



Salem Area Mass Transit District
Community Advisory Committee Minutes

Senator Hearing Room: 555 Court St. NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

June 18, 2024

Attendees:

Committee: Chair Sue Coffin, Members David Levy, Erin Ross, Judi Richards, Lucinda Edwards, and Marja Byers. Absent: Joe Tilman and Ronald Rubel

Staff: COO Tom Dietz, CCO Patricia Feeny, Contracted Service Manager Ben Sawyer, Security and Emergency Management Manager Karen Garcia, Maintenance Manager Zach Leeth, Security Coordinator Justin Kinyon, and Executive Assistant Kirra Pressey.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Coffin called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.
Attendance was noted.

A. Safety Moment

COO Dietz delivered the Safety Moment, highlighting summer safety tips such as staying hydrated, protecting your skin and eyes, and moderating time spent in the heat.

B. Announcements

COO Dietz announced the District welcomed Art Boulanger as their new CIO. He provided a brief intro but announced he would be in attendance at a future meeting for an additional introduction.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment from Randy Morgan discussing increasing holiday service was provided for the Committee review and discussion.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Minutes of meeting: April 16, 2024

Motion:	Approve the Minutes from April 16, 2024
Motion By:	Member David Levy
Second:	Member Marja Byers
Vote:	Motion Passed Unanimously

IV. EXECUTIVE MEETING MEMBER SELECTION

COO Dietz provided an overview of the Executive Meeting Member requirements per the Bylaws. Chair Coffin asked Committee Members for volunteers to serve, and both Members Edwards and Byers volunteered. The Committee agreed for Member Byers to serve from now until December 31, 2024, and for Member Edwards to begin on January 1, 2025.

V. PRESENTATION(S)

A. Safety & Security Discussion

Presenter: Security and Emergency Management Manager Karen Garcia, and Security Coordinator Justin Kinyon

Security and Emergency Management Manager Garcia provided discussion points to be covered in the presentation, along with background on the surrounding issues, noting that this is a national issue, not just localized to the District. She highlighted that national trends in employee assaults are soaring and are driven by broader societal issues. She also noted a significant increase in the number of incidents this year compared to last year, pointing out that there has been a higher percentage of incidents involving youth and that assaultive incidents have almost doubled from last year. She discussed stakeholders including SPD, PPC, and DPI, and noted the staffing challenges each has faced. She elaborated on the impacts of the increased incidents on riders, employees, and operations. Lastly, she outlined current and future actions to address the rise in incidents.

B. Communications Update

CCO Feeny provided highlights from the Customer and Community Surveys, including the number of surveys received and the survey process itself. She discussed the current Call for Art for the upcoming Hispanic Heritage Month Bus Wrap. Lastly, she discussed the launch of Route 22 and the neighborhood meetings taking place to answer community members' questions and address concerns.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Grant Session Briefing

COO Dietz advised the Committee that applications have been submitted for both 5310 and Low/No Grant.

B. Cherriots ITS Accessibility

COO Dietz posed a question to the Committee about bus stop numbers and their accessibility for the blind and deaf community.

VII. ACTION ITEMS - None

VIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. Updated CAC Bylaws

B. Van Pool Program – Kiki Dohman, Commuter Options Coordinator

C. Holiday Service Discussion

IX. ADJOURN

Chair Coffin adjourned the meeting at 7:01 PM.