

**Minutes for BRS-USSU-Transit meeting**  
**Monday, 24 February 2020 @ 2:30-3:30pm**

Location: Committee Room B at City Hall

Present: Cory Shrigley, Allison Gray from Transit; Peter Gallén, Robert Clipperton, Curtis McCoshen, Jim Wood from BRS.

**MEETING ADMINISTRATION**

- 1) Curtis was appointed Chair of this meeting, while Peter will provide the minutes.

**USSU ITEMS**

- 2) USSU was not present at this meeting.

**TRANSIT ITEMS**

- 3) Update on current Transit initiatives:
  - a. Pink Shirt Day: Transit buses will display supportive pink shirt decals on February 26.
  - b. Transit will recognize International Women's Day the week leading up to March 8.
  - c. Transit will acknowledge Transit Driver Appreciation Day on March 18 through internal celebrations.

**BRS ITEMS**

- 4) Preliminary deliberations on the upcoming Fare Review and associated public engagements:
  - a. BRS requested an opportunity to read Deepak Santhanakrishnan's draft report (see December 2019 minutes) before his final report is submitted to Transit in March. A long discussion ensued.
    - i. Transit thought it quite premature for BRS to comment on the draft, while BRS explained why it might be useful for Transit to share it before Deepak departs.
      1. Transit described their internal stakeholders that were involved in Deepak's project and outlined a long list of external stakeholders that would be engaged later in the public Fare Review.
      2. Transit assured that the public Fare Review will be comprehensive, although what exactly that will entail has not yet been determined.
    - ii. BRS on the other hand emphasized their interest and knowledge in a multitude of as yet undefined issues that are pertinent in a comprehensive Fare Review.
      1. BRS was particularly concerned that these issues might *not* be included in Deepak's report and might thus *not* be studied at all in advance.
      2. What exactly these complex issues are and how they will be insightfully analyzed prior to the public Fare Review is BRS's main concern at this early stage of the preliminary review process.
    - iii. In conclusion, BRS expressed their gratitude to be included in this preliminary process where the scope and topics of the Fare Review are being defined.

5) Bus Route Changes on 29 March 2020:

- b. The upcoming changes, which come into effect on March 29, have already been prominently announced on Transit's website and the new route maps/schedules have been posted.
  - i. One of Saskatoon's frequent services, the inbound route 8 and its outbound spine for routes 81/82/83/84/86, will move to Broadway Avenue & Bridge.
    - 1. The move will allow Transit to start collecting real-time information on how the future Blue Line BRT might perform in mixed traffic on Broadway. The move will also allow riders, local residents and businesses to get a feel for the frequent service and the change in rider routines that any route changes always entail. In addition, the move will allow the frequent service route to avoid construction delays on Sid Buckwold Bridge this summer.
  - ii. Current local routes 1 and 6 will stop utilizing Broadway Bridge and will instead move to Sid Buckwold Bridge; thus serving the western end of 8<sup>th</sup> Street.
- c. BRS noted that having both current and upcoming schedules posted together on Transit's website constitutes a significant improvement in the information for Riders. Labels in the listing clearly distinguish between current and upcoming schedules.

6) Update on the on-site detour signage:

- a. Transit's new on-site Detour/Stop-Closed Sign is more informative than the old sign.
- b. Detour costs & collected fees:
  - a. As the information provided to SPCoT on 10 February 2020 indicates, the City's Roadway Activity Coordinators Group (RAC) collects fees from those agencies and contractors that cause detours and bus stop closures, while the City's Transportation Right-of-Way Permit Group does not seem to collect such fees.
  - b. BRS noted that Transit may incur considerable expense by having to dedicate staff time to post and take down on-site signs. Moreover, Transit does not currently seem to receive any of the collected funds to alleviate their expense.
  - c. BRS thought it prudent that Transit should be able to bill RAC for any instance where Transit needs to post or take down on-site signage. Such per-visit compensation would be particularly helpful in encouraging timely notifications to Transit and would also assist in minimizing the need for repeat visits.

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, 30 March 2020, 2:30 – 3:30 pm at City Hall (confirmed; note earlier start).

Topic: discussion led by Transit's IT Coordinator, Harold Matthies, on the integration of TransitApp with Transit's own IT-systems.