

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_

First Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

Council Bill No. B 96-13

**AN ORDINANCE**

repealing Resolution 156-11 which established the Transit System Task Force; amending Chapter 2 of the City Code to abolish the Public Transportation Advisory Commission and to establish the Public Transit Advisory Commission; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Resolution 156-11, which established the Transit System Task Force, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, Missouri, is hereby amended by repealing Division 12 of Article V and enacting a new Division 12 of Article V to read as follows:

**DIVISION 12. PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Sec. 2-336. Established.

The public transit advisory commission is hereby established.

Sec. 2-337. Duties.

The commission shall have the following duties:

- (1) Advise city staff with regard to transit policy and safety matters concerning transit issues affecting the city, for example, alternative modes, accessibility and customer amenities.
- (2) Serve as a sounding board for citizen transit, pedestrian safety and access issues and make recommendations to the city council and city staff for appropriate action.

- (3) Recommend rules and procedures governing public transit service programs, equipment and facilities considering regulatory guidelines, service improvements, and activities of persons utilizing transit services and facilities.
- (4) Aid in the development of a city transportation improvement program by providing citizen input on needed projects for submission to the metropolitan planning organization.
- (5) Create and review surveys and facilitate public input on public transit programming and facility usage.
- (6) Recommend and promote marketing strategies for community outreach programs in order to strengthen the transit image, increase usage and integrate its role within the community.
- (7) Study issues arising under the Columbia Transit Master Plan, make recommendations to the city council and metropolitan planning organization, and prepare reports to aid in the development, implementation and general improvement of the master plan relating to public transit in the city.
- (8) Other duties assigned by the city council.

Sec. 2-338. Membership.

(a) The commission shall consist of nine (9) members. One (1) member shall be appointed by the Missouri Student Association. One member shall be a Columbia College student or administrator appointed by the Columbia College administration. One member shall be a Stephens College student or administrator appointed by the Stephens College administration. One (1) member shall be a representative of the University of Missouri appointed by the University of Missouri administration. One member shall be an eligible Columbia Transit paratransit rider appointed by the city council. The other members shall be appointed by the city council. Consideration shall be given to the appointment of at least one (1) member who is an owner or representative of a business, a member of the disabilities commission, a member of the bicycle/pedestrian commission, a representative of the Columbia Public School District, or a representative of Columbians for Modern Efficient Transit (CoMET), an advocacy group of PedNet.

(b) Two (2) of the initial members appointed by the city council shall serve a term of one (1) year; one (1) shall serve a term of two (2) years; and one (1) shall serve a term of three (3) years. Thereafter, appointments made by the city council shall be for terms of three (3) years, except that appointments to fill vacancies, occurring other than by expiration of terms, shall be filled for the unexpired term only. It shall be the duty of the chair to promptly notify the city council of a vacancy. The members appointed by persons other than the city council shall serve for terms designated by the appointing authority and shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

Sec. 2-339. Officers.

The commission shall annually elect one (1) of its members as chair at the first meeting after the beginning of each calendar year. The chair shall appoint a vice-chair from the remaining commission members. The chair shall preside at all meetings. In the absence of the chair or the chair's inability to preside, the vice-chair shall preside. The commission rules may specify the duties of the officers.

Sec. 2-340. Meetings, quorum; rules.

The commission shall meet at least quarterly. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum to do business. The commission may adopt rules for the conduct of its business.

Sec. 2-341—2-345. Reserved.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

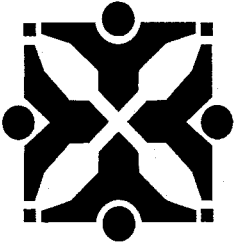
ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Counselor



Source: City Clerk *SD*

Agenda Item No:

To: City Council  
From: City Manager and Staff

Council Meeting Date: April 1, 2013

Re: Public Transit Advisory Commission

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Establishment of the Public Transit Advisory Commission, which would replace the Public Transportation Advisory Commission and the Transit System Task Force.

**DISCUSSION:**

A report with suggested changes to certain boards, commissions, committees and task forces was presented to Council at the September 4, 2012 Council Meeting, and at that meeting, Council asked staff to draft an ordinance creating a Public Transit Advisory Commission, which had more of an emphasis on transit and would change the membership to include representatives of area colleges and paratransit.

A draft ordinance was provided at the March 18, 2013 Council Meeting for Council input, and this ordinance reflects the changes requested by Council.

This ordinance would:

- (1) Establish a nine member Public Transit Advisory Commission. Four members would be appointed by other entities, one member would be an eligible Columbia Transit paratransit rider appointed by the Council, and the remaining four members would be appointed by the Council without any set eligibility requirement, except that consideration would be given to the appointment of an owner or representative of a business, a member of the Disabilities Commission, a member of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Commission, a representative of the Columbia Public School District, or a representative of Columbians for Modern Efficient Transit (CoMET).
- (2) Eliminate the Public Transportation Advisory Commission and the Transit System Task Force.

