

ACCESS PARATRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, May 8, 2023 **TIME:** 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM PST

LOCATION: Microsoft Teams (Register Here)

APAC MEMBERS: Deborah Artis, Steven Field, Kristina Sawyckyj, Dorene Cornwell **METRO STAFF:** Jordan Hoover, Cristina Gonzalez, Ashish John, Lorrie Alfonsi, Gwen

Clemens, Dimas Koral-Arocho

GUESTS: Eddie Cranford, Alle Brown-Law, Beth Hamby

Time	Facilitator/	Topic
	Presenter	
6:00p	Jordan	Welcome
		Agenda overview
6:05p	Kristina	Introductions (if needed)
		Name, pronouns, and position
		Introduced Cristina Gonzalez, from the Community
		Engagement team at Metro.
6:10p	Jordan	Housekeeping and Reoccurring updates
		April meeting minutes approval
		 Dorene moved to approve the April meeting
		minutes. Deborah seconded.
		 April meeting minutes were approved.
		Quarterly complaint review
		 APAC members noticed that the two complaint
		categories that increased were Missed Trip and Late
		Pick Up. Why did these categories increase?
		 Metro and MV representatives noted that
		ridership and boardings have significantly



- increased, so those categories increased proportionally. Ridership in January and February 2023 was 15% higher than 2022!
- APAC members requested that future quarterly reports take ridership into account, maybe by presenting the data as percentages as well as original complaint numbers.
- o APAC members asked what defines a missed trip?
 - Any arrival 15 minutes after the pick-up window and/or the passenger does not ride.
- APAC members asked if APAC has any control over the complaint category "Non-Dedicated Service"? Is there any way to provide feedback to taxis and other providers?
 - Metro staff answered that taxis are usually only assigned as overflow, or if a bus is behind. Metro works with MV and Access Operations depending on the nature of the complaint. Whenever a complaint like that comes in, we forward that to MV, and they respond to us pretty quickly.
- APAC members asked if we could separate the taxi data from the MV data?
 - Metro is working on an update to Salesforce and is hoping to be able to separate between providers once updated.
- For the complaint category "Wrong Vehicle," APAC
 members asked if there is a way to correct it in the



system once a wrong vehicle is sent to pick someone up?

- MV answered that it depends on the situation. Sometimes, this is because of a mistake while booking, or the customer file is incorrect. If it ends up being a mistake made by MV, we look into it, research it and correct the situation to keep it from happening again.
- APAC members agreed that the complaint data is helpful. It would be great to have a breakdown by service provider, and knowing the Metro is working on getting this from Salesforce is useful.

KPI and dashboard review

- We're up from 59,000 boardings in 2022 to 63,000 boardings in 2023. With more boardings, there are more vehicle revenue hours.
- On-time appointments are low, at 77.7%. The reason on-time appointments are low is because people aren't using the Opt-Out option during reservation. Opt-Out allows people to say "Yes, it's ok to drop me off if we arrive early." Often people don't opt out at the time of reservation, but then, during the ride, say that it's ok to be dropped off early.
 - APAC members noted that there is such thing as too early for an appointment (such as if the business isn't open yet).



- Metro has been thinking about a campaign or newsletter to remind folks that the opt-out program is available.
- APAC members asked if there is a way to adjust the computer system to account for when people opt to be dropped off early even if they didn't officially opt out during reservation.
 - MV is working with Metro on this. They are trying to adjust the parameters, but it's complicated because the software predicts when vehicles are going to arrive, and maps the route based on time of day, distance, etc. It's always simpler if the individual can optout in the beginning.
- An APAC member noted that they are still hearing from Access riders that riders are sometimes offered an appointment that's 1.5 hours earlier than they want to be leaving. Customer service has argued if the rider asks for a later appointment.
 - Metro and MV are looking into this issue and noted that sometimes trip times and trim parameters are not always well negotiated.
 Having a good understanding of the system and being able to elaborate and communicate some of the challenges is helpful.
- MV staffing has increased, with a lot of new drivers on board.



