



**King County Transit Advisory Commission  
Agenda  
April 16, 2019  
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

- 6 p.m.            Welcome
  
- 6:05 p.m.        Update on work plan and general updates from Rob Gannon  
*Rob Gannon, General Manager and TAC*
  
- 6:30 p.m.        North Eastside Mobility Project ordinance – letter to Council  
*David Johnson, TAC chair*
  
- 7:00 p.m.        Income-based Fares – update from workshop 2  
*DeAnna Martin, Partnerships and Engagement Manager*
  
- 7:20 p.m.        Selecting a new chair for May, June and July
  
- 7:45 p.m.        Adjourn



**King County Transit Advisory Commission**  
**April 16, 2019**  
**6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

**Attendees:** David Johnson, Ayan Mohamed, Lin Robinson, Min Cho, Aaron Morrow, Angela Theriault, Cheryl Harrison, Judy Stenberg, Tony Pagliocco and Lei Wu

**Metro staff:** Robyn Austin (RapidRide), Rob Gannon (General Manager) and DeAnna Martin (Partnerships & Engagement Manager)

The meeting began with a brief update on the 2019 work plan and general updates from General Manager Rob Gannon.

Rob briefed the group on challenges that Metro and the agency are working through since the beginning of the year:

- Fatal shooting on a Metro bus
- Closure of the Viaduct
- Snow storm and the emergency snow network
- Loss of rail division leadership
- Loss of security division leadership
- Buses came out of the tunnel
- Shooting in Lake City that included a Metro bus and operator

Q: What kind of assistance is there for people directly affected by tragic events?

Rob: Metro brings as many of the resources we have to assist employees in times of need. During more tragic events additional counseling and critical incident response team is engaged for assistance.

Q: As these situations have come up, are there new policies that have been discussed or implemented?

Rob: No, but we do take steps to do after action reviews to review response initially and later a more in depth broader review of policies in place and if or how they should be changed.

Comments: With the buses coming out of the tunnel there is more traffic and there is concerns for pedestrian safety. Metro and ST should do a public outreach campaign to safely cross the street.

Rob: We are always concerned regarding pedestrian safety. Currently have pedestrian awareness campaigns that are ongoing and being updated. Working with city jurisdictions to improve crossings as well.

Comment: Buses are not marked clearly on the back of the bus and people cannot identify the bus. People running to catch the bus when it may not be theirs. Front, back and sides of buses should be marked to identify the route number.



Focus on near term implementation of Metro's strategies including:

- Advancing what we mean by mobility, how we address equity and shift from concept into a policy framework that can lead to work on new policies. Metro is submitting the scope of work for the framework to council this week Thursday 4/18. Metro will go back to Council at the end of October with a draft plan and policy changes.
- Put together a plan for long term funding for Metro Connects. Report due to council in May. Policy changes coming in 2020.

Q: What are the impacts to the long-range plan if we do not get Seattle Transportation Benefit District (STBD) renewal funding?

Rob: If it is renewed, we lose 10% and have no replacement. If we go for a countywide funding option, 4 million hours are currently funded but Metro Connects (long-range plan) has 6 million hours. If funding isn't secured, we will not have funding for growth and will struggle to maintain the existing service. If STBD is renewed but county funding is not, Seattle transit will grow while the rest of the county does not and there is a large impact to equity.

Comment: Be sure to reach voters who are outside of Seattle who have a perception that Metro is not safe. It's also important to reach those who aren't currently taking transit because it could relieve congestion.

#### **Work Plan Update:**

David and Aaron review the goals and objectives developed in the work plan for Rob.

Q: During the emergency service network, some of the operators were concerned about safety on the alternative routes. Are operators involved in the decisions regarding rerouting during snow? Was feedback solicited from operators? How to we communicate changes to routes during snow?

Rob: Yes, in the moment, feedback was collected. The routes themselves are developed by planners and current and/or former operators. Also, the situation is very dynamic and changing during snow so it is continually evaluated. Single most learning from snow response was that Metro did not have the ability to communicate to riders in the moment.

Q: There was a lot of great discussions during the retreat about specific projects. Any updates?

Rob: Fare enforcement update was just given to council. Regarding operational capacity growth has some great updates that can happen at another meeting as well.

Q: Ferry system is an important mobility tool. How can work with staff on updates on the ferry system? (Metro works with WSDOT.)

#### **Northeast Mobility Ordinance Letter**



David reviewed the importance of implementation of NEMP and the content of the letter. The letter details why the NEMP ordinance should be passed as quickly as possible. The primary reasons were to respect the time that the Sounding Board, local jurisdictions and other partners put into developing it and allow Metro to begin conducting outreach and marketing to reach the diverse populations of the North Eastside about the new network and ORCA card usage.

Members discussed the letter and all in attendance agreed to send the letter.

#### **Income-based Fares update (DeAnna Martin)**

Metro staff owe a report to County Council at the end of the summer that details how Metro will implement the income-based fare program for low to no income residents of King County. Implementation is scheduled for March 2020.

Comments:

- Keep in mind education to those who do not have access to a computer or that ability to see or read.

Question: Smaller benefit for more people or greater benefit to less people?

Question: Has there been peer analysis of other agencies?

DeAnna: The technical team has been looking at other programs but there are not many. Metro is one of the few agencies leading this process

Question: Who are the populations with the most need? Does it cover people who are experiencing homelessness?

DeAnna: Populations with the most need are those with very low to no income populations.

Aaron Morrow will serve as Chair for May, June and July. Lin Robinson will serve as vice chair for the meetings in May-July and will become Chair from August, September and October.

#### **April Action Items**

- Aaron will create a consent agenda/calendar for next month so the group can approve all the past minutes.
- Send out income-based fares materials
  - Cindy sent after April meeting
- Send NEMP letter as is
  - Cindy sent on 5/7.
- Min's daughter would like to talk about bus safety in light of the Lake City shooting.
  - Cindy and Min working to set up a time for her daughter and other youths to meet with Rob.



- Rob work plan feedback: Looks strong. Would like to come back in May to priorities the work plan needs with updated policies and plans that are being developed. Would like to process the plan with his team and report back to the group.

Topics for the May meeting:

- Request: Ride2 report at May meeting
  - In progress, Innovative Mobility to provide an update in the May meeting about performance so far and new services
- Metro can provide an update around May 22<sup>nd</sup> on mobility framework
- FOLLOW UP: IDS station intersection is very dangerous. Hot spot monitoring, speed and buses blocking the intersection and crosswalks is very dangerous.
  - Cindy sending information to the group.
- Talk about Brand refresh for May meeting
- Approving minutes