



Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes “FINAL”

Monday, July 31, 2017

5:30PM –8:00PM

Heritage Room, City Hall

Meeting No. 17.07

Prepared by Christy McKenzie

Members Present:

Izak Roux (Chair), Bob Macklon, Brian Curry, Charles Kelly, Isabell Hubert, Jorge Arango, Kristina Peter, Sean Lee, Mark Tettersington (President, ATU 569)

Regrets:

J. Philip Reid, Stewart Smith, Mariah Samji, Vlad Slavov (Vice-Chair)

Guests: Darrell Babiuk, Citizen/previously Chicago Transit Project Manager

ETS & City of Edmonton Staff:

Marc Lachance (ETS Staff Liaison)

Christy McKenzie, Administrative Assistant, ETSAB and ETS Technical Services, City Ops

Materials & Attachments:

- Meeting Agenda
- Draft Minutes from June 26th, 2017
- Copy of DRAFT final Transit and Tourism report
- Copy of DRAFT Terms of Reference – Automated Vehicles sub-committee
- Copy of DRAFT Terms of Reference – Gondolas/Cable Cars
- Handout – Open House materials from Central LRT Study (Downtown Circulator)
- ETS Branch Highlights Report

1. CALL TO ORDER
Call to order at 5:30PM

2. AGENDA REVIEW	DECISION
<p>MOVED: by C. Kelly & seconded by I. Roux to approve this July 31st, 2017 agenda, with the following changes: - Add to new business section – Tracking Requests for Information sent to ETS Administration</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>CARRIED</u></p>	

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES	DECISION
<p>MOVED: by B. Macklon & seconded by B. Curry to approve the June 26th, 2017 minutes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>CARRIED</u></p>	

4. PRESENTATIONS	INFORMATION
Designers as Problem Solvers U of A student suggestions for Transit Improvements	C.Fiorentino
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board was presented with a number of potential solutions to transit issues identified by students as part of an ongoing class project. Some concepts shared included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large volume bike transportation on bottom level of double decker buses • Sidewalks with underground hot water heating for bike lanes in winter • Bike share/rentals like car shares, as in Melbourne, Australia • Special bus lanes, not shared with cars • Charging stations for electric cars • Cheaper or free fares for unemployed citizens to allow them to go to work 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “FLOW” fare smart card like the student One Card • TOD and other solutions to encourage park and ride • Over-road pedestrian bridges at schools • Redesign layout of seats in trains and buses • Announcement timing at U of A transit center – reschedule to announce next bus since there isn’t time to reach the train from the entrance, and/or traffic lights at different levels to reduce danger of running on stairs to catch trains. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question and answer period followed, and included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions around international student’s transit experiences influencing their solutions. • Discussion around solutions for bus network/connection issues. • The Board commented that many of the solutions were practical even if they were simple. 	
Transit Stop Access and Mobility Design Best Practices	C. Sherstone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carolyn provided a presentation to the Board on integrated mobility for first mile/last mile for transit riders in Edmonton, with a focus on bus stops. There are over 7000 bus stops on Edmonton’s Transit System. A case study of a mother charged in the death of her son for J-walking as shortest route to the bus stop in Georgia was highlighted as an example of strategic placement of stops. • Some of the main considerations presented were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For people walking, proximity matters, but route matters too. • Designing for everyone, including those with mobility challenges. • Designing for the whole year, with a focus on Edmonton as a Winter City, Real Time information on wait times, adding heat to high use stops as in Fort McMurray, positive emotional resonance with good lighting. • Designing bike facilities to