	 Liaison noted that Salesforce upgrade will likely happen in 2024.
Jordan	General Business
	Year-End Report
	 The report needs to be sent to King County Council
	by August 10, 2023.
	 APAC members discussed the best next steps for
	drafting a Year-End Report. Members noted that the
	2022 Report isn't posted on the APAC website and
	requested that it be posted.
	 Liaison will send the 2022 Report to all the
	APAC members, to use as a template for
	2023.
	 Dorene will go through the meeting minutes and pull
	together a first draft of the Annual Report. Dorene
	will bring the draft to the June APAC meeting for
	APAC members' review.
	Recruitment
	 Metro received 17 complete applications, across
	almost all districts in King County.
	 Liaison shared an application scoring rubric as well
	as interview questions to APAC members via email.
	 Liaison shared that Metro's community engagement
	team will be responsible for recruitment.
	 An APAC member disagreed with this
	approach. They suggested a sub-committee
	of APAC members look over the applications
	and be involved in the review process. They
	have been involved with applicant reviews for



other King County commissions before.

Metro is responsible for recruiting applicants, but the APAC committee members are able to be part of the interview process.

- Liaison proposed the following approach: Liaison
 will share the rubric and interview questions with the
 APAC members. The Metro Community
 Engagement team will review applications with the
 scoring rubric, and create a list of candidates to
 interview. Then, APAC members can help interview
 candidates.
 - Liaison shared that Metro's goal is to build a diverse board that represents King County – not just to put butts in seats!
 - An APAC member suggested that Kristina should be involved in the review process.
 Kristina has historical expertise on how recruitment has been done before.

Scoring Rubric

- APAC members asked if the priority population designation is determined by selfidentification?
 - Yes, people had the opportunity to self-identify based on demographic questions in the application.
- APAC members asked how the scoring rubric is in alliance with King County's racial equity goals? The rubric says, "the candidate offers a valuable, diverse perspective." But "diverse



perspective" could mean 100 different things, not just racial equity.

- Liaison answered that the priority population designation is based on King County's racial equity goals, but also includes economic and language diversity.
- APAC members asked how Metro will make sure we have a Black individual, a Latinx individual on the committee? We want to ensure we're hearing from all the people in our community. Many APAC members are low- to no-income because they are disabled. So, it's important to think about racial equity, rather than just diversity. APAC members want to prioritize representation from people of color.
- Metro staff suggested changing the question about "like/dislike about the candidate" to "positive or negative," the original wording seems too subjective.

Interview Questions

- Metro staff suggested changing the interview questions to be more conversational. The interview questions need to be accessible to non-English speakers.
- APAC members noted that the first question is a little off-putting. They suggested a question like: "When you start a new thing,



		what makes you learn your way around?" or
		"What would make this a positive experience
		for you?" We need to be welcoming, honest
		that there's a learning curve, and make space
		for the experiences that people have. APAC
		members also suggested we ask about "how
		people have presented their dissenting
		view?"
		 APAC members asked about how we will
		ensure disability diversity as well? You don't
		want a committee that is only wheelchair
		users, for example.
		 APAC members recommended that Metro
		staff tell applicants the timeline to get
		onboarded to the committee to set
		expectations early.
		 Liaison will discuss this and set
		expectations at each interview.
		 APAC members asked if there were any
		youth or students who applied?
		 We do have one applicant who is
		younger than 30!
		○ Scheduling interviews
		Kristina will sit on the interview panel. Liaison
		will coordinate with Kristina to schedule
		interviews.
7:20p	Kristina	Board Comments + Next Agenda Drafting
		Public Comment



		 Comment from Beth Hamby, Sound Transit's
		Accessible Services. Beth is just listening in today
		and is always interested in accessible transportation
		in the region!
		Draft June Meeting Agenda
		 New EV pilot for paratransit
		 APAC members are interested in EVs and
		the research about paratransit vehicle power
		and stamina. An APAC member shared that
		vehicle configuration is a huge issue –
		Snohomish County's ride on-demand vehicle
		was hard to get in and out of.
		 Year-end report
		 Follow-up on recruitment
		 An APAC member asked if Kristina could write an
		letter with APAC requests, including a budget, to the
		King County Council?
		 Liaison shared that APAC members can request to
		receive their business cards over mail or can meet
		with Jordan to pick them up in person.
7:25p	Kristina	Meeting wrap-up
	AII	Next monthly APAC meeting: June 12, 2023
		Liaison will follow up about an in-person meeting over
		email.