](#)

## X. NEXT MEETING DATE - 4/16/2024

## XI. ADJOURNMENT

Matt motions to adjourn at 7:03 pm.

Members of the public may attend any open meeting. For requests for accommodations related to disability, please call 573-874-CITY (573-874-2489) or email CITY@CoMo.gov. In order to assist staff in making the appropriate arrangements for your accommodation, please make your request as far in advance of the posted meeting date as possible.

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