

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

10:15 a.m.

Quincy Street Station via Zoom

Committee Members present: Britney Laughlin, Mary Thomas, Marty Winans, Mark Webb, and Mike Nolting.

Committee Members Absent: Libby Adams, Debra Dawkins, Brian Snodderly, Taylor Moore, and Anthony Fadale.

TMTA Staff present: Al Bradley

The meeting was called to order by Al Bradley at 10:15 a.m. There were no guests present or public comments offered.

There were no corrections to the prior minutes.

Mr. Bradley started the meeting with safety, He talked about last month's fire safety drills that TMTA participated in. He also explained what the expectations were of the passengers in the Lobby. At the time of the drill, passengers are instructed by overhead announcement to leave the facility until the "All Clear" was given. He explained These announcements can be heard outside on the staging area island as well.

Mr. Bradley told the committee that there have been Question about who the free ride days pertain to. Mr. Bradley clarified by saying, typically, most free ride promotions are for all fixed route buses, but only two free rides are offered on the lift service. This is because the lift service is operated at a higher expense. He also said that the MOD service was a different entity and would not participate in those promotions. Mr. Bradley asked if there were questions or concerns with MOD. There were none. Committee Member Britney Laughlin asked if Topeka Metro had a list with dates that they were offering the free rides for next year. He told her that he would inquire and let her know. He also told her that promotions TMTA supports may be decided from year to year.

Mr. Bradley asked that the agencies and individual lift passengers pay attention to where they are requesting rides for pick up and drop offs. He said our lift vehicles must have clear access entering and exiting facilities without having to back vehicles. He said in some situations this may affect where a lift passenger decides to reside as well. Mr. Bradley said, the misconception is, lift passengers can be picked up anywhere within city limits. He explained that the pickup and drop locations must be within $\frac{3}{4}$ miles of a fixed route. If outside those parameters, then a premium fare of \$15.00 will be charged. He reminded them that this is still much cheaper than local medical transportation companies.

Mr. Bradley said he wanted to explain the rules about Personal Care Attendants (PCA) he pointed out that these guidelines can be found in the “Lift Riders Guide.” He also said, if anyone needed a copy, he would get one for them. Mr. Bradley went on to cover expectation for PCA’s, Guest, and escorts.

Mr. Bradley went over the last Ridership Report that came out in October, which was explained in summary by former planner, Andy Fry in the report. Mr. Bradley said that if anyone had specific questions later or wanted to get more information to contact him by phone or email.

Mr. Bradley discussed the following events:

- Board Study Session – 11/10 at 8:30a
- Veterans Ride Free on fixed route buses, but **only** two free rides on Lift service – 11/11
- Board Finance Meeting – 11/20 at 3:15p

Upcoming meetings for 2024 are scheduled as follows at **10:15 a.m. at QSS or via zoom:**

- **Wednesday, January 10th, 2024**
- **Wednesday, March 13th, 2024**
- **Wednesday, May 8th, 2024**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Bradley
Topeka Metro Operations Supervisor