



Pierce Transit  
Community Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom/phone  
Minutes – February 25, 2021

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 5:32 PM.

**ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE**

CTAG Members Present: Don Green, Antoinette Craig, Blake Geyen, Linda Moran, Deirdre Maxwell, Paul Crandall, Cody Bakken

Absent: Denise Edington, Barbara Rhoades

Pierce Transit Employees Present: Penny Grellier (Community Development Administrator), Brett Freshwaters (Exec Director of Finance), Julie Stutzke (Budget Coordinator), Kelli Dion (Budget Supervisor)

Member of public: Jay Fish

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from January 2021 were approved (Cody moved, Antoinette seconded).

**ELECT NEW VICE CHAIR**

An election of Vice Chair was held again as Charter requires officers to have attended at least 6 meetings.

Cody nominated Blake, Paul seconded, motion carried. Motion to close nominations made by Cody, seconded by Linda. By vote of acclamation, Deidre moved to elect Blake, Cody seconded, motion carried.

**CTAG MEMBERS COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Don: SDCC met, discussed all the ways PT ensures safety, including front bus cameras which have drastically reduced number of collisions. BRT/Stream system name is priority project, and it was noted that discretionary riders are those we need to attract to get broad support for our services.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jay Fish, a postal worker from the Eastside, asked for equity consideration given to Eastside routes, specifically routes 42 and 54 that don't run as late into the evening (especially on Sundays) as do routes 3 and 4. He also noted messaging in Eastside should be in Spanish and Vietnamese as well as English.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*2021 Budget (Brett Freshwaters)*

Brett gave an overview of the 2021 Budget which was approved at the February Board of Commissioners meeting. He highlighted budget breakdowns, major projects, rider demographics and outlook for our 6 Year Plan. A copy of the slideshow will be sent out to CTAG members.

*A conversation with Councilmember Kristina Walker*

CM Walker introduced herself, noted she serves as at-large City Councilmember for Tacoma as well as has a seat on Pierce Transit Board of Commissions. She participates in several local and regional transportation-related committees. Top City projects are Vision Zero (crash death reduction), Traffic Disparity Study (People of Color are pulled over disproportionately, need data), repealing of helmet law (due to enforcement disparity), and Tacoma to Puyallup trail connection. She invites CTAG members to attend City council meetings as well as utilize her open office hours and email.

**MEMBER DELIBERATION**

**PIERCE TRANSIT NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- BRT Accessibility Initiative: please ask your constituents about their accessibility needs with regards to BRT and report comments to Penny
- Next BRT virtual Open House coming in June
- Invitation to join BRT 2 TAC: Downtown Tacoma, University Place and Lakewood, Technical Advisory Team (TAC) of stakeholders and planning partners, which will meet bi-monthly (i.e., six times/year) for updates and to seek your input as the study progresses. We anticipate these meetings to begin in June or July 2021.
- Need someone to give Qtr 1 CTAG Report to Board meeting on March 8 (Deirdre volunteered)
- March 18 is Transit Driver Appreciation Day; please email Penny with specific kudos

[chat contents are included on third page]

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 6:58PM

Submitted by:

Penny Grellier, Community Development Administrator

Approved by:

Don Green, Chair

Notes from Chat:

3 From Pierce Transit : Hi everyone, in order to make sure we have enough time for both presentations, please type your budget questions/comments into the Chat and I can forward them to Brett and the budget team.

18:06:58 From Cody Bakken : How is "low-income" defined for the purposes of our budget and this presentation?

18:09:09 From Julie Stutzke : The survey defines low-income as under \$35,000

18:09:52 From Cody Bakken : Regarding employees, I'd heard through the grapevine that Pierce Transit was looking at cutting a large number of operators, something like a third or so (I don't recall the number specifically). Can this be touched on please?

18:10:10 From Cody Bakken : Thank you Julie

18:15:57 From Pierce Transit : With our March service change bringing us back to 95% pre-COVID service levels, I don't think reducing number of operators would be in the cards. I can follow up on this though.

18:17:08 From Cody Bakken : In refurbishing the base, could there be plans developed to develop a satellite base (even of limited function) in the east county area to help with the cost of dead-heading, as well as making that side of the county feel more involved in our system? A capital cost would be less than that of operations costs long term.

18:18:29 From Cody Bakken : It's about the time that I need to head out to my other meeting. Have a good evening, everyone! Thank you to all our visitors for joining us this evening!

18:22:42 From Blake Geyen : What is an Ambassador?

18:23:04 From Pierce Transit : It was a newly-created position that fell, I believe, under Public Safety

18:27:52 From Jay Fish : what is the power bill for all our building per month? Can we install solar and windmills can b to reduce our power bills and living wages job's for local worker's

18:43:12 From Pierce Transit : BAT are Business Access Transit lanes

18:48:05 From Brett Freshwaters : I forgot to mention that the complete budget book is posted here on PT's website <https://www.piercetransit.org/budget-finances/>

18:51:55 From CM Walker : [Kristina.walker@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:Kristina.walker@cityoftacoma.org)

18:53:12 From CM Walker : Council meetings: Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/84834233126](https://www.zoom.us/j/84834233126)

Passcode: 349099

18:53:55 From CM Walker : Thanks for having me!