

**Bus Riders of Saskatoon**  
**November 28, 2022 – 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm - Zoom Video Conference**

Facilitator: Curt                      Recorder: Robert                      Regrets: None  
Present: Lila, Donna, Jim, Curt, Peter, Sydney, Jenn, Odin, Sherry

1. Welcome
2. Finalization of Agenda.
3. Review of minutes of October 17, 2022 meeting. Accepted as circulated.
4. Date & time for next meeting: Suggest Monday January 16, 2023 at 7:00 pm
5. Business Arising from the Minutes -
  - 5.1 Safety report to Councillors – Report sent to Mayor and Councillors
  - 5.2 Eligibility for Social Assistance bus pass / Ease of Purchase – COS Follow-up – discussion – Robert will speak to Transit to see who we could meet with in the Ministry of Social Services to discuss issues.
6. Correspondence
  - 6.1 SPRP – Invitation: “We are looking to host a couple of zoom consultations with folks that frequent the DT but also have diverse experiences and perspectives about safety and policy. I feel like the bus riders group might have invaluable perspectives about this. We would set it all up and just need support inviting participants to attend.” Likely early in the new year. Donna would be interested if it took place in March. Lila is interested. Jenn is interested.
  - 6.2 SPRP – Invitation: Come and go meet and greet with teams from SPRP and Saskatoon Anti-Racism Network December 14 3:00 to 5:00 at Station 20 West. RSVP . Lila plans to attend.
- 7 . Access Transit – Bob/Sydney
  - 7.1 Issue: Person with regular employment hours has to book three days ahead, on a daily basis. Has been on the wait list for a ‘subscription’ for almost two years. Question: Is this due to a lack of resources? Agreed that we will try to bring in someone from Access to our next meeting with Transit to discuss. We can decide on further action later.

## 8. Facebook/Website Issues

8.1 Facebook – Lots of traffic again this month: Commendations (2), fare boxes (8), rider info re delays (10), lost and found (4), historic (6), inquiries (2), BRS admin announcements (4), SPCOT/Council (7), Special event service (6), weather (5). A number of service issues: mechanical (1), early departure (1), late bus (1), stop specific (1), driver (2), customer service (1), real time info. (1), full buses (3), general (1). Transit info from all over: Calgary (4), Toronto (2), Seattle (1), Holland (1), New Zealand (1), Chicago (1), Mississauga (1), Israel (1), Montreal (1), Germany (1). Other issues/topics (8).

### 8.2 Website Content

8.2.1 Robert has been in touch with Dominic regarding having a link to his site on our page. More work required here.

8.2.2 More recent presentations to Council – Robert's response to the Auditor's report now on site. Peter's presentation on Fleet Renewal in pending

8.2.3 Other Contributions from group members? Discussion about other possible topics. Jenn will prepare a piece on Bus Etiquette.

8.2.4 Sub-directory for meeting minutes and other improvements? Curt will see if a family member can help. Peter, Lila, Sherry are also interested in participating on this.

8.3 BRS Twitter Account? Actually BTRTransitYXE which is not a BRS account. Account seems to be active. Robert will try to contact Brian H. to ask about the status of this account.

## 9. City of Saskatoon Meetings

9.1 Last meeting: November 15, 2022 at 1:30

- Discussion topics included potential service disruptions this winter, communication with Transit users on any service cancellations, GPS issues, Market Mall bus service, customer feedback, Social Services passes, operation of new fare boxes.

- Discussion: There seems to be more issues with the new fareboxes than Transit is aware of. Lila is going to be sure to report to Transit when she boards a bus where there are fare boxes not working.

## 9.2 Next meeting: December 13, 2022 at 1:30 pm

9.2.1 Agenda Items: Move of PolyTechnic, University buses, Required number of buses to provide service, Access issues, any updates on improvements on service reliability, explanation of bus routes servicing the University.

9.2.2 Attendees: Curt, Robert, Peter, Lila, Sherry, (Odin), Jim.

## 10. Standing Policy Committee on Transportation (SPCOT) – November 7, 2022

### 10.1 Agenda Item 7.1.2 Auditor’s Report on Service Disruptions

- Robert presented to the meeting on behalf of BRS emphasizing Transit as an essential service and the human cost to poor service
  - Follow up interview with CTV

### 10.2 Agenda item 7.1.3 Administration’s Response to Report

### 10.3 Agenda Item 7.3.1 Fleet Renewal and Financing Strategy

- Peter presented to Council on behalf of BRS supporting the long term strategy but asking for a review of any purchase of diesel buses past the first stage
  - Follow up interview with Global

## 11. City Council Meetings

### 11.1 City Council Meeting – November 21, 2022

11.1.1 Agenda Items 8.2.1 & 8.2.2 Auditor’s Report on Service Disruptions and Administration Response – received by Council

11.1.2 Agenda Item 8.2.5 Long Term Transit Fleet Renewal and Funding Strategy: Option supported by BRS approved but in line with Peter’s presentation at SPCOT, additional reporting to come to Council on the future purchase of 30 additional diesel buses before plan is accepted.

### 11.2 City Budget Deliberations – November 28, 29, 30.

- Issues to be decided are fleet renewal, expansion of service to Aspen Ridge, additions of 4 FTEs to Transit.

12. Breakout Session: “What would we like to know from Transit?” – tabled until next meeting.

13. Keep Transit Moving Coalition (Robert)

13. Next Meeting: Tuesday November 29th at 4:00 pm ET.

14. Ongoing Actions

14.1 Councillor Meetings

14.1.1 Next Councillor?

- Curt continues to work with City Hall re: Councillor Hill. -

15. Other Business

15.1 Info on Nathaniel Teed, MLA

- Response from Mr. Teed’s assistant explaining that although he was supportive of Transit, this was not one of his critic areas
- Suggestion that Robert contact Erika Ritchie, NDP Municipal Affairs critic to arrange a meeting.

15.2 Meeting with former Mayor Don Atchison

- Sherry will facilitate this.

15.3 College Corridor Public Engagement

- Peter will post information on our FB page

15.4 University Buses

- Discussion of why some buses no longer go onto campus
- Agreed to ask Transit to give us a thorough explanation of the various buses that serve the University.

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.