



Pierce Transit
Community Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)
Virtual Meeting via Zoom/phone
Minutes – February 24, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE

CTAG Members Present: Don Green, Blake Geyen, Linda Moran, Antoinette Craig, Deirdre Maxwell, and Jamie Witter.

Absent: Emily Freeman, Paul Crandall, Marlene Druker, and Paul Buchanan.

Pierce Transit Employees and Presenters Present: Nathan BeVelle (Community Development Administrator), Nikole Dangerfield-Hastings (Community Development Coordinator), Duane Wakan (Senior Planner), Lindsey Sehmel (Principal Planner), Alicia Bradshaw (Senior Planner), Larry McCarty (Facilities Manager), and Tina Vaslet (Planner).

Guests: One unannounced community member called in.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from January 2022 were reviewed and approved. Linda Moran moved and Antionette Craig seconded.

CTAG MEMBERS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Don provided an update from the Service Delivery and Capital Committee (SDCC). Kim Roscoe was elected Chair of that committee. They heard year end reports from the varying divisions in the agency. SDCC voted to allow CEO to sign agreement for \$200,000 for trolley operation in Gig Harbor. Interview reports from safety regarding passenger safety on buses and at stops. Don noted an improvement in this area and stressed the importance of having our own security.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Puyallup Runner Plan (Duane Wakan, Senior Planner)

Pierce Transit is considering applying for another Regional Mobility Grant to expand our Runner services in Puyallup. The area being considered performed very well in a MOD Sandbox Trial in 2018 where Lyft was able to provide on-demand trips county wide for a short pilot period. Puyallup had the most success in this trial and so the agency has decided to pursue grant funding to either replace or supplement Route 425 Puyallup Connector. CTAG can provide valuable input/feedback to the agency's approach as we ask for comments and suggestions. Duane provided demographic information about the area and illustrated how Runner will attempt to alleviate traffic on Meridian.

Spring Service Change (Lindsey Sehmel, Principal Planner)

Lindsey explained that the upcoming Service Change is a net zero service change for the Agency with no additional services cut but none readded. There will be minor service time adjustments along several routes. The 566 has been transferred to King County Metro and those hours were not reallocated. Training classes for operators are picking up and have more participants. Lindsey is hoping for service growth by May.

Biennial Fare Review (Alicia Bradshaw, Senior Planner)

Per Pierce Transit fare policy, a fare review should be considered by the Board every two years. Information was brought before the Board and Executive Finance Committee in 2021 with the request to postpone changes and return for review in 2022. This presentation provides a review of fare actions that have been adopted by the Board and seeks to understand if there is current interest in a fare amendment. Compared to regional partners we're charging less. The public would need to be notified 60 days before any changes go into effect.

The ORCA Lift program info and estimated costs were presented along with the eligibility, administration, and costs to the agency were Pierce Transit to join the program. Alicia posed the question of how much interest there is in a fare amendment and if so, what information would be helpful in making that decision.

Bus Shelter Glass Replacement Pilot (Larry McCarty, Facilities Manager)

Larry noted that ongoing vandalism is leading to poor condition of bus shelters, particularly the breaking of the glass. In 2019 the agency replaced over 500 pieces of glass throughout the system and even with those efforts it continues to be a recurring problem. The cost is over \$250,000 a year in vandalism repair for glass. The price of glass is going up and the supply chain delays are leading to compounded issues.

Pictures of a new concept featuring metal triangular mesh in place of the glass was shown. A partner agency is already using this concept and has not had to replace a single panel. The agency has tried other alternate materials previously with limited success: plexiglass, perforated metal. Larry asked for community input regarding the method, design, and implementation after installing a few of the new shelter panels. The importance of shelter appearance in encouraging ridership was stressed. Asked for recommendations on locations on routes where these can be installed so feedback can be compiled about rider experience. A prototype can be fabricated in approximately four weeks, pending any supply chain and delivery. Locations were suggested by CTAG members. Larry expressed the large panels of glass at the transit centers are being replaced by infill glass, so the metal is not being installed there.

Chair and Vice Chair Elections (Nathan BeVelle, Community Development Administrator)

Nathan recapped the Chair and Vice Chair eligibility for election. Don was nominated for Chair by Deirdre, Linda, Antoinette, and Jamie. The group voted and Don was reelected as Chair. Deirdre and Linda nominated Blake for co-chair, seconded by Antoinette and Jamie. Blake will continue as Vice Chair. This is both Don and Blake's final term in those positions.

MEMBER DELIBERATION

None

PIERCE TRANSIT NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Stream System Expansion study is closing on March 1, 2022. There are two methods to leave feedback, an interactive map, and a static version. Tacoma City Council member John Hines joined the Pierce Transit Board. Pierce Transit won the Health Communities award from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department for the Agency's Essential Workers Essential Rides program during the pandemic. The Bus Stop Balancing program is taking effect during the March service change. There is a RFQ for the Spanaway Runner project. Pierce Transit is hiring for multiple departments. ORCA Next Gen is launching in the middle of May.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Submitted by
Nathan BeVelle

Approved by
Don Green