

**METRO RTA
PLANNING / MARKETING / RAIL
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
ROBERT K. PFAFF TRANSIT CENTER BOARDROOM
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021
10:30 AM**

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

Attendees: Gary Spring, Renee Greene, Vincent Rubino, Mark Derrig, Chuck Rector, Donald Christian (virtual), Dawn Distler, Molly Becker, Emily Baarson, Valerie Shea (virtual), DeHavilland McCall, Shawn Metcalf, Bambi Miller, Jarrod Hampshire, Angela Neeley, Jay Hunter

Guests present: David Swirsky, Jarrett Walker (virtual), Evan Landman (virtual), Bill Sepe (virtual), Dr. Daniel Van Epps (virtual)

Mr. Gary Spring chaired the meeting on behalf of Mr. Donald Christian. Mr. Spring called the meeting to order at 10:31 am.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST MEETING

Motion to approve minutes by Mr. Vincent Rubino. Second by Ms. Renee Greene.

ITEM 3: SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Marketing Report | Molly Becker

- Reviewed KPIs

Planning Report | Emily Baarson

- Reviewed KPIs & Performance Report
- Ms. Emily Baarson touched on Labor Day bus service, the second holiday METRO provided bus service this year. Buses followed their Saturday schedule on Labor Day and saw 77% of the average Saturday ridership.
- Ms. Baarson introduced Mr. Jarrett Walker and Mr. Evan Landman from Jarrett Walker + Associates to present the first draft of the Reimagined Bus Network. Mr. Landman showed the Committee the Reimagine METRO website, the online survey, and an interactive map that allows viewers to compare the Existing Network with the Draft Reimagined Network.

Mr. Spring asked the Jarrett Walker + Associates team for their input on the proposed changes in the Firestone Park neighborhood bus

service along Romig Road (near the Romig Road Transit Center), and in the northern region around Little Tikes. Mr. Walker and Mr. Landman discussed the process and reasoning behind the proposed changes serving these areas. Mr. Walker walked through the map showing expansion in job access in the southern region and the decision to redesign bus service in the northern region.

Ms. Dawn Distler noted the reason why people aren't riding the bus [in the northern region] is because it doesn't work for them. Ms. Distler said this draft allows for service to be redistributed to allow for better connections and, hopefully moving forward, these are areas where we can work on programs such as FlexRide to serve businesses and industrial areas.

Looking at the Romig Road service, Mr. Mark Derrig asked about METRO's service to Amazon. Ms. Distler said, like other employers countywide, METRO is to look at and find where the people are located who need the connection to get to job hubs. Mr. Landman chimed in on the process of filling the gaps [to job access].

Mr. Chuck Rector asked about the 8A and 8B routes, specifically trips to JR Wheel. Ms. Distler clarified that the service to JR Wheel as outlined in the Draft Reimagined Network will be better for passengers. Ms. Distler also reiterated to the Committee that this is the first draft of the network redesign and there is still public input to be gathered.

Mr. Spring referenced the "Connections beyond Summit County" slide and asked Jarrett Walker + Associates if they've received negative input in the past about systems providing service outside county limits. Mr. Walker stated that service outside the county is well-received when the benefit inside the county is strong.

Mr. Rubino extended his appreciation to the team for all the work that's been done to put together this plan. He feels METRO is headed in the right direction.

Rail Report | Emily Baarson

- None

ITEM 4: RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

None

ITEM 5: OTHER BUSINESS

ITEM 6: CALL FOR ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 11:29 am