

PPT members present: Ericson & Enz (Community Reps), Searl (UWP-SUFAC), Geyer (UWP), Andrews (School District), Elskamp (UWP), Schnurer (UWP), Parrott (Council Rep) [arrived at 2:04pm]  
PPT members absent: Hilfer (Hospital Rep), Kratz (UWP-Student Senate)  
PPT ex-officio members present: Crofoot (City), Ernst (UWP)  
PPT Staff Liaisons: Hellwig (Running Inc)  
City Staff present: Sigwarth  
Members of the public: Kyle Brady, Eli Johnson

**Call to Order:** Crofoot called the meeting to order on zoom at 2:03pm.

**Approval of Minutes: October 14:** Schnurer motion, Ericson second to approve minutes as written. Motion passed.

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

**Route Discussion:**

Budget / Hours of Service / Fares & Revision of Routes:

Crofoot noted the green route has not been running due to driver shortage. Schurner noted that students do have concerns regarding the current bus route revisions, but staff are explaining the budget and driver issues to them.

Proposed Changes to Running, Inc's hours of service and fares (Taxi):

- shutting down the weekend routes earlier than the current end time of 3:00AM on Fri, Sat and Sun morning. Potentially offering the later hours only on Friday and Saturday, or ending the Fri, Sat, and Sun shifts at 11pm. These extra savings in hours could then be moved to the day shifts. This would also be a potential answer to COA's concern of hospital service after Taxi hours as Sun – Wed the taxi is done at 8pm.
- Raising taxi fares:
  - \$3.25 for Adults (\$0.50 increase from current \$2.75)
  - \$3.00 for Seniors/Disabled/Under 18 (\$0.50 increase from current \$2.50)
  - \$2.50 or \$3.00 charge per mile outside of city limits (increase from current \$2.00)

Ericson proposed raising the bus fares for non-students from \$1 to \$2, closer to current taxi fares. Additional consideration is the drivers not having to carry change. Currently only exact change is accepted for the bus fare or purchase of monthly bus pass (\$50 for three months)

Enz: Comparing current taxi fares to area communities, \$3 matches those averages. For Main Street District Seniors and Low-Income, the Main Street program would be willing to pursue a grant to assist those in need with the cost of higher fares. A \$0.50 increase could be unsustainable for low- and fixed-income community members. Enz spoke in favor of keeping bus fares where they are at. The committee's goal is to improve bus ridership amongst the community, having transportation options similar priced would not achieve that. Geyer noted that the lower fare of the bus is an incentive to use it.

Parrott recommended looking into potentially adjusting fare for peak hours. Crofoot will check with DOT regarding legality and if that's something that can be done.

Enz inquired if a Safe Ride program is currently offered in the City. Crofoot and Hellwig noted that there were two previous programs that ran, but both are defunct at this time. Enz noted that Dubuque, IA does have a current non-profit, volunteer driven program DURIDE. If taxi fare increase became a hardship for seniors, we could connect with DURIDE and see if a similar program is viable here.

Hellwig mentioned he believed the state funded a medical transport program.

**Survey Update:**



**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, October 28, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.**  
**Committee will meet via ZOOM**  
**Link Below**

Sigwarth updated the Committee that the online version of the survey is live and already has 8 responses. Paper copies of the survey and posters directing riders to the online survey have been distributed to Stratton Busses, Running Inc, Platteville Public Library and City Hall. The Senior Center has also received 100 copies to distribute with their home delivery meals and 100 copies to be distributed at the Center itself. Ericson would like to arrange a time to meet with the taxi drivers and bus drivers to gain additional insights. Geyer noted that previous data showing that disabled or seniors did not take the bus should be balanced by the understanding that up until very recently these citizens were told they should take the taxi.

**Meeting Schedule for PPT:**

Next Meeting – Thursday, November 18: Crofoot reminded Committee members that our next meeting will be Thursday, November 18 via Zoom at 2:00 PM.

**Adjourn:** Elskamp motioned to adjourn, second by Parrot, at 2:41pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81738996662?pwd=OWN1RnRZRE1CZjRFblc0ZjdhaHFhUT09>

Meeting ID: 817 3899 6662

Passcode: 279539

