

Bus Riders of Saskatoon

April 14, 2021 – 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm - Zoom Video Conference

Facilitator: Lila

Recorder: Robert

Regrets: Scott, Sherry

Present: Lila, Robert, Peter, Jenn, Doug, Donna, Curt, Darcy, Sydney

1. Introductions and Group Norms (see below)
2. Finalization of Agenda.
3. Review of minutes of March 24th, 2021 Meeting
4. Financial Report: Bank balance is \$239.85 – no change
5. Business Arising from the Minutes - None
6. Correspondence
 - 6.1 Letter to Chrystia Freeland – No Response
7. City of Saskatoon Meetings ,
 - 7.1 Next meeting: April 19, 2021- Joint with Walking Saskatoon
 - 7.2.1 Agenda Items: Director of Transportation – Jay Magus, status of money for Transit from federal infrastructure program, corridor planning consultations.
 - 7.2.2 Attendees: Doug, Scott, Donna, Curt, Peter, Bob, Robert, Warrick and Jim have expressed interest.
8. Standing Policy Committee on Transportation
 - 8.1 April 5, 2021 Meeting (Robert)
 - 8.1.1 Highlights: That the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation recommend to City Council: That Capital Project #2328 - Transit Implementation Plan be increased by \$500,000 in 2021 funded through the Bus Rapid Transit funding plan and decreasing the 2022 capital allocation to this project: wayfinding, branding, and marketing design work prior to the start of construction
 - 8.2 Next meeting: Monday, May 3, 2021
9. Access Transit – No report
- 10 . Facebook and Website Issues
 - 10.1 Implementation: Accessibility Policy
 - Doug reported that posts have generally been compliant although there have been two instances of violation
 - Doug will do a random audit of posts

10.2 Mission and Vision Banner Change – (Warrick) – no report

10.3 Post Deletion Policy

- Doug will put together a forum with our FB members to develop recommendations for a policy

10.4 Comments on new mobile ticketing app.

- Discussion centred on expiration date on purchased tickets

10.5 Comments on inaccessible bus stops

- Discussion on post pointing out fall sidewalk replacement near Quebec Ave. and 33rd Street leaving muddy terrain surrounding the bus stop

11. Poverty Reduction Project – Transit Committee

11.1 No meetings have been held

12. Keep Transit Moving Coalition (Robert, Peter, Lila)

12.1 Meeting: March 30, 2021

- Focus continues on lobby of federal government for Transit operating funding – Bus Riders were one of the signatories on an open letter to the Minister of Finance
- Work continues to weld this group into an effective national organization
- Discussion of On-Demand Service initiatives
 - Some skepticism about the feasibility of this sort of service in Saskatoon

12.2 Next Meeting: Tuesday April 27, 2021

13. Walking Saskatoon

13.1 Report on meeting on Sunday, March 28, 2021 (Peter)

- the organization is now registered with the province as a non-profit
- focus has been on development of a newsletter and on meetings with Ward Councillors

13.2 Joint meeting with Jay Magus, Director of Transportation – April 19th

13.3 Next meeting: Sunday May 2nd at 1:30

14. Actions and Action Plans for 2020-2021

- 14.1 2021 Budget – Costed enhancements / service standards – presentation to Council / Governance & Priorities - Completed
- 14.2 Fare Review – (Peter) – preparation continues for public engagement sessions
- 14.3 Meetings with Councillors (Robert)
 - 14.3.1 Future meetings
 - 14.3.1.1 Councillor Hill – efforts to contact him have been unsuccessful and it appears he is having some health problems
 - 14.3.1.1 Agreed to try to set up a meeting with Councillor Jeffries
- 14.4 Civic Election
 - 14.4.1 LiveableYXE2020 (Robert) – Future of organization
 - Robert will pursue this matter with Saskatoon Cycles
- 14.5 Provincial Government
 - 14.5.1 Meetings with Ministers/Opposition Critics/ MLAs
 - 14.5.1.1 InterGovernmental Affairs – Don McMorris / Ryan Meili
 - 14.5.1.2 Sask Builds – Don Morgan / Aleana Young
 - 14.5.1.3 Municipal Affairs - Don Mc Morris / Matt Love
 - Agreed to wait to see if there is money for Transit in the provincial budget.
- 14.6 Meeting with Kevin Waugh, MP – (Curt)
 - Mr. Waugh continues to refuse to meet with us
 - Jenn agreed to try to set up a meeting with her MP, Don Redekopp

15. Other Business

- 15.1 Covid-19 safety: Those present talked about how secure they felt riding the bus in COVID times – mixed feelings
- 15.2 Corridor Planning: Bus Riders has been invited to participate in corridor planning related to College Drive. Peter volunteered to represent us at these meetings.
- 15.3 Local Network Design: We need to be prepared to participate in public engagement on this when it happens. Discussion tabled until next meeting.

15.4 Sarcan: With the closing of the Broadway Avenue depot, collectors will need to go to the new depot on Jasper Avenue where Transit service is less accessible. Discussion tabled until next meeting.

15.5 Rumours are that there is a shortage of serviceable buses and that this will result in service reductions on a number of routes this summer. We need to get more information on this.

16 . Date & time for next meeting: Wednesday May 26th at 7:00 pm.

Group Norms

All people are explicitly welcome and respected in our meetings and we will strive to include and represent the interests and varying perspectives of riders. We appreciate that we are all volunteers and that we are all learning and doing the best we can in our roles. We bring different life experiences and values to the table but what we share is a desire to work for positive change in our transit system. We aim to achieve changes in the short-term while keeping a long-view in mind and agree to engage constructively and respectfully and not just within the group but also with decision-makers, the media and the general public.

In meetings, we agree to keep comments respectful and brief and respect the role of the meeting facilitator(s) who may need to cut us off from time to time to keep the conversation on track and on time. We will avoid tangents and side-bar conversations and speak one at a time. We will do our best to be accountable for what we take on and will try not to let each other down. If we have committed to a task and can't complete it in a timely manner, we agree that we will pass the task to someone else in the group. When we feel someone is not abiding by these norms, we will gently let them know. Repeated violations of the group norms by any member will be brought to the group to discuss.