

Billings Transportation Advisory Committee
10:30 AM
DRAFT Meeting Minutes—September 22, 2022

Committee Members			
Scott Walker, Transportation Coord., Chairman, T.A.C.	1	Wyeth Friday, Director, Planning and Community Services	1
Tim Miller, Director YC Public Works Dept.		Mike Black, Civil Engineer, YC Public Works Dept.	1
Debi Meling, Public Works Director, City of Billings Engineering		Mac Fogelsong, City Engineer, City PW Engineering,	1
Rusty Logan, MET Transit Manger,	1	Clark Snyder, Environmental Health RiverStone Health	
Katie Potts, Urban Planning Section, MDT		Carol Strizich, Supervisor Urban Planning Section, MDT	
Ken Winnegar, Urban Planning Section, MDT	1-V	Carolyn Miller, FHWA	1-V
Kurtis Schnieber, MDT		Ryan Hammon, FHWA	
Zach Kirkemo, MDT	1-V	Alan Woodmansey, FHWA	

Others Participating: Bill Troe, SRF Consulting - Virtually

1. Call the meeting to order: 10:32am

Transportation Coordinator Scott Walker called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM in the Miller Building 1st Floor Conference Room, 2825 3rd Ave North

- a. Comments on items not on the agenda and requests to add items to future agendas.
- b. Comments on items non-public and public hearing agenda items.

2. Minutes of July 28, 2022

Motion

Rusty Logan made a motion and it was seconded by Mike Black to approve the minutes of July 28, 2022 as submitted. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

3. Old Business: There is no Old Business.

4. New Business

a. Motion: Recommendation. City of Billings MET Transit – 5-Year Transit Development Plan. Rusty Logan, MET Transit Manager. SRF Consulting, presenting.

Rusty introduced Bill Troe, SRF consulting.

BACKGROUND

MET Transit is presenting the Billings MET Transit-5-Year Transit Development Plan for TAC review and recommendation to the Billings Metropolitan Planning Organization, (MPO), for Planning Board review, City Council, the Board of County Commissioners, and the Billings Policy Coordinating Committee (PCC).

The City of Billings MET Transit Division identified the need to conduct a Transit Development Plan update to assess the current state of the transit system and develop recommended strategies for improvement. The most recent Transit Development Plan undertaken by the Division was finalized in 2015. With Billings experiencing significant growth in recent years and considering the recent passage of increased transit funding at the Federal level, having an approved and feasible plan in place is essential for MET continuing to provide effective transit services in the Billings area. This plan has been developed by MET Transit in conjunction with SRF Consulting and takes into consideration public comment received via survey and three public meetings.

Website pages:

[Billings Transit Development Plan 2022 DRAFT](#)

[Transit Development Plan \(TDP\) Project 2022 web page](#)

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Transportation Advisory Committee, (TAC) forward a recommendation of approval of the City of Billings MET Transit-5 Year Transit Development Plan to the City/County Planning Board MPO, the City and County Governing bodies, and the Policy Coordinating Committee, (PCC).

Discussion

Scott Walker called for discussion.

Wyeth Friday asked if upgrades are planned for the Stewart Park transfer center. Rusty Logan explained the different upgrades that may be considered for the City transfer stations. Improved amenities may include ticket vending machines. He also inquired about the Lockwood launch.



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Mac Fogelsong asked if there is flexibility to alter the routes do to density increases. If there is a 20 percent difference in routing it calls for a public meeting. There will be test runs for 30 days. We anticipate a decrease in riders for the first year after the revamp. Bill Troe suggested the possibility of eliminating the fares for 30 days to off set the decrease and encourage riders.

Scott Walker talked about the 5 year plan and stated it has been a long time coming and things are looking good for MET Transit.

Motion:

Wyeth Friday made a motion and Mike Black seconded the motion to forward a recommendation of approval of the City of Billings MET Transit – 5-Year Transit Development Plan as presented by staff. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

5. Other Business

- a. Update. Discussion. MET Transit. Rusty Logan, MET Transit Manager

6. Future Agenda Items

Rusty Logan stated PCC approval will be needed in November for a recommendation to City Council to approve this 5 year plan.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:23 AM

DRAFT-TO BE APPROVED BY A MOTION DURING THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING— Robbin Bartley Adminstrative Assistant