



MINUTES OF THE TRANSIT COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2022, 8:15 AM

TRANSIT

901 University Ave

A. ROLL CALL.

I. Roger Kolb, Chair; Emily Ysebaert, Vice-Chair; Kevin Kuehn, Secretary; Alderman Randy Scannell, Rashad Cobb, and Michael Conley-Kuhagen

Present: Emily Ysebaert, Randy Scannell, Roger Kolb, Kevin Kuehn, Michael Conley-Kuhagen

Absent: Rashad Cobb

Chair Roger Kolb called the meeting to order at 8:17 a.m.

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

I. Approval of December 21, 2022 Transit Commission Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Kevin Kuehn, seconded by Ald. Randy Scannell to amend the agenda to move the informational item about Dale Detrie's retirement after the approval of minutes.

Motion carried.

Yes- Emily Ysebaert, Randy Scannell, Roger Kolb, Kevin Kuehn, Michael Conley-Kuhagen, No- None, Abstain- None

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

I. Approval of November 23, 2022 Transit Commission Minutes

Moved by Ald. Randy Scannell, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Kuehn to approve the minutes from the November 23, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.

Yes- Emily Ysebaert, Randy Scannell, Roger Kolb, Kevin Kuehn, Michael Conley-Kuhagen, No- None, Abstain- None

D. PUBLIC HEARING

I. Public Hearing: On the Proposed Modification of Green Bay Metro's Fixed Route Bus and Microtransit Service Hours.

Moved by Commissioner Kevin Kuehn, seconded by Ald. Randy Scannell to open the floor for

discussion. Motion carried.

Yes- Emily Ysebaert, Randy Scannell, Roger Kolb, Kevin Kuehn, Michael Conley-Kuhagen, No- None, Abstain- None

Director Kiewiz provided a brief overview. Green Bay Metro implemented an additional mode of transportation in 2020, microtransit. Over the past two years, this mode has provided additional service options to the existing system and has allowed Green Bay Metro to extend service hours. The flexibility of the service has allowed riders an efficient, convenient transportation option, while reducing their ride times. Given the success of the service, Green Bay Metro is considering extending the all-zone ride times.

Proposed service changes are as follows:

Monday – Friday:

Fixed route service hours 5:45am – 6:45pm (Currently 5:45am - 8:45pm)

Microtransit (all zones) service hours 6:45pm – 10:45pm (Currently 8:45pm - 10:45pm)

Saturday:

Fixed route service hours 7:45am – 1:45pm (Currently 7:45am - 3:45pm)

Microtransit (all zones) service hours 1:45pm – 7:45pm (Currently 3:45pm - 7:45pm)

She clarified there has been miscommunication about some service changes to route 7 that is outside of this public comment period and is outside of what is on this agenda today.

Brown County Planning MPO Lisa Conard, clarifying some confusion, the minimum reduction to route 7 during the non-peak hour. The 1st bus gets to UWGB and the 2nd bus leaves the station to make it a 30 minute route. They run about 30 times a day. With the driver shortage, we reduced 3 of those 30 trips in a day, which is a temporary reduction. The bus leaves the station 240 times a day and returns, so with the driver shortage, about 3 of those 240 trips are not occurring.

R. Kolb asked if any person wishing to speak about the proposed modification of Green Bay's Fixed Route, Paratransit and Microtransit service hours is encouraged to address the Commission. He stated to please state their name and address.

Morgan McCarthy 1133 1/2 S. Quincy Street, Green Bay

I use microtransit daily for work, worried about the decrease in service. There is no change to his usage, nor a decrease in service.

Heidi Sherman 612 S. Baird Street, Green Bay, WI 54301

She works at UWGB, is visually impaired, used microtransit in the past, is unable to see the map in the app and cannot use the app, worried about knowing where to stand to get picked up, worried about people with limited abilities.

Linda Gillis 1114 N Buchanan Street Apt. 1, Green Bay, WI 54303

She commented on her usability of the bus and her visual impairment. She uses paratransit and is worried about Saturday time change.

Rebecca Nesvet 201 #D Huth Street, Green Bay, WI 54302 (submitted written comment)

She stated the bus is her lifeline, and allows her to be independent. Concerned about cutting fixed route services and the impact on late night education and socialization.

Frank Ingram 1460 Maple Hills Drive, Green Bay, WI 54313

He commented on the Amtrak bus connector service. Wants Green Bay Metro to promote the Amtrak service and that the De Pere Amtrak stop is within De Pere Micro zone. Stressed, he wants to be able to book rides ahead of time.

