



# Metro Transit Advisory Committee

September 2023 Meeting Minutes

**Location:** Metro Administrative Offices

2222 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68102

**Attendance:**

Karen Bluvus, Travis Halm, Loma Lindstrom

Staff: Evan Schweitz, Annie Pigaga

Date: September 13, 2023 7:00 p.m.

Call to order – Loma Lindstrom at 7:01 p.m.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:**

Motion by Travis, second by Karen. Approved

**Opening: Public comment period**

- No members of the public were in attendance

**New Business:**

**Item #1: Upcoming Board business**

- Board meeting moved up to September 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Need to ensure we had quorum
- Public meeting on budget to be held September 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. with the regular board meeting to follow
  - Approve the tax levy for the upcoming year
- Updated policies 10, 11, 12 for updated payroll software and employee overtime

**Item #2: Draft of new by-laws & application review**



- First draft is starting with TAC
  - Will still need to be reviewed by Metro's leadership team
- Discussion
  - Was there a reason for the original TAC to have members appointed by the governing powers in the region?
    - Was there a federal mandate for this?
    - Metro staff will research/help members find more information
  - If an area/community joins the authority, how do we ensure they have representation on TAC?
    - Asking for geographically diverse membership in application
  - Like the application – don't think there was something like this before
  - Would Metro have the Board approve membership?
  - Positive response to having separation from Board and TAC to know that there's no recourse based on TAC actions
  - Like the spirit of keeping applications open, but worried that application numbers may ebb and flow
    - There could be value in having technical members
      - 6 seats for advocates, 5 seats for public entities?
  - Suggest changing the wording of the number of members: "Up to eleven"
  - If we look to have appointment, how do we address the contract service areas?
  - In the application, should we try to offer more opportunities for applicants to highlight their involvement?
    - Could this be incorporated with the first application question?
    - Highlight their professional background
    - Does this work best in representation or motivation?
  - With MOBY appeals, do we need to have someone with more understanding of medical classifications/conditions?
  - To ensure a balance, could we consider having technical advisors as non-voting members?
  - Bylaws do a good job for advocates, but may not help with advisor roles
    - Health, education, etc.
  - Staff is exploring having a standing schedule with Metro members
    - Includes a variety of departments
    - Members really like this idea
      - Could staff members be on call for meetings that may call for their expertise?
    - Could we consider agency/partner organization spotlights each month



- May help fill the meeting time with valuable content
- In some MAPA committees, they combine November and December meetings
  - May not work because of possible appeals
- Recommendation for 3-year terms so that each year you have a majority coming back each year
- Asking members to reapply may push people away
- Discussion of a TAC update at every board meeting
  - Maybe also consider a newsletter update as well
  - Helps keep the TAC on people's minds
- Can Metro staff reach out to the Board for their take on the redesign of TAC?
- Members will take copies of bylaws and applications home for review
  - Next month's meeting will be a working session for everyone's edits

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

- December route bid proposals
  - Have been planning for the past few months for service changes in December
    - Fixing routes with timing issues
  - Nothing has been approved – goes in front of leadership team this week
  - One route may change the routing (Route 14)
    - Using part of the detour, which would extend the MOBY boundary slightly
  - Route 55 may have slight routing changes near 120<sup>th</sup> & Q
    - Reached out to MOBY Dispatch about trips for that section that would lose service
      - Notices would be sent to people who have made those trips

Motion to adjourn by Travis, second by Karen. 8:24 p.m.

### **Next Meeting:**

October 11, 2023, 7 p.m.

Metro administrative offices- Lobby conference room