



Pierce Transit
Community Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)
Virtual Meeting via Zoom/phone
Minutes – December 17, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:31 PM.

ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE

CTAG Members Present: Don Green, Antoinette Craig, Hongda Sao, Paul Crandall, Cody Bakken, Blake Geyen, Sandy Paul, Denise Edington

Pierce Transit Employees Present: Penny Grellier (Community Development Administrator), Tina Lee, Planning Manager, Lindsey Sehmel, Principal Planner – Scheduling, Duane Wakan, Senior Planner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were not available to review so we will table this action until the January meeting.

CTAG MEMBERS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Don: SDCC did not have a meeting this past month.

Denise: gave 4th Qtr CTAG report to Board and answered Commissioner Walker's question about timeline on Commerce transformation project.

Cody: BRT Technical Advisory Committee met before Thanksgiving, received updates on traffic circles and how buses will maneuver between lane treatments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment transpired.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Title VI Service Impacts (Lindsey Sehmel, Principal Planner – Scheduling)

Lindsey gave CTAG an overview on what a Title VI analysis means for Pierce Transit's March 2021 service change. An analysis was conducted on proposed routes adjustments; no significant equity impact was found. Routes 13, 63, 212, 402, 425 will have span and frequency reductions. Route 102 is eliminated. ST route 595 will now stop at TDS to maintain the connection previously provided by route 102. Note that routes 1 and 2 will return to 30-minute frequency on Sundays in March 2021. A public hearing will be given at Board meeting on January 11 with final report at Board meeting on February 8.

Discontinue Bus Book printing (Duane Wakan, Senior Planner)

The agency is considering discontinuing printed bus schedule books by September 2021. This year we made 6 service schedule changes; editing and printing the bus books is labor-intensive and costly. We are conducting

an analysis to see if using real-time signage, customer service phone calls and app-based schedules will provide sufficient access to the public. Duane asked CTAG members who uses the bus book, who uses which app. Members commented on how the book is useful and how it is not, and that getting to know a particular route's schedule is easiest when buses run on time and on schedule. Public comment will be part of the decision-making process. If we do not discontinue the printed books, we will issue an RFP for production.

Outgoing and incoming members (Penny and group)

Penny thanked outgoing members Sandy and Hongda for their contribution to CTAG. There will be four new CTAG members joining us in the new year. Their membership is being put forward for approval at the January 11 Board meeting.

MEMBER DELIBERATION

Sandy asked about the future of ORCA. Penny explained the ORCA Next Gen concept and timeline. Sandy asked if ORCA Next Gen will allow auto reload of product (Penny will get more information). When ORCA Next Gen is closer to reality (early next year), a staff member will be invited to present to CTAG.

Antoinette asked if mask wearing, by passengers and operators, can be encouraged through use of infographics and audio announcements. The current announcement is attention-getting at first but runs too long and is hard to hear. Penny will alert Marketing. She also noted some buses have seats marked off for social distancing and others do not. Penny explained the original pandemic signage is wearing out and is being replaced throughout the fleet.

PIERCE TRANSIT NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The agency is conducting a Bus Stop Rebalancing process, removing some bus stops and relocating others. The goal is to make service on time and more efficient. On many routes, due to public request and changes in infrastructure, bus stops are very close together or in unsafe locations. This causes unnecessary delays. A cross-functional team of employees is working to determine which bus stops should be changed. CTAG will be involved in providing feedback to the decision-making process.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:15PM

Submitted by:

Penny Grellier, Community Development Administrator

Approved by:

CTAG Chair