



Meeting Minutes

DES MOINES AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
TRANSIT RIDERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JANUARY 31, 2023 – NOON
Hybrid Meeting

[The above TRAC Meeting was hybrid – in person at DART Central Station and virtual via Zoom. The Committee determined that it is convenient to offer this option to members of the Committee, staff and members of the public to accommodate for concerns related to the Covid-19 pandemic.]

TRAC Members Present:

Todd Kilzer, Kaylynn Strain, Laurie Jones, David Campbell, James Hanold, Brandon Paulsen, Lee Jasinski, Jeremy Guenther, Mary Ann Ryan, Matthew Shankles

TRAC Members Absent:

Justin Bates

DART Staff Present:

Catlin Curry, Jan Keeling, Erin Hockman, Lewis Lowry, Ben Cross

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order by Brandon Paulsen at 12:03 p.m.
Roll call was taken, and a quorum was met.

A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

December minutes revisions were requested. Minutes will go before the committee in February.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

Heather Armstrong: Concerned with DART route cuts – eliminate poor running routes now rather than waiting to cut a lot in a couple of years – move low performing areas to On-Demand.

Garland Armstrong: Concerns over snow removal at bus stops. Fiscal cliff / Federal funding concerns.

James Hanold: James will be addressing the WDM city council at their next meeting.

C. NEW TRAC MEMBER INTRODUCTION

Matthew Shankles was introduced to the committee.

D. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. FY25 Service and Budget Planning update (Erin)

Erin gave a high-level summary to the TRAC committee about public input and upcoming service and budget planning.

2. Winter Weather Discussion (Lewis / Ben)

Lewis reported to the committee on winter weather planning. DART's approach is to look out a week ahead to determine public communications and a plan to maintain as much service as possible. Lewis encouraged the committee to take our communications seriously – if streets are not cleared, DART may have difficulty getting to the customers. ABC. Always Be Communicating. Anticipate when there is snow that there will be delays.

- Brandon expressed concerns over passengers being unable to access the bus stop and operators not being proactive about looking for those passengers.
- Both Brandon and Matthew shared that the bus had passed by them while they were standing at a stop due to the amount of snow at the stop.
- Matthew expressed pros and cons concerning operator practices in winter weather.
- Kaylynn expressed concerns over what should be done if the bus stop is inaccessible.
- Laurie commented on how cheerful the operators were on January 15, during the snow event.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion of Snow removal processes
Possible City Council update

G. UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. DART Commission – Noon Tuesday, March 5, 2024 – Zoom / DCS
2. TRAC – Noon Wednesday, February 28, 2024 – Zoom / DCS

H. ADJOURN

Brandon adjourned the meeting at 1:12pm.
It was moved by Todd Kilzer and seconded Kaylynn Strain.
The motion carried unanimously.