Staff believes this structure will provide for more collaboration for a better public transit system.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None.

**VISION IMPACT:**

<http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Council/Meetings/visionimpact.php>

**10.1.5 Strategy:** Establish a system of ongoing reviews of the activities of boards, commissions, and task forces.

**SUGGESTED COUNCIL ACTIONS:**

**Pass the ordinance.**

<b>FISCAL and VISION NOTES:</b>					
<b>City Fiscal Impact</b> Enter all that apply		<b>Program Impact</b>		<b>Mandates</b>	
City's current net FY cost	\$0.00	New Program/ Agency?	No	Federal or State mandated?	No
Amount of funds already appropriated	\$0.00	Duplicates/Expands an existing program?	No	<b>Vision Implementation impact</b>	
Amount of budget amendment needed	\$0.00	Fiscal Impact on any local political subdivision?	No	Enter all that apply: Refer to Web site	
Estimated 2 year net costs:		<b>Resources Required</b>		Vision Impact?	Yes
One Time	\$0.00	Requires add'l FTE Personnel?	No	Primary Vision, Strategy and/or Goal Item #	10.1.5
Operating/ Ongoing	\$0.00	Requires add'l facilities?	No	Secondary Vision, Strategy and/or Goal Item #	
		Requires add'l capital equipment?	No	Fiscal year implementation Task #	

Monday, March 25, 2013

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

The Public Transportation Advisory Commission respectfully disagrees with the amended ordinance originating in REP42-13 and has voted unanimously to recommend Council defeats this ordinance.

First and foremost, the City is currently preparing a RFP for consultation services directed at examining the current transit systems, studying our population, habits, and opportunities for increasing ridership, and funding mechanisms. One could reasonably expect that this report will address the constituencies and organizations represented on the Public Transportation Advisory Commission, and therefore it is felt by members of our commission that the changes in the proposed ordinance are premature.

If Council desires to make changes at this time, our recommendation would be to amend the ordinance to:

- 1) Rename current commission,
- 2) Maintain the current group of commissioners, and
- 3) Offer invitations of membership to the desired academic groups, and expand the commission as each group accepts the invitation and commits to providing an appointment with reasonable attendance to meetings. Other commissions operate with a similar number of members, such as the Disabilities Commission and the Downtown Columbia Leadership Council.

A majority of the members of the commission share these concerns about the proposed ordinance:

- 1) We are uncomfortable with the attention placed on attracting student representation, and being done so without explicit guarantees from these groups that the proposed positions will be filled. It gives the appearance that the city is demanding representation from these groups and downplaying the involvement of those riders who rely on the Transit System for regular transportation needs.

We would rather see these student/academic groups be invited onto the Commission, and, as the invitations accepted, the commission expanded by amending the establishing ordinance.

- 2) We do not like risk losing the collective knowledge held by the commission as a whole. We have done a tremendous amount of work trying to understand the financial details of the Transit System, as well as its realistic opportunities for attracting student ridership and the dynamics involved in moving the system towards financial sustainability through a focus on increasing their use of the system.
- 3) We are concerned that the Commission will lack quorum during breaks in the academic calendars of the schools appointing members.
- 4) We are concerned that the Commission will lack quorum for at least three months due to the length of the reappointment process. It would not be expected that a group such as MSA will be able to appoint someone prior to their summer break, meaning that it would take until autumn for that spot to be filled.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to our concerns.

Sincerely,

Steven Hanson, Chair  
Public Transportation Advisory Commission

On Thursday, March 21, 2013, the Public Transportation Advisory Commission unanimously passed a resolution recommending City Council defeat any ordinance originating from REP42-13 presented before Council on March 18, 2013.

Submitted Monday, March 25, 2013 by Steven Hanson, Public Transportation Advisory Commission Chair



## Memorandum

**To:** Mayor, Council and City Manager

**From:** Mike Peplow (Disabilities Commission Member and liaison to the Public Transportation Advisory Commission) and Homer Page (Chair of the Disabilities Commission) and members of the Disabilities Commission

**Subject:** Changes to the Public Transportation Advisory Commission (PTAC)

**Date:** March 26, 2013

Dear Members of the City Council and City Manager:

We, the members of the Disabilities Commission (DC), have deep concerns and reservations regarding the substitution of the existing liaison from the DC to the Public Transportation Advisory Commission (PTAC) for the following reasons: As a member of the DC;

- A liaison not only brings his or her own experience as a person with a disability, but the experience of the rest of the commission members. This liaison as of now is a paratransit user.
- This liaison carries the voice and concerns of not only people using the paratransit system, but also the concerns of people with disabilities using the bus system around the city and also on and around the three college campuses.
- The concerns carried by a liaison from the DC carries greater weight than a single user and therefore a richer, varied and more experienced perspective to whatever form the PTAC finally takes.

It is therefore the view of the members of the DC that the PTAC contain a liaison from the Mayor's Disabilities Commission. We request that the ordinance regarding the changes to the PTAC reflect these views and concerns.