

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Transportation Advisory Board

6:00 PM
 July 26, 2023

Tibbetts Manor, 750 17th Ave.
 NW, Issaquah

MINUTES

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Board members:

Cynthia Krass, Chair
 Micah Zeitz-Chua
 Dave Waggoner
 Tom McDonald
 Jeri Bernstein

Administration/Staff:

John Larson-Friend, Transportation Program
 Coordinator
 John Mortenson, Senior Transportation
 Manager

Excused Absences:

Julian Mydlil, Vice Chair
 Erika Boyd
 Hany Maklad

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Krass at 6:08 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Due to proposed changes, the Board moved, seconded, and voted to table the approval of the Minutes of June 26, 2023. The minutes will be corrected by staff and brought back to the next meeting for approval.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No members of the public present in-person or online.

REGULAR BUSINESS

- a) **ADA Transition Plan**

Presented by:

Dale Markey-Crimp, Performance Analyst

Started at 6:21 PM.

Dale Markey-Crimp presented on the City's ADA Transition Plan. She requested input on:

- 1) "Give feedback on current prioritization framework", and
- 2) "Give feedback on how the City could share ADA Transition Plan implementation progress in the way that is most relevant to the public."

Board members asked questions about push button technology, how sidewalk priority is evaluated, ADA parking, how public parking is determined, if 15 ADA spots are a lot, and what the cost of one compliant ramp is.

Board agreed that the framework seems logical but offered a few additional ideas, including a focus on discerning known hazard areas versus individual grievances. There were concerns about individuals abusing the complaint system, but John Mortenson let everyone know that the City has never, to his knowledge, received an ADA complaint. The Board also expressed that requests by people with disabilities should be moved up the list or, at least, reevaluated.

Due to time, the Board quickly discussed the second requested input. Members mentioned signage, QR Codes, and that this would be a good question for the Equity Board and Human Services Commission.

b) **Introduction to Planning for Link Light Rail**

Presented by:

Thomas Valdriz, Senior Transportation Planner

Started at 7:09 PM.

Thomas Valdriz presented an Introduction to Planning for Light Rail. Initial questions included concerns about rider safety, how parking will be handled, and what a floating zone is. Thomas will return in August for a full discussion with TAB.

REPORTS

Time:

a) **Board Work Plan**

John Larson-Friend presented the Three Month Look Ahead, which includes a full discussion about Light Rail Planning in August, Traffic Calming in September, and TBD in October.

b) **Staff Report**

John Larson-Friend reported that the Metro Flex Pilot proposal was approved by the Mobility & Infrastructure Committee in early July and would move forward to City Council in August. John expressed that the Committee specifically discussed how grateful they were for TAB's discussion and feedback on the topic.

c) **Chair Report**

None

d) **Youth Report**

None

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dave Waggoner asked about a "get to know you" event at the next TAB meeting. Staff will follow up with the Clerk's office to determine if that is allowed.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned by Chair Krass at 7:49 pm PDT.

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Transportation Advisory Board

6:00 PM
 June 26, 2023

MINUTES

Steelhead Room, 235 1st Ave SE,
 Issaquah

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Board members:

Julian Mydlil, Vice Chair
 Dave Waggoner
 Micah Zeitz-Chua
 Erika Boyd
 Hany Maklad

Administration/Staff:

John Larson-Friend, Transportation Program
 Coordinator
 Emily Moon, Public Works Director
 Andrea Snyder, Deputy City Administrator
 Stephen Padua
 Chris Grabowski, Deputy City Clerk

Excused Absences:

Cynthia Krass, Chair
 Jeri Bernstein
 Tom McDonald

Guest:

Brian Henry, Metro

CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Julian Mydlil at 6:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) There being no proposed changes, the Minutes of May 24, 2023 were approved by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were provided.

REGULAR BUSINESS

- a) **Metro Flex (D)**

Presented by:

John Larson-Friend, Transportation Program Coordinator
Meredith Sampson, King County Metro

John Larson-Friend gave an overview of the process to analyze a shuttle program and arrive at a recommendation. John reviewed the community outreach that had been performed.

The board discussed the concept of a community van, which was not one of the recommended solutions following community input in 2018.

Meredith Sampson, King County Metro, gave a presentation about On Demand Services. Metro consolidated its on-demand services under one program umbrella and rebranded it as Metro Flex. The service is the same fare as a bus and is cash/paperless. ORCA, TGT and credit card payments are accepted. Riders can create profiles to identify if they need wheelchair accessibility, translator services or have other needs. The board discussed service evaluation criteria. Meredith shared information about the Metro Flex mobile application. She discussed the service proposal including service area, outreach plan and targeted number of service hours (3,700 hours). This proposal will require a contribution from the City of approximately \$260,000. The board discussed the timing of the launch (Fall 2023), which was a product of when the service would be ready and when sufficient outreach could be conducted. Riders will be able to go from one point in the service area to any other point in the service area and riders will not be restricted to using the service for only first/last mile, which is consistent with the program elsewhere.

Board members discussed whether additional data might be needed in order to make a recommendation to City Council or whether data can be collected as the program runs for a term. A suggestion was made to look at the data from other cities who are running these programs. There was discussion about whether the service should only focus on first/last mile, as that had been described as a priority or whether this service is meant to enhance intracity mobility and to be first/last mile plus more. There was a discussion about the cost of service per ride, what Sammamish is paying, and whether this pilot service is worth the cost. The board discussed how the service is driven by demand; therefore, if demand is higher at a peak hour, more vans would be in Issaquah to provide service.

Board members moved to take a vote on the proposal.

Question and Feedback:

- **Question:** Now that you have seen the proposal, does TAB recommend City Council move forward with the Metro Flex Program partnership with King County Metro?
 - **TAB:** Outcome 3 to 2, Opposed. The opposed members cited concerns about service success due to past outcomes, concerns about whether point-to-point service aligns with the goals around getting people to transit, concerns about higher cost per ride verses the cost per ride for buses, and requested more data from King County Metro. The members in favor cited concerns about viable mobility opportunities being missed out on, saw point-to-point service as needed in the community, and believed that the cost to the City is minimal for what service would be provided.

b) **TAB Training/Refresher (I)**

Presented by:

John Larson-Friend, Transportation Program Coordinator

John Larson-Friend presented a TAB Training, which provided an overview of Issaquah's Plans and Documents pertinent to the work done by TAB, where to find Ordinances & Municipal Codes, and Regional Partnerships. After that, the largest portion of the presentation was spent going over the Mobility Master Plan. John went over the Format of the document, Guiding Principles, Goals & Policies, Plan Implementation, and Project Evaluation Criteria.

REPORTS

a) **Board Work Plan**

John Larson-Friend presented the Three Month Look Ahead, which includes an Intro to Light Rail Planning and the ADA Transition Plan in July, a full discussion about Light Rail Planning in August, and Traffic Calming in September.

b) **Staff Report**

John Larson-Friend had nothing to report.

c) **Chair Report**

None

d) **Youth Report**

None

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next month, the meeting will be back at Tibbetts Creek Manor on Wednesday July 26th.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by Vice Chair Mydlil at 7:52 pm PDT.

INQUIRIES