

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)
 OF THE MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD (MTDB)
 JULY 21, 2015

MEETING MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. The following Committee

Members answered to roll call:	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
MO – vacant		
D1 – Donald G. Pearson, Chair	P	
D2 – Karen LeMaster	P	
D3 – Everardo Sanchez	P	
D4 – vacant		
D5 – Aziz Afravi	P	
D6 – vacant		
D7 – Noemi H. Rojas	P	
D8 – Leah M. Wood	P	
ALT – Rebecca Hernandez		A
ALT – Mark C. Steele	P	
ALT – James David Abernathy	P	

2. **Public comment.** John Eger thanked LIFT staff for attending meeting held by the Council For The Blind; and Lori Vugteveen expressed an interest in being appointed to the CAC.
3. **Approval of minutes of last meeting.** Chair motioned for approval of the minutes for meeting on June 16, 2015. Aziz Afravi moved to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by David Abernathy. All in favor; none opposed; motion passes unanimously.
4. **Update on ridership for Summer Youth Transportation Program.** Jay Banasiak provided statistics as of July 5. Mentioned that 513 trips have been recorded so far. Mentioned that kick off was late, but looking to expand next year’s program to possibly include Head Start and School Districts, and build upon in future years. Mentioned next month’s ridership report will include summer youth participation. No action taken.
5. **Presentation and update on the Streetcar Project.** Jay Banasiak provided handout outlining routing and project timeline. Mentioned plan is to rehab PCC cars. Mentioned stakeholders are still vetting whether it’s cost prohibitive or not. Bidding process expected to wrap up in August and results will be provided in September’s meeting. No action taken.
6. **Presentation and discussion on Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality [CMAQ] Improvement Program funding approval by MPO.** Jay Banasiak explained that the Metropolitan Planning Organization [MPO] of El Paso is the agency that issues federal money and that CMAQ money is allocated for experimental transportation services, road improvements and new projects. Mentioned that Sun Metro won 3 awards for CMAQ funding to help out with anticipated Westside congestion due to TXDOT project; these awards include transit service from Westside to Eastside using Trans Mountain, three circulator routes feeding into Mesa Brio, and purchase of (possibly) three more Arboc buses to get people into Brio stations. Noemi Rojas mentioned that TXDOT project is back on track and that electronic messages boards on along I10 will be used to inform the public of project progress. General discussion about route going over Trans Mountain for trial period to assist with Westside congestion and may not be permanent route due to weather challenges. Jay Banasiak mentioned that more information on TXDOT project and subsequent congestion issues will be provided in future meetings. No action taken.

7. **Discussion and update on monthly Paratransit Advisory Committee [PAC] meeting.** Julio Perez mentioned there was no meeting this month in lieu of 4th of July holiday. No action taken.
8. **Monthly Report on LIFT Services.** Rafael Fernandez provided monthly statistics report for period ending June 2015. Mentioned that MV is on target with on-time performance at its highest (94.6%) and data for Sun City Cab is included. Mentioned that LIFT is no longer using Project Amistad since funding was reallocated to the County for their use. No action taken.
9. **Director's Report**
 - A. **Monthly Customer Service Report for Fixed Route.** George Myers provided monthly statistics report for June 2015. Mentioned that customer complaints usually go up in the summer due to the heat, i.e. waiting for buses in the sun, drivers passing up passengers seeking shade away from the bus stops, a/c units feel like not working inside buses. No action taken.
 - B. **Monthly Ridership and Operations Report for Fixed Route.** Jay Banasiak provided monthly revenue statistics for May 2015. Mentioned that ridership is stagnant and that Sun Metro is analyzing trends outside gas prices to determine why ridership is not growing. Mentioned additional information will be provided next month. No action taken.
10. **Opportunity for committee members to request a staff report on items of interest over which the Board has authority. Discussion of items announced at this meeting will take place during the next regularly scheduled meeting.** The Committee requested that the following items be added to the next meeting's agenda:
 - A. Update on Streetcar project and ridership for Summer Youth Program in September
 - B. Update on BRIO for Alameda design and artwork

Chair asked for motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:07pm. Leah Wood so moved. Seconded by Karen LeMaster. All in favor; none opposed; motion passes unanimously.

Approved by:

/s/ JAY BANASIAK
Department Head/Board Secretary