Meeting Minutes Monday June 5, 2023

5:30pm - 7:30pm Remote/Virtual Meeting

Meeting No. 23.05
Prepared by Andrew Cormier

Members Present:

Edmonton Transit Service Advisory Board

Giselle General (Chair), Serena Tang (Vice Chair), Bob Turner, Joshua Jackman, Mudasser Seraj, Madeleine Stout, Zohra Jabeen, Bailey Gerrits, Eugene Masahkwe, Maria Owczarek

Regrets:

Michelle Peters-Jones, Emily Batty

ETS & City of Edmonton Staff:

Councillor Erin Rutherford, ETSAB Council Advisor Marc Lachance, ETS Staff Liaison - Regret Sarah Felrman, Director, Business Integration and Workforce Development Mag Leung, ETS P&S Admin - Regret Andrew Cormier, ETS BM Admin

External Liaison:

Steve Bradshaw (President, ATU 569) - Regret

External Presenters:

Valerie Dacyk, Supervisor Active Pathways/Snow

Materials & Attachments:

- Meeting Agenda
- ETS Branch Highlights Report

Land acknowledgement - S. Tang

CALL TO ORDER 5:35 PM

-meeting done a week delayed to allow for Provincial election

AGENDA REVIEW DECISION

MOVED: by Zohra Jabeen to approve the June 5, 2023 agenda.

CARRIED

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING DECISION

MOVED: by Bob Turner to approve the April 24, 2023 minutes.

CARRIED

Active Pathways - Snow clearing

• Presentation - V. Dacyk

Valerie's presentation covered the following topics:

- Bus Stop Winter Maintenance: addressing accessibility and accessibility concerns
- Overview of the different types of bus stops in the city and various prioritization levels of maintenance
- Outlined of timelines for mechanical and personnel clearing of bus stop snow/ice
- A summary of current challenges, for example snow before timeline cycle completes leads to priority

 All timelines reviewed are from last year, may change going forward based on budget approved by city council

Q&A and comments

- B. Turner, Congratulations for improving in 2022/23. Improvement on Windrows has been appreciated. I would request that removing ice remains from bus stops and shelters remain a priority for mobility challenges unless snow is significant. V. Dacyk expressed appreciation and mentioned they will continue to review ice removal processes
- S. Tang asked whether citizens submitting reports to 311 impact timelines, as in, speed up the process. V. Dacyk clarified that it is not directly the case, they have a team that does inspections based on 311, but snow clearing is based on significant issues to escalate
- G. General mentioned about a Snow Clearing Pilot project in collaboration with community leagues last year, to specifically help residents who struggle with snow and ice sidewalk clearing. The implementation resulted in mixed results. Will this be done again this upcoming winter. V. Dacyk clarified she is not on the public interactions section of our team so cannot clearly respond, but she's been aware how community involvement can be helpful.
- E. Masakhwe inquired about residential areas and what is the process for building transit shelters to protect transit users from the elements. V. Dacyk stated this is out of her department's scope. S. Feldman requested to review how bus shelters are allocated (residential or otherwise)

New Business/Updates:

New board member Introduction & Orientation

- G. General provided a quick recap. Orientation took place last Thursday June 1. New members were given an overview on the general operation of the board. G. General to send out materials to members and have conversations regarding board and operations.
- A roundtable introduction of all board members and meeting attendees took place.

Grad Student liaison update

- Previously, there was a formal partnership between the University of Alberta and the Office
 of the City Clerk, where grad students apply to volunteer for various agencies, boards and
 commissions.
- While this formal process is no longer available, a University of Alberta graduate student has proactively reached out to ETSAB and she is interested in volunteering with research.
- We will be able to confirm on-boarding and scope of her potential volunteer involvement when ETSAB receives additional information on how working groups should be organized in the future.

CUTA planning/participation

- Date of the conference is Nov 12-15. CUTA allows for organizations to present during conferences. Members presented ideas and G.General is compiling and will work with M. Lachance to see if we have the appropriate presenter for the decided presentation proposal.
- In our budget we have provision for 2 all expensive trips for members, looking to see if we can expand due to the location being Edmonton. S. Feldman mentioned that looks like we can manage 8 attendee registrations, will verify
- B. Turner: asked about day rates or whether a way to share conference passes is available. S. Feldman mentioned CUTA may not accommodate as conference fee is typically a single rate for the entire event.
- M. Owczarek inquired about the conference fee? S. Feldman confirmed, cost per

Bi-Annual lunch with Councillors

- G. General mentioned that as it is already June and with the upcoming summer recess of the Councillors, scheduling one is too short notice. Currently ETSAB does not have any active subcommittees which limits the scope of the meeting. Given these factors, it may be better to attend the next meeting in Fall.
- J. Jackman suggested the timing to be right after our retreat as it would be good to have topics and then check in with Councillors.

Sub Committee Updates

Subcommittee process change update

G. General

- Subcommittee refers to smaller groups within the ETSAB board, language changing to working groups.
- Moving forward, working groups meetings also need to be publicly available/broadcast. S.
 Feldman confirms.Based on interpretation of Municipal Act, as well as acceptance of live
 streaming. M. Lachance and S. Feldman are working with the Office of the City Clerk to get
 support for the transition. The rules are direct and need to be complied. Concerns and
 questions from the members are the following:
 - Impacts on proceeding with work and what can the board do in the meantime, including. signup sheets, administrative work, compile shared documents and research. S. Feldman clarified that board members can continue on documents, sign ups and more. If the group isn't meeting up it can proceed.
 - Board Chair access to Youtube, and whether she can broadcast herself without admin staff. S. Feldman said this may be a good option. Livestream needs to be published and links available ahead of time.
 - B. Turner and J. Jackman emphasized the need for meaningful admin infrastructure to support.
 - B. Turner inquires if the Police Commission is required to do the same. S. Feldman indicated that the Police Commission is governed by different rules.
 - G.General mentioned that the new process needs to be flexible to accommodate short notice meeting arrangements.