Robert Jirovetz 1424 Admiral Court, Green Bay, WI

Stated he is concerned about booking microtransit and call takers not knowing the area well enough to book rides correctly.

Elliott Brabant 1031 Winford Avenue, Green Bay, WI

He questioned about how the service is contracted, was concerned about the expansion of a contracted service and the shrinkage of the public service.

Scott Dempsky 441 S. Quincy Street, Green Bay, WI 54301

He is concerned that the service is not expansive enough and doesn't cover enough. Worried that the entire system will be privatized. He doesn't want to create an account for GBM On Demand.

Ginger Dempsky 319 S. Van Duren Street, Green Bay, WI

She is concerned about the cold temperatures and the wait times out in the elements. She is requesting more warming shelters be placed in the community.

Moved by Commissioner Kevin Kuehn, seconded by Ald. Randy Scannell to close the floor for discussion. Motion carried.

Yes- Emily Ysebaert, Randy Scannell, Roger Kolb, Kevin Kuehn, Michael Conley-Kuhagen, No- None, Abstain- None

Director Kiewiz provided a history of contracted services for Green Bay Metro. Paratransit service has been a contracted service with Green Bay Metro from the onset of the program. Microtransit has allowed the service to expand, not shrink.

Commissioner Kevin Kuehn stated there is no talk of privatizing. He stated that the driver shortage is a problem and would like to see better communication with the public about changes and delays. He expressed that the staff are working to fill the vacant operator positions.

Alderman Randy Scannell stated we are in a period of change and also agrees with increased communication. We need qualified drivers.

Director Kiewiz stated the various ways staff communicated changes, modifications, meetings, etc. Such as, social media, radio, television, local newspaper, Metro Alerts, notifications within Metro apps, and welcomed comments on additional options. Director Kiewiz explained the Mobility Coordinator's position. The key role of the position is educating the community, assisting and helping riders learn all modes of public transportation. This includes setting up accounts and travel training. She stated Metro's goal is to help all rides within our service area with safe, convenient transportation.

E. REGULAR BUSINESS.

I. Discussion/Action: Proposed Modification of Green Bay Metro's Fixed Route Bus and Microtransit Service Hours.

Director Kiewiz stated that in addition to the public comment received today, all comments received during the 30-day public comment period were provided to the Transit Commission to review prior to today's meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Kevin Kuehn, seconded by Ald. Randy Scannell to approve the proposed modification of Green Bay Metro's Fixed Route, Paratransit and Microtransit service hours effective January 1, 2023. Motion carried.

Yes- Emily Ysebaert, Randy Scannell, Roger Kolb, Kevin Kuehn, Michael Conley-Kuhagen, No- None, Abstain- None

2. Discussion/Action: Reclass the Bus Cleaner Position to a Fueler

Director Kiewiz stated the current bus cleaner is retiring at the end of the year. This position is responsible for detailing the buses. The bus cleaner is not required to have a CDL, limiting the duties that can be done. Reclassing this position to a fueler would give Metro a total of three fuelers, allowing for additional coverage, while reducing overtime. Fuelers are required to maintain a CDL.

Moved by Commissioner Roger Kolb, seconded by Ald. Randy Scannell to approve the reclassing of the bus cleaner to a fueler position. Motion carried.

Yes- Emily Ysebaert, Randy Scannell, Roger Kolb, Kevin Kuehn, Michael Conley-Kuhagen, No- None, Abstain- None

F. INFORMATIONAL.

1. Dale Detrie Retirement

Director Kiewiz presented Dale Detrie with a plaque for his 50 years of service to Green Bay Metro. He had a flawless safety record for 50 years!

2. Operational Reports

Director Kiewiz stated packets included ridership reports for fixed route, paratransit and microtransit. An overview of ridership was provided. Staff continues to see an increase in ridership. Director Kiewiz stated she could answer any questions the Commission may have.

3. Financial Report

Director Kiewiz stated in your packets you will find the operating expense report for January through October. A brief overview of the revenue and expense reports was provided. No questions from the Transit Commission.

4. Director's Report

Director Kiewiz stated Green Bay Metro has been notified of the Federal Transit Administration Triennial review, which is conducted every three (3) years. The staff have begun preparing.

5. Next Transit Commission Meeting: Wednesday, January 18, 2023

G. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Ald. Randy Scannell, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Kuehn to adjourn at 9:32 a.m.

Motion carried.

Yes- Emily Ysebaert, Randy Scannell, Roger Kolb, Kevin Kuehn, Michael Conley-Kuhagen, No- None,

Abstain- None