

**Beeline Bus Transit Advisory Committee
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

Regular Meeting – Friday February 12, 2021 at 12:00 Noon

Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the Beeline Bus Transit Advisory Committee and to the general public that a Regular Meeting of the Beeline Bus Transit Advisory Committee was held on Friday, February 12, 2021, at the Payson Senior Center, 514 West Main Street, Payson, Gila County, Arizona.

Committee members attended by Zoom or by telephone conference call.

The Minutes for this meeting are as follows:

1. CALL TO ORDER: 12:04 PM

2. ROLL CALL:

Chuck Proudfoot (Chairman) X Trevor Fleetham (Vice Chairman) X Travis Ashbaugh X
Dee Bowling X Glen Farnham A Larry Halberstadt Robert Mawson X
Becky Ohle excused Doreen Prine X Homero Vela excused Loren Wise A
Payson Senior Center Attendees: Joanne Conlin Mike Marryat Debbie Stevens

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Nov 20, 2020, minutes approved with amendment to change Item 9., “Next Meeting Date”, to February 12, 2021 Motion made by Robert Mawson, second by Trever Fleetham, unanimously voted yes

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No discussion, no Public in attendance

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. TV Monitors: Installation of monitors on the buses is on hold. A search for an experienced person to be brought on board at a future date will be undertaken.

6. REPORTS

A. Transit Staff Report (Informational)

1. Bus Ridership to Date:

Please see “BEELINE RIDERSHIP” included with these minutes.

Saturday service remains suspended due to low ridership.

Ridership is down due to:

COVID 19 virus

Hesitation of the public to be out and about combined with hesitation to ride the bus due to COVID concerns

People don’t have as many places to go due to COVID restrictions

Winter Weather - major snowstorm the last week of January resulted in suspended service until roads were cleared

2. Rider Comment Cards:

Due to concerns of multiple riders using the same ink pen to fill out comment cards, pens were purchased and are ready for use to fill out comment cards on the buses. The pen can be kept by the person filling out the card.

3. Bus Safety

Masks

A recent CDC mandate requires masks be worn on public transportation for the next 100 days. Riding the buses without a mask requires approval. A procedure is in place for those who wish to pursue approval to ride the buses without a mask.

Training

Bus drivers will be given personal training by Coolidge transit trainer Feb 17 and 18, 2021
Jessica Urrea from Southeastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO) will provide a full day of Passenger Assistance, Safety and Sensitivity (PASS) training on Feb 27, 2021
Training for Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, American with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Winter Driving has also been provided in the past 2 months.

4. Budget and Expenditures

A red ARBOC bus was purchased through Grant funding and is in use on the bus route. Drivers and riders find the kneeling bus entry for wheelchairs much easier to use than a lift entry. The funding obtained from the CARES (Corona Virus Aid Relief and Economic Security) Act should be enough so that we don't have to use 5311 Grant Money. The current CARES funding should get us through Sept 30, 2021. At the end of November, 2020 there was \$215,214.28. Unless there is something unforeseeable, we should not have to use any grant money this year for operations.

5.5339 Grant Update by Trever Fleetham:

This grant includes sidewalk, pedestrian, and bus stop improvements on Colcord & Easy St. Approval was obtained for a second round of funding in the amount of approximately \$600,000 for north McLane Road from Airport Road to Houston Mesa Road. The Town plans to secure an engineer for the project in the near future

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Possible Action on changes to Route Stops

Assessment of the current stops on the bus routes:

Star Valley:

Eastbound- second stop on Moonlight Drive that goes to Houston Creek is a deviation now but the staff feels this should be a daily flag stop on the route.

Payson:

Big Lots/Eastern Arizona College: Bus currently goes from Big Lots to the college then back to Big Lots. This requires a left hand turn on 260 and this is a safety concern because of the oncoming traffic that can be heavy at certain times of the day. The recommended change is to make a right hand turn into the college when heading west back into town from Star Valley.

Big Lots: The staff recommended change would move the bus stop to the covered area on the east side of Big Lots instead of in front of the store. The area in front of the store is a safety concern because it is heavily traveled with a lot of vehicle stopping and turning movements along with pedestrians entering and exiting the store.

Safeway: An ingress and egress re-route for the Safeway bus stop was discussed to implement a reroute for 90 days at which time it would be re-evaluated for a new route change. The shopping center parking lot is crowded, difficult to maneuver especially when crowded, and has a lot of multidirectional traffic.

90 day route:

- Enter the Safeway center at the light at Wells Fargo. Turn left/southbound into the shopping center in which Safeway is located
- The pickup and drop off will be near By The Bucket Restaurant
- when leaving this bus stop, the bus will exit the shopping center on the road behind Jack-in-the-Box which is right-turn only (eastbound) onto SR 260.

A motion was made by Chuck Proudfoot on the 90 day Safeway re-route and a second by Trevor Fleetham. The motion passed unanimously

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Update on Big Lots and Safeway bus stop changes

9. NEXT MEETING

May 14, 2021 12:00 Noon

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM

Posted Date: February 15, 2021

Time: 8:15AM

Posted by Debbie Stephens

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation to Michael Marryat, Payson Senior Center, 928-474-4876 at least 24 hours in advance.