

The St. Cloud Metro Bus Rider Advisory Committee (RAC) held a virtual meeting via WebEx on Tuesday March 15th, 2022 at 10:00 am to speak about a ridership update, hear a spring outlook, hear updates from Metro Bus, and various other questions.

The following individuals attended: Ryan Daniel, Michael Kedrowski, Kellen Rasmussen, David Williamsen and Vicki Johnson. Absent: Paul Thomas, Bruce Benner, Jenny Svihel, Kelly Carlson, Jan Scott, and Keshia Anderson-King.

Welcome. Mike thanked everyone for coming and reviewed the purpose of the RAC.

Public Open Forum.

- 1) Open Discussion. There were no members of the public present.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- 1) Ridership Update
  - a. Overall, ridership was up in the month of February as compared to previous months.
    - i. The largest increase was route 31, at 12%.
    - ii. Next, was route 8, at 10%.
    - iii. Routes 10 & 12 were down around 2%.
  - b. Connex had an increase in ridership of 10%.
  - c. Northstar Link had a decrease of 8%.
    - i. There was a decrease in number of weekdays of service from January to February, Northstar only runs on weekdays.
  - d. Dial a ride remains stable, there was a slight increase of about 200 more trips provided.
- 2) Spring Outlook:
  - a. We are in the freeze-melt and refreeze season.
    - i. Be careful and look out for icy conditions
    - ii. Metro Bus staff is vigilant to clear and prepare surfaces at Metro Bus facilities and shelters for icy conditions as they are able
      1. Report locations of concern to your driver or customer service.
- 3) Newsletter Highlights:
  - a. Michael covered some aspects of the Metro Bus Newsletter to keep RAC members more informed of Metro bus happenings.
  - b. Ask Michael for a copy if you would like to now more.

4) Open Discussion:

- a. Mask Mandate extended through April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Route 6&7 will have changes to the route, not on the run time.
  - i. The loop will be served on the outbound leg of each route.
  - ii. This expansion will include additional service to one bus stop on Benton Dr. that is currently served by Route 22.
  - iii. There will be four bus stops added for this extension, two on Lincoln Ave. and two on Franklin Ave.
  - iv. Three of the new stops have shelters.
    1. Dubow Textile
    2. Near Gopher Bargain Center on Lincoln Ave.
    3. Near Crescent St. on Franklin Ave.
  - v. The routes will also stop at the Metro Bus Operations Center.
  - vi. The rest of Routes 6 and 7 will not be affected and the routes will remain 45-minute loops.
  - vii. One bus stop on East St. Germain St. will be removed to allow buses to make a left turn onto Lincoln Ave.
- c. **ROUTE 7 WILL NOT BE RUNNING**
  - i. An announcement will be made when the route will resume

5) Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 10:25 am.