

Bus Riders of Saskatoon
June 20, 2022 – 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm - Zoom Video Conference

Draft Agenda

Facilitator: Curt Recorder: Robert Regrets: Jim, Lia
Present: Lila, Odin, Bob, Greg, Donna, Peter, Sherry, Sydney, Dominic

1. Welcome
2. Finalization of Agenda. Addition to 5.2
3. Review of minutes of May 16, 2022 meeting. See typo on page two.
4. Date & time for next meeting: Tentative meeting for August 8th which will be cancelled if there is no pressing business. Following meeting will be September 12 at 7:00 pm.
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - 5.1 On Demand – Soft Launch – delayed until July – Volunteers needed for later this week for a ‘test’ - Robert sent in a list of names. No additional volunteers stepped forward.
 - 5.2 Instagram Account/ TikTok
 - discussion of the need to have people interesting in taking on the role.
 - Dominic is willing to set something up on Instagram
6. Correspondence
 - 6.1 Robert has messaged with Regina City Councillor Stevens to express dismay that the Regina City Council unanimously approved requesting the Provincial Government to take money out of the Transit stream to build a new swimming pool.
7. Facebook/Website Issues
 - 7.1 Facebook – Themes since our last meeting (post with the greatest reach was 2.7K): shelters and public art, stop removal, masking and mask enforcement, fare collection and fare boxes, route changes, OnDemand issues, Downtown arena, lost items, family day pass availability, driver retirement, transit and urban planning, Pride flags, rider etiquette, stop

information, BRS information, ride specific issues, Saskatoon Transit info, safety on buses, transit news from Calgary, Edmonton, Victoria, Toronto.

- Concerned expressed by those present at the meeting - Safety on buses – reported that operators have been threatened by passengers and that this has escalated in recent weeks
- Homeless people are needing to use buses as shelters

8. City of Saskatoon Meetings

8.1 Report on June 13th meeting – minutes forthcoming

- Director Jim McDonald retired at the end of May. Position filled temporarily with existing staff while recruitment takes place.

8.2 Next meeting: Monday July 4th at 2:30 pm

8.2.1 Agenda Items: Availability of special category passes, safety on buses

8.2.2 Attendees: Robert, Dominic, Peter, Sherry, Curt, Donna, Odin, Bob

9. Standing Policy Committee on Transportation (SPCOT)

9.1 Meeting: June 6, 2022

9.1.1 Terms of Reference for Auditor’s investigation of service disruptions: “The investigation team will meet with various stakeholders, which includes the Bus Riders of Saskatoon and representatives from ATU 615” – recommend approval to Council

9.1.2 Presentation by Mary Fedun re: Fare Collection

- Councillor Hill gave the following Notice of Motion:

"That the Administration report on the issue of unpaid fares on fixed route Transit buses, identifying

- percentage of riders who pay vs. those who don't pay,
- amount of lost revenue,
- routes most affected,
- identifiable trends with respect to dates and times of incidents,

- what the current policy is in recording unpaid fares,
- how incidents of unpaid fares are dealt with by operators and administration,
- if a fare enforcer position has ever been considered,
- the current status of fare boxes with respect to missing or inoperable boxes, and
- any data from other municipalities that would be relevant."

9.2 Next SPCOT Meeting: Monday, August 8, 2022 at 2:00 pm

10. City Council Meeting – May 24th

10.1 Downtown Arena Site Selection Criteria

- #7 Proximity to future BRT stations;

10.2 Review of Masking Requirement

- No change recommended. This will continue to be reconsidered by Council on a month to month basis

10.3 Service Disruptions/Cancellations

- City Auditor to undertake an inquiry – terms of reference to be presented to Council in June

10.4 Next Meeting Monday June 27th at 1:00 pm.

11. Breakout Session: What is your and your family's experience with the **Current Transit Network**: when/how does it work well for you and when/how does it not?

Lack of consistency on week-ends, Transit App – shows time but doesn't show the most efficient route, drivers not as customer oriented as could be – Regina works to educate staff rather than discipline staff – operators are the front line service providers, amount of time for cross town trips,

12. Access Transit – Bob/Sydney

- continue to deal with individual issues as they arise
- three day advance booking requirement is an inconvenience

13. Keep Transit Moving Coalition (Robert)

13.1 Report on last meeting: Tuesday May 24, 2022

- no one attended

13.2 Next Meeting: Tuesday June 28th at 4:00 pm ET.

14. Ongoing Actions

14.1 Councillor Meetings

13.1.1 – Next Councillor – Dubois – Curt will contact her

14.2 MLA Meeting – Saskatoon SP Caucus – June 23rd at 9:00 am

- Bob, Peter, Curt, Sherry, Donna

14.3 Letter to Federal Government – Robert will identify who would be best to write to to complain about ICIP Transit money not necessarily going to Transit in Saskatchewan.

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15. Other Business

15.1 Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Project – June 23rd Lila and Sherry will try to attend

15.2 Walker's Human Transit – discussion how to circulate this – agreed to donate a copy to the Public Library. Peter will pursue this.

16. Adjournment

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.