

King County Transit Advisory Commission

February 16, 2021

6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Teleconference:

Here is the link to join the meeting via computer: <https://zoom.us/j/99560291505>

Passcode: 438901

Here is dial in information: 1 (253) 215-8782, Meeting ID: 995 6029 1505

TAC Attendees: Lin Robinson, David Johnson, Cheryl Harrison, Peter Rubin, Judy Stenberg, Jacob Struiksma, Bobby Wooten, Angela Theriault

Guests: Sonja Tracy, Oskar Abian, Kevin Pelstring, Eulie Mathieu, Mina Barahimi Martin

Metro Staff: Natalie Westberg, Allison Miskell, Michelle Huynh, Lauren Rountree

6:00 p.m. Welcome & Introductions

6:15 p.m. Service Restoration

Presenters: Natalie Westberg, Metro Service Planner

Slideshow presentation and discussion



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County TAC Meeting.p

[TAC action: questions and service restoration feedback]

Q: How has Metro changed service during COVID?

- Temporary Changes- temporarily suspended service, shortening operating hours of a bus, suspended an entire route, reducing the frequency of routes
- Temporary Service Additions- adding service to a crowded route, partial restoration of a route, full restoration of a route
- Permanent Changes- permanent reducing service, changing the structure and pathway of a route, consolidating routes, permanently investing in new service

Jacob [comment] Metro should focus on essential workers and be mindful of the hours workers typically work.

Eulie [question] Is the Northlink light rail opening September 2021?

Natalie [response] Yes

Angela [question] When you talk about data analysis, what are the measurement?

Natalie [response] We have lasers on bus doors in order for Metro to collect data. Even when folks weren't paying fares that is how we collect data.

Cheryl [question] What are the city of Seattle funding changes?

Natalie [response] City of Seattle has funding through Seattle Transportation Benefit District. The city is leading the communication and engagement on service effort. They are pulling current investments and analyzing where to reinvest funds.

Cheryl [question] I think that's the first question to ask. How they've been impacted and then can inform how to proceed.?

Natalie [response] The goal of the rider survey is to understand how people have been impacted.

David [question] Routes that connect hospitals or open education centers (like Lake Washington Tech) aren't on the map of high opportunity routes? The 225 was created during the North Eastside mobility restructure and was immediately slashed from 30 min to 1 hour. Hard to analyze success of a route if it was gutted before it had a chance to go through route for some time. What is the plan to bring that back?

Natalie [response] The map of routes with high opportunity scores. We aren't seeing crowding issues on that route at this time. We are analyzing needs of community and looking at data collected.

Sonja [question] With 75% less ridership how can Metro be sure they are reaching a wide number of riders to participate in the survey?

Natalie [response] If you are signed up, you receive feedback and cities are communicating via social media. Please sign up for rider alert.

Angela [comment] It seems as if we are dependent on technology for some of this information. I want to remind you that not everyone has technology at their disposal. We need to think broader than that. Metro can send out cards to folks and remember senior citizens or folks with disabilities. All efforts shouldn't be put into social media campaigns.

Kevin [comment] Maybe at the beginning. It might be helpful to have less service and more routes to gauge who is returning to work at that time.

Pete [comment] I am in favor of casting a wide net. I feel like in terms of need its not just about quantity. I live on Vashon and I could do with less service, not with no service. I live in a rural area and I understand that is my inclination.

6:50 p.m.

Flexible Services 101 and Crossroads Connect Update

Presenters: Allison Miskell, Metro Transportation Planner



Flex

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Slideshow presentation and discussion

[No TAC action required]

Cheryl [question] For Access point-to-point riders it is only within those particular service areas mentioned?

Allison [response] Yes

Pete [question] These are in pilot stages correct. Is there a long-term expectation with possibility to expand services to other areas?

Allison [response] Kent and Renton are on the docket for 2021. These services come from various origins. Data from service planning can sometimes dictate the future of a project.

7:20 p.m. `

TAC Group Discussion

Presenter: Michelle Huynh, Metro Community Engagement Planner

- Action- TAC members want to reengage with Terry regarding vaccines for drivers.
 - Terry will be here next month
- King County is working with the state to determine how many vaccine's Metro will receive.
 - There is team and plan in place regarding who gets vaccinated first. Conversation between the County and state is ongoing.
- We received the flexible services overview. Please reply to my email. I am looking for specific subjects you all want to cover.
- SaFE Reform Initiative- Phase one of outreach occurred two weeks ago.
 - Draft proposal will be sent to Council in mid to late March
 - Michelle is leading the engagement portion
 - Second phase of engagement will occur this summer
 - Michelle will do a presentation in the coming months
- Topics to focus on throughout the year
 - Jacob [comment]- I want to focus on website interaction and surveying and how user friendly it is.
 - Cheryl [comment]- I would love to have a meeting with APAC at some point.
 - Angela [comment]- The survey you mentioned and it not being accessible. This is a weak area that needs to be addressed. Does Metro have an ADA manager and if they could partner and we can educate them more on how to provide accessible formats.
 - Eulie [question]- What steps is Metro taking to become more environmentally friendly?
 - Michelle [comment]- City of Seattle Transportation Benefit District- I will follow up to see when they can attend a TAC meeting.
 - Michelle [comment]- NextGen ORCA team isn't ready to present yet. They should launch in early 2022. In a couple of months, we may bring them in to present.
- Retreat
 - Michelle [action]- I will send out a doodle for every March and April Saturday to figure out majority rules. We will probably have a meeting and a retreat.
 - What can we actually tackle and accomplish in 2 hours a month?
 - Jacob's term as Chair is up. Existing members need to determine who will be Chair. New members will be real members no later than March 4th.

7:40 p.m.

Consent agenda, announcements, updates

- Meeting minutes – January 19, 2021
- Chair report
- Announcements

7:55 p.m. Good of the order

8:00 p.m. Adjourn