

TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 18TH, 2016

Transit Advisory Committee members in attendance were Doug Primmer, Juli Gregory, Krisi Avery, Barb Martin, and Jennifer Roberts. Jason Edmiston, Rod Hardin, Dean Fialka, and Cindy Schaan were not present. Also present were Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, CTUIR Planning Director JD Tovey, and Lilly Alarcon-Strong.

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan opened the meeting at 5:00pm and stated the Committee would wait a few mins longer for other members of the public to arrive.

Recess

At 5:05pm the group left City Hall to tour the proposed fixed-route bus system as identified in the previous meeting.

Reconvene

At 6:05pm Mark reconvened the meeting.

Identify high-usage origination and destination points

The Committee discussed the routed bus stops and made recommendations for areas that needed attention, to include:

- Good Shepherd Hospital and the Medical Plaza area across the street
- Hermiston Plaza
- SW 7th and Highland
- Elm St and 395
- Wal-Mart
- Fiesta Foods

JD stated he would work on a new route to incorporate the suggested changes and present it at the next meeting. Because the changes have added and removed stops, the bus route should continue to make a full circle within the same time frame, one hour.

Doug suggested that the City place signs at all proposed bus stop locations to see if the public has feedback they would like to share at the next Transit Committee meeting.

Mark stated the City can place temporary signs at each stop with information about the proposed inter-city bus route and a map of all the proposed bus stops within the City. Public input would need to be reviewed by the Committee at that meeting so modifications can be made before they are brought before the City Council.

Mark stated in order to meet the launch date of January 2nd, 2017, the next Committee meeting will need to be November 1st so JD has time to incorporate revisions suggested at meeting to be able to present the final draft to the City Council on November 14th.

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Identify days and time frames buses would run

Mark stated based on the public survey feedback received, the buses will run: Monday – Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm. This days and time frames proposed also allow KAYAK to employ only one person for this route. The route will also be able to incorporate route changes throughout the year. Based on the proposed route, the estimated cost projections have not changed dramatically. Costs will rise if there is an increase of stops and/or hours of operation.

Develop a name for the fixed-route bus system

Mark stated at the last meeting, he asked that the Committee think of potential names that the fixed-out bus system could be named. Mark stated he had developed the temporary name of HART for Hermiston Area Regional Transit, but emphasized HART could be changed.

Committee members proposed names to include:

- HART- Hermiston Regional Area Transit
- Hermiston Looper
- Melon Metro
- Bulldog Express
- Spud Bus
- Tater Transit

It was also recommended that the Committee allow the public to participate in name ideas at the next meeting.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 7:03pm.