

Bus Riders of Saskatoon

April 25, 2023 – 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm - Zoom Video Conference

Facilitator: Lila Recorder: Robert Regrets: Sydney

Present: Lila, Peter, Robert, Odin, Cam, Jenn, Sherry

1. Welcome
2. Treaty Land Acknowledgement
3. Finalization of Agenda.
4. Acceptance of minutes of March 20, 2023 meeting.
5. Date & time for next meeting: Monday May 29, 2023 at 7:00 pm via Zoom

6. Business Arising from the Minutes -
 - 6.1 Potential meeting with Social Services re: Barriers
 - Lila will inquire at the SPRP meeting to see if we can get further information on the nature of these barriers.
 - 6.2 Community Coalition – Update
 - Our information from Saskatoon Cycles is that this is a work in progress

7. Correspondence
 - 7.1 Allison Gray re: CUTA Conference volunteers
 - discussion of role and privileges at the Conference for Volunteers
 - Jenn and Cam asked for further information

- 8 . Access Transit – Bob/Sydney - no report

9. Facebook/Website Issues
 - 9.1 Facebook topics since last meeting: Transit driver appreciation/commendations (5), ATU posts (3), Transit Announcements (5), BRS announcements (3), Rider questions schedules/routes (3), Access (1), Fare boxes (2), Saskatoon Transit Planning (5), Fares (3), Local issues/incidents (8), Safety (4), BRT (4), Bus conditions (1), Extended hours (1), Transit in other communities: Regina (3), London, ON (1), Montreal (1), Vancouver/BC (4), General Transit Planning Theory (3), Other (5).

9.2 Website Content

9.2.1 Contributions from group members?

9.2.1 Jenn – in progress

10. City of Saskatoon Meetings

10.1 Last meeting: March 27, 2023

- Topic Discussed: Transit's Key Performance Indicators
- Peter described some of the tools that Transit will soon have to gather data on things like late arrivals, full buses etc. which will provide information to Transit to make service adjustments to improve service

10.2 Next meeting: Monday May 1st, 2023 at City Operations Centre

10.2.1 Agenda Items: Viewing of BRT Pilot Station with Rob Dudiak

10.2.2 Attendees: Peter, Lila, Jim, Robert, Sherry, Curt, Jenn

10.3 Next meeting with Transit – Topics?

- Meeting with Terry Schmidt – could be proposed for our late May or early June meeting – discussion of extended service hours for example, fare review or other enhancements
- Discussion of rationale for route adjustments effective July 1st

10. Standing Policy Committee on Transportation (SPCOT) – April 4, 2023

10.1 20th Street between Idylwyld Drive and 2nd Avenue Improvements

10.1.1 Councillors Gersher and Dubois asked for reassurance that this work would not have to be undone during BRT construction – Response from Admin. was that there could be a need for some additional work but that there is some urgency to the work that is now required.

10.2 Next meeting of SPCOT Tuesday May 2, 2023 at 2:00

11. City Council Meeting – March 29, 2023

11.1 There were no items on the agenda related to Transit

11.2 Next Council Meeting – April 26, 2023 – no Transit items on the agenda

12. Breakout Session: “What should our focus be for 2023 and what actions might be undertaken in this regard?” See collection of suggestions here: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1UifKFknqCFIkh9LNYz-UIDZHH9QGFK6HT6b-IOckeBk/edit#gid=0>

Due to the small number at the meeting, we chose to have this discussion with the whole group.

- Another Ten Days for Transit Challenge
- Transit resources and scheduling
- Increase in service hours – late nights, evenings, week-ends – perhaps not getting people right home but getting them in the vicinity
- Free fares for children 12 and under
- Service to the North Industrial area
- Redesign of the ‘New Transit Network’

13. Keep Transit Moving Coalition (Robert)

13.1 Meeting: March 28, 2023 at 2:00 pm – Discussion was centred on lobbying for federal funding for transit operating

13.2 Meeting: April 25th at 3:00 pm – no one was able to attend

14. Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Project (SPRP)

- Lila reported. Friday April 28th – 11:00 to 1:00 Launch of report on Universal Basic Income
- Next regular meeting will be in September
- Lila will attend anti-racism workshop next week

15. Ongoing Actions

15.1 Councillor Meetings

- Noted that we haven’t met with Councillor Block since 2020
- Robert will set up a meeting with Councillor Block

16. Other Business - none

17. 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.