Budget J. Jackman

- J. Jackman provided a recap after the report was approved at the last meeting. He
 expressed thanks to all the subcommittee members' efforts that created an excellent report
 and found a great compromise and balance or critique and construction. He confirmed this
 wraps up the scope for the subcommittee.
- Cllr Rutherford expressed thanks to the committee and asked if any councilors responded to the letter. G. General mentioned no responses or rebuttals. Cllr Rutherforn suggests that ETSAB reach out again during the Fall supplemental budget discussions.
- G.General thanks J. Jackman for taking on a subcommittee chair role in his first year as a member of ETSAB, his diligence and proactiveness.

Mobility and Accessibility in Edmonton Winters

S. Tang

- Board subcommittee has completed their report.
- S. Tang provided an overview of the scope of the report, which is reviewing the winter transit trips of the members from January - March 2023. The report provides recommendations on what we would like to see from a resident's viewpoint.
- B. Gerrits suggested adding titles for every chart in the report for better clarity.
- · Discussion took place whether new board members who attended their first meeting, are

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permitted to vote. Bylaws confirmed that all members in attendance are eligible and must cast a vote.

Board members voted:

Board Motion to approve Report on Mobility and Accessibility in Edmonton Winters Subcommittee:

MOVED: by S. Tang to approve report of the Mobility and Accessibility in Edmonton Winters Subcommittee

- S. Tang will finalize the formatting of the report. The final version will be provided to M. Leung which will be forwarded to City Council.
- S. Tang will coordinate with M. Leung, S. Feldman. M. Lachance and the Office of the City Clerk to schedule a presentation. It is suggested to present on dates where other transit-related topics will be presented to UPC, and ideally before next winter.

External Updates	
ATU 569	S. Bradshaw
Not available to update.	
ETS Branch Highlights Report	S. Feldman

- S. Feldman presented on the following topics:
 - Ridership boardings information
 - Advancing Edmonton's Safety and Security On May 1, Administration provided a verbal update to City Council on Advancing Edmonton's Safety and Security which outlined the City's progress and upcoming actions to improve safety and security on transit, as well as in the downtown and Chinatown areas.
 - Summer 2023 Activities
 - Grade 6 School Outreach In May and June, ETS provided grade 6 students at two public elementary schools their first transit experience. This work is part of a pilot to partner with local school boards to help grade 6 students feel more comfortable using ETS when they transition to junior high school in September.
 - Summer 2023 Special Event Service will have a busy summer event season this year
 - o Edmonton Elks football games May 27, June 11, June 25, July 13, July 29, August 10 and
 - o August 27
 - Luke Combs Concert June 3
 - o Soundtrack Music Festival June 16-17
 - $\circ \quad \hbox{ Canadian Road Cycling Championships June 24}\\$
 - o Canada Day July 1
 - Concert at Commonwealth July 2
 - o K-Days July 21
 - o PTO Triathlon July 22
 - Concert at Commonwealth August 2
 - Heritage Festival August 5-7
 - Alberta International Airshow at Villeneuve Airport August 5
 - Edmonton Folk Music Festival August 10-13
 - Cariwest Parade August 12
 - Arc Update -Working together with regional partners, ETS is making progress on the roll out of the Arc
 - fare payment system.

Q&A

B. Gerrits asked if there has been data recorded regarding harassment/ violence and a way to access the data. S. Feldman mentioned that in the monthly reports they discuss, one of the things they review is joint analytics between EPS and ETS and other organizations. ETS has data, however for criminal data, it would default to EPS. There's no specific timeline on when the data can be accessed, publicly available information will be available to ETSAB. Cllr Rutherford mentioned that the last report council received included graphs and information. S. Feldman will share the last report in the next meeting. G.General added that she received the post-campaign survey of the bystander campaign, so the report on the campaign will be published soon.

Councillor	Emerging	Issues	Update
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 B. Lurner raised the topic of several numbered citations for fare evasion from sheriffs and other non-transit law enforcement. Those that receive citations tend not to have the ability to pay. Cllr. Rutherford agreed that it is a concern and a consequence that she anticipates from the reinstatement of the loitering bylaw.
 - G.General mentioned that the topic of fare evasion, loitering bylaw, and treatment of unhoused individuals in transit facilities can be a valuable component in the two upcoming subcommittees which are on COTT and on Ridership Improvement Strategies.
 - B. Turner also suggested arranging another way to quickly respond to this topic, similar to when ETSAB gave feedback on the Grandin Station renaming.

Accessibility Advisory Committee - AAC

Z. Jabeen

- Z. Jabeen requested clarification on connecting with AAC. AAC believes there is limited ETSAB related information in their meetings, resulting in her not actively attending their meetings from not getting the invitation.
- G.General confirmed that asking to attend AAC meetings every month is not necessary, but it is useful to periodically ask whether they have discussed transit recently.
- AAC Board Member D. Rudolph did not attend this meeting.
- Z. Jabeen requested that all electronic invites should be sent to D. Rudolph for all recurring meetings and for M. Leung to facilitate this.

Monthly Branch Update with Carrie

G. General

G. General was not able to meet with Carrie this month. C. Hotton-MacDonald continues to be aware of ETSAB's activities as she receives all the meeting invitations and post-meeting documents, so there is no concern of lack of awareness of ETSAB's activities.

Topics of the Night

S. Tang

- Presentation from V. Dacyk on the snow clearing process of bus stops
- First official meeting with new members and introductions.

Motion to Adjourn 7:50pm

CHAIR SIGN-OFF