



# Metro Transit Advisory Committee

August 2023 Meeting Minutes

**Location:** Metro Administrative Offices

2222 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68102

**Attendance:**

Travis Halm, Loma Lindstrom

Staff: Nicole Ebat, Annie Pigaga, William Clingman

Date: August 9, 2023 7:00 p.m.

Call to order – Loma Lindstrom at 7:02pm

**Previous Meeting Minutes:**

Motion by Travis, second by Loma. Approved

**Opening: Public comment period**

- No members of the public were in attendance

## **New business:**

### **Item #1: Upcoming Board business**

- Policy on fiscal matters to set up reserve fiscal funds
  - Establishes cash reserves for operating and capital

### **Item #2: Guest Speaker**

- William Clingman, Metro Finance Director
  - Discussed the budget approval process and tax levy, which will go to Board in September
    - Budget has to be sent to State of Nebraska by September 30
    - Operating budget will be set up for 10-14% increase of service
      - MOBY is included – MOBY service levels have been normalizing with pre-COVID levels
      - Gross budget is expected to be about \$65M
    - Budget will be presented before regular Board meeting at a public hearing
      - Tax levy and budget will be two separate resolutions
    - Expecting tax levy to go up to approximately 8 mils

### **Item #3: New business**

- K-12 Rides Free push starts
  - K-12 program is not changing
  - Metro continues to work with OPS
    - OPS is interested in extending the contract, but has not been set yet
  - The program has provided nearly 600K rides in just over 2 years
  - Metro's push to the public will go this week with news release, social, and other materials
  - Metro staff will be attending the OPS Back to School Bash event to promote the program
- Route changes going into effect
  - Route changes will start Sunday, August 13
  - Route 4 will have 15-min frequency for most of the day
  - Biggest impact will be the express routes
    - 2 removed stops with 2 replacements
    - Consolidating the route for safety and ease of use
  - Route 24 will have minor timepoint adjustments
  - Route 16 will have additional trips
- Event updates
  - Metro will be a featured program at The RiverFront parks reopening

- On August 19 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Metro staff will be out with an ORBT bus
- An ORBT bus was a featured venue for Open Omaha
  - Metro will mostly likely have or be a venue for next year
- On Saturday, August 12, Metro will offer free fares for Terence Crawford and the city's parade
  - Fares will be free all day
  - This will be done in partnership with the city

Motion to adjourn by Travis. Second by Loma. 7:36p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

September 13, 2023, 7p.m.

Metro administrative offices- Lobby conference room