

TRAC

MEETING MINUTES

DES MOINES AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY TRANSIT RIDERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 25, 2024 – NOON Hybrid Meeting

[The above TRAC Meeting was hybrid – in person at DART Central Station and virtual via Zoom. The Committee determined that it is convenient to offer this option to members of the Committee, staff and members of the public to accommodate for concerns related to the Covid-19 pandemic.]

TRAC Members Present:

Todd Kilzer, Laurie Jones, MaryAnn Ryan, Kaylynn Strain, Brandon Paulsen, Lee Jasinski, Matthew Shankles, James Hanold

TRAC Members Absent:

David Campbell, Jeremy Guenther, Justin Bates

DART Staff Present:

Catlin Curry, Jan Keeling, Erin Hockman, Amanda Wanke, Tony Filippini, Luis Montoya, Brandon Anderson, Sarah Welch, Lewis Lowry

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order by Brandon Paulsen at 12:00p.m.
Roll call was taken, and quorum was met.

A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The August 28, 2024 minutes were approved.
The motion was approved by Mary Ann Ryan and seconded by Lee Jasinski.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

Heather Armstrong: attended Pleasant Hill City Council meeting to express concerns about cutting DART's service and how it would impact handicapped riders.

Garland Armstrong: Echoed Heather's concerns with Pleasant Hill. Asked City Council what the back up plan would be for persons without other transportation options.

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. MEMBER COMMUNITY UPDATE (Amanda Wanke)

Amanda emphasized the importance of advocacy for transportation and addressed the recent items in the news surrounding the member communities considering withdrawal from DART.

- No issue with public transportation, more about who will be paying for it.

- Brandon asked how to be included in the discussion at the Commission workshop as he feels small group discussion would be helpful.
- Todd thanked Amanda for her public communication as well as a commentary by an Iowa State professor.
- Laurie commented on how Iowa City is looking to raise public parking fees to assist with funding public transit.
- Lee encouraged DART to reach out to CyRide for ideas.
- Matthew is a rider by choice, not necessity. Have the cities considering withdrawal considered the impact on riders and how much money in sales taxes will be lost.

2. REIMAGINE DART (Erin Hockman)

Erin shared the progress that is taking place with Reimagine DART.
 Economic Impact
 Regional Social Equity
 Local Community Value

Reimagine DART is estimated to cost \$1M.

Next steps will be:

10/8: Commission will approve a contract award

Oct. – Dec: DART staff will refine budget scenarios with Commission direction

Nov. 11-15: Kick off meeting with consulting firm and DART staff

Nov. – Dec.: Data analysis of existing service and travel demand

D. OTHER BUSINESS

1. November Service Change & Public Input (Tony Filippini)

Tony reported on upcoming November Service changes.

- Discontinuation of the D Line (49 public input responses) – this is one of the best candidates for discontinuation because other routes cover the same areas.
- Routes 17, 52, 74 (12 public input responses)

2. City of Grimes Withdrawal (Tony Filippini)

- Shorten Route 93
- Discontinue Grimes On Call
- Remove Grimes from Paratransit and Premium Paratransit

November 14 – Virtual Public Input Meeting

E. TRAC MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Several members were concerned about temporary bus stops in construction zones.

F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

G. UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. DART Commission – Noon, Tuesday, October 8, 2024 – Zoom / DCS

2. TRAC – Noon, Wednesday, October 30, 2024 – Zoom / DCS

H. ADJOURN

Catlyn adjourned the meeting at 1:01pm.

It was moved by Todd Kilzer and seconded Matthew Shankles.

The motion carried unanimously.

DRAFT