

The St. Cloud Metro Bus Rider Advisory Committee (RAC) held an in-person meeting at the Mobility Training Center and streamed simultaneously on Microsoft Teams on Tuesday May 21st, 2024, at 10:00 AM. The meeting was held to discuss ridership, hear the latest updates about Metro Bus's Long Range Transit Plan, Share results of the Roadeo, as well as various other questions.

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

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

Public Open Forum.

- 1) None

Old Business:

- 1) RAC Emails - None
- 2) Review of April Minutes - The meeting was held to discuss ridership, hear latest updates about Metro Bus's Long Range Transit Plan, as well as various other questions.

New Business:

- 1) Ridership Update - Metro Bus provided over 71,000 rides last month. 54,705 of those were on fixed route, and 13,906 were Dial-a-Ride. Overall, there was an increase of 5%.
 - a. Route 9 saw the largest increase with 12% or 177 more than last month.
 - i. Several other routes had increases of 8 or more %.
 - b. Route 11 and 22 saw decreases, mostly attributed to a loss of a Saturday and Sunday from last month.
 - c. The NorthStar Link saw an increase and recorded 1,248 rides.
 - d. Dial-a-Ride remains steady and recorded nearly 14,000 rides.
- 2) Roadeo Results
 - a. On May 16th Metro Bus held its local Roadeo where operators compete in a skills competition. They maneuver through a course filled with obstacles related to aspects of everyday tasks such as turns, wheel clearance, backing up and more. There were many competitors competing for a chance to represent Metro Bus at the State Roadeo this summer. Winners of state will go onto Nationals.
 - b. The results were as follows:
 - i. Dial-a-Ride
 1. Keith D
 2. David P
 3. Wayne P
 - ii. Fixed Route
 1. Joel L
 2. Clint B
 3. Jason H
 - c. The State Roadeo will be held July 20th at Canterbury Park in Shakopee.

3) Long Range Plan Updates

- a. Currently all staff at Metro Bus have been evaluating a scenario presented by the project team. Surveys are being conducted on thoughts and once adjustments are made to the results, it will go public soon after.
 - b. The Stakeholder group will be meeting sometime in Mid-June, and an invitation with more information will be sent in oncoming weeks. The stakeholder group will have an opportunity to meet and see the results of the service recommendations and have open discussions afterward.
 - c. At the June 18th Board Meeting, the Project Manager Paul from Nelson and Nygaard will be presenting information on the scenario selected to the Board of Commissioners.
 - d. Members of the consulting team will be attending various community events all summer to promote the plan and help draw more feedback of the suggested service scenario.
 - i. Michael provided an overview of the list of potential events, and it was discussed further by the group. Several recommendations were brought forward such as making sure to highlight at least one significant event from each city (St. Cloud, Waite Park, Sartell, Sauk Rapids and if possible, St. Joe) for inclusivity.
 - e. There will be a survey for feedback shared sometime in the early summer and it will be open for a while.
 - f. The documents will be translated into Spanish and Somali to hopefully reach a wide range of people.
- 4) Open Discussion - **June's RAC Meeting will be CANCELLED.**
- a. Michael will be on vacation, and time will be allowed to collect more information and feedback on the service scenario provided.
 - i. The July meeting will be held July 23rd.

The meeting adjourned at 10:57