

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 February 18th, 2025, at 10:00 AM. The meeting was held to discuss ridership, go over operator pre and post trip checks, and various other discussions.

The following individuals attended: Michael Kedrowski, Bruce Benner, Vicki Johnson, Paul Thomas & Jan Scott. **Absent:** Jenny Svihel & Kelly Carlson (excused),

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

Old Business:

- 1) RAC Emails – None
- 2) Review of January Minutes - The meeting was held to discuss ridership, learn about bus stop and shelter/bench placement, and various other discussions.
- 3)

New Business:

- 1) Ridership Update
  - a. Ridership was up about 6 % across all fixed routes. January saw 30 days of service, including an extra weekday over December.
  - b. Routes 6 and 9 saw increases of 15%, meanwhile route 11 was close behind with an increase of 11%.
    - i. Route 6 had an increase of over 700 more rides provided compared to December.
  - c. Two routes saw minimal decreases, those were routes 31 and 33 1.5, and 5% decreases.
  - d. Dial a Ride recorded 12,912 rides and increased overall.
  - e. Northstar Link provided 1,072 rides and had an increase of over 80 from December.
- 2) Operator Pre and Post Trip Inspections
  - a. What goes into practice before a bus hits the streets?
    - i. Buses are never assigned to a certain operator, at our bus garage buses are parked in rows and operators take buses as they are available from front to back and onto the next row.
    - ii. When an operator is ready to select a bus, they need to inspect the exterior and interior before starting the ignition.
    - iii. Before starting the bus, they must make sure the equipment is functioning, and safety equipment is present.
    - iv. The interior and exterior must be inspected extensively for any broken or malfunctioning parts.
    - v. Operators must start up and inspect electronic systems such as fareboxes, cameras, APC's and stop information display and stop request alarms are functioning.
    - vi. Similar steps need to be taken when done for the day and returning to the garage.
    - vii. Operators are extensively trained to have this process down as a checklist and to report any issues, so buses can be serviced if needed.
- 3) Open Discussion
  - a. Michael provided a brief update on the Western Transit Hub
  - b. The next meeting will be on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, at 10 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 10:51