

## King County Transit Advisory Commission

April 20, 2021

6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Teleconference:

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

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

### Attendance

TAC: Jacob Struiksmma, Kevin Pelstring, Laurie Reinhardt, Aaron Morrow, Cheryl Harrison, Lin Robinson, Sonja Tracy, Angela Therault, Ayan Mohamed, Pete Rubin, Mina Barahimi Martin, David Johnson

Metro: Brian Henry, Tristan Cook, Michelle Huynh, Shelby Cramer, Tessa McClellan, Kim Kinnison

External: Corrie Adams (ST)

### Votes:

- Working rules:

#### 6:00 p.m. **Welcome, Consent Agenda, and Announcements**

- Intros and locations
- Consent agenda
  - Meeting minutes – February 16, 2021
  - Meeting minutes – March 16, 2021
  - Retreat minutes – March 27, 2021
- Chair Report
- Announcements
  - SaFE Scoping Report transmitted to Council on April 12
  - Need volunteers for new chair and vice chair – action: email Michelle for more info or to volunteer
  - Jacob – issues of buses running early and skipping stops. Problem especially at night. Pete wants to follow up on this.

#### 6:10 p.m. **East Link Connections**

Presenter: Brian Henry, Transportation Planner; Corey Holder, Transportation Planner; and, Tristan Cook, Community Engagement Planner

Presentation on East Link Connection project

*[TAC action: provide feedback on Eastside transit needs]*

[please refer to slideshow talking points]

- Ask from East Link team: TAC stay a part of the engagement process, provide guidance for engagement activities/scope/etc.

- Naming convention for Link expansions. Transitioning from color-naming (Blue Line) to alphabetical naming (S Line): <https://www.soundtransit.org/get-to-know-us/our-brand/service-lineup>
- Q&A
  - Survey
    - Some bugs in the survey with the check boxes
      - Screen reader is struggling to work with survey platform
      - Tristan will follow up with Jacob with a more accessible, less buggy version
    - How are you publicizing the survey?
      - Community blogs, ethnic media buys, transit alerts (text and email) to routes in project area, social media (Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram), asks of partner agencies and Councilmembers to spread the word via social media.
      - If there are groups we're not reaching, please share other ways to reach them.
  - Community engagement
    - How is the engagement intersecting with employer and destination engagement?
      - A: In addition to Mobility Board (community members), team will also convene a Partner Review Board that will include institutions, employers large and small, community based organizations, and partner agencies.
    - How are you planning to engage seniors, the disabled, and other harder to reach people?
      - A: Stakeholder interviews with organizations that serve the disability community. Discussion relates to mobility needs of their community, and what recommendations they have for engaging with the community that they serve. Reaching out to learn how best to engage with the priority populations who are harder to engage with.
      - Ask: if the TAC has recommendations for individuals or orgs that we should engage with, please let Tristan know.
        - Angela: You cannot depend on the Lighthouse as your only resource for engaging with the blind population, especially who are in Redmond or Kirkland. Lighthouse seems to focus on Seattle area folks.
        - Jacob: talk with National Federation of the Blind (NFB), American Council of the Blind (ACB), Washington Department of Services for the Blind (DSB), and Washington Talking Book and Braille Library. The accessibility department groups at Microsoft and Google. Many of these groups have email lists or audio bits that go out.
        - Oskar: International Community Health Services

- Good to go from color system to number/letter especially because it is more accessible for folks who can't see colors.
- **How is Access/Paratransit integrated into the planning and development for light rail?** This is an opportunity to be creative ways to provide improved mobility options for people who use/need Access Paratransit and those with mobility disabilities.
  - Corrie (ST) will connect with ST planning team to identify which stations will have Access drop off spots and integration with Paratransit.
  - How will you get that message out to find out where the amenities and access areas are so that people with disabilities can use fixed route in their daily lives.

**6:40 p.m. Policy Updates**

Presenter: Tessa McClellan, Government Relations Administrator and Kim Kinnison, Transportation Planner

Update on service guidelines

*[TAC action: provide feedback on presented recommendation]*

[please refer to slideshow talking points]

- Q&A
  - Light rail does not run all the time. How is this addressed?
    - Kim will take that feedback back.
  - How are we connecting people? Are we removing vital transit spines?
    - Maintaining vital connections remains part of the policy.
  - Vashon Island is frequently ignored on maps. Service planning projects have big impacts on Vashon – how buses connect to ferry boats. Thousands of visitors come to Vashon on the weekend.
    - Adding marine services to the service guidelines, which will impact Vashon. Also adding a rural service definition that will include Vashon because it's not within the urban growth definition.
  - During service restructures, if a certain percentage of riders lose their routes during reductions, is that considered during.
    - Service restructures are intended to improve service, make a better network than what existed before. Both qualitative and quantitative data are used to inform the improvements to services.
  - How are transfers considered – especially when the change is that someone goes from one transfer to three transfers?
    - Intent is to improve transfer environment. Bus service that is intended to meet the train which is frequent, is also intended to be frequent.
- Parking lot for future agenda: late night service.
- Recap process

**7:00 p.m. Retreat Follow-Up**

Presenter: Shelby Cramer, Community Engagement Planner

- Review changes incorporated to working rules
- Continue conversation on TAC priorities for the year

*[TAC action: adopt working rules and work plan priorities]*

- Working rules
  - Updated gender neutral pronouns; citizen to community.
  - Change from “outcome” to “action item” for rule #18
  - Rule 18: “At the discretion of..” runs risk of conflicting priorities. Can one chair trump the will of the commission based on the agenda-setting item?
    - Perhaps change to “in consultation with staff”
    - What happened to the agenda development in the TAC meeting?
    - Should the rule reference the priorities TAC members identify at the retreat?
      - At retreat members rank what they want to discuss throughout the year – that may be why the agenda-setting is dropped from the agendas.
      - If we add it to the working rules, it would add a prioritization exercise topic to future retreats
  - Who is responsible for the agenda setting?
    - Staff initiates agenda. Members may email to suggest agenda topics.
  - Postpone Working Rule adoption to future meeting.
- Work Planning
  - Top four priorities
    - Safety, security, and fare enforcement reform
    - Service restoration
    - Accessibility
    - Equity
    - Addition of new services
  - Spend 5 minutes reflecting on what your individual priority is
  - Will then meet in pairs to discuss your priority to come up with a priority of your pair
  - Will come up with one group priority
    - Pete and Angela
      - Picked SaFE Reform
      - Dependent on COVID – needs to remain agile and how that impacts things
      - Pete- equity, is the umbrella over everything
        - Implement equal opportunities
    - Sonja, Lin and Jacob
      - Accessibility
        - Goes hand in hand with equity

- Service restoration
    - When you are used to being able to go somewhere and your route is cut, how are you supposed to go somewhere
- Cheryl and Oskar
  - Equity
    - Lens we should look at every topic through
  - Service restoration
    - Important priority for Metro
    - Needs a lot of feedback
    - Can integrate equity
- Aaron and Ayan
  - Safety is a big priority
  - If looking for a singular issue it's safety
    - Want to take fixed route but it's unsafe
- Bobby and Kevin
  - Equity
    - Good to have a framework to look at all projects through
  - Safety
    - Concerns about getting back on the bus post COVID
    - Accessibility on fixed route
- Mina and David
  - Equity
    - Big umbrella issue and effects all facets of projects
    - Metro talks about equity but how is it operationalized
      - How are you reaching priority populations
  - Service restoration and service design/new services
    - How are we getting a bigger and efficient network

**8:00 p.m.     Adjourn**