



**Pierce Transit
Community Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)
Virtual Meeting via Teams/phone
Minutes – September 22, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE

CTAG Members Present: Blake Geyen, Linda Moran, Jamie Witter, Paul Buchanan, Brandi DeCoteau, Ben Yoder and Ivan Tudela. Absent: Tony Amin, Don Green

Pierce Transit Employees and Presenters Present:

Frances Rankos, Rodney Chandler

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from July 2022 were reviewed and approved. Deirdre Maxwell moved to approve, and Ben Yoder seconded.

CTAG MEMBERS COMMITTEE REPORTS

No reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Rodney Chandler

Rodney reported Pierce Transit's *Covid, Emergency Management and Public Safety*, which narrated the history of the COVID-19 pandemic. This report discussed both the impacts of the pandemic on Pierce Transit, and Pierce Transit's response on an agency level.

Pierce Transit started to consult with other transit agencies on strategies to protect employees and passengers. The Safety Team created a return-to-work video and kits with PPE for returning employees. Barrier screens installed at the warehouse counter and other areas of the Agency. Fleet began transitioning the clear plastic barriers to permanent plexiglass barriers.

PT Facilities upgraded building air filtration systems, they installed hospital grade air filters. PT implemented shadow busses. Pierce Transit implemented temperature checks of our staff before they report to work. Temperature checks utilize the Automated AI Temperature Screening System (AATSS) or Non-Contact Infrared Thermometers (handheld) for all Pierce



Transit employees. Pierce Transit vaccinated 263 employees and family members. Pierce Transit initiated a pilot program to provide free mobile Wi-Fi hot spots for students who do not have reliable Internet access but still need to complete remote school assignments during Washington's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order.

Public Safety

In August of 2021, Pierce County Sheriff Department (PCSD) notified Pierce Transit they would reduce the number of officers available to Pierce Transit starting in January 2022

With the decrease in our PCSD coverage, we will have a decrease in officers on duty and may have longer response times to serve our employees and the public. The biggest deficit which we will experience in July of 2022 is a reduction in our Law Enforcement (LE).

Contract for 2023: PCSD has informed Pierce Transit they will offer a Chief and an Investigator position for 2023.

Frances Rankos

Pierce Transit is continuously looking to improve passenger experience and is currently focusing on improved wayfinding for riders. PT will improve current braille and tactile signage at all bus stops and working with other agencies to improve the common barriers of all riders throughout the region.

Frances mentions her involvement with Travel Training, and its benefits to wayfinding for riders in the PT system. She also reports that new operators go through specialized ADA training to understand these wayfinding and potential ridership issues.

CTAG Hero Award program

Postponing Discuss discussion to October 27th, 2022, meeting. Don to lead

Base Improvement (MOBI) tour dates

Through discussion, MOBI tour is planned for the October 27th, 2022. Tour with Ashley DeGraffenreid and Brian Matthews.

Member Deliberation

Blake reported that with recent September service changes, 30 additional minutes were added to his commute. Frances volunteered to research his specific routes and to further connect with Blake to alleviate these potential issues.

Pierce Transit News and Announcements

Free Youth Transit Pass Now Available. As part of the State Legislature's Move Ahead Washington transportation package, youth ages 18 and under now ride fare free on public transit throughout our region. Get on Board with a Great Career. Pierce Transit is currently looking for Public Safety Officers, Bus Operators and Mechanics, as well as technicians and administrative staff.



ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Submitted by: Lani Fowlkes, Community Development Coordinator

Approved by: Blake Geyen, Co-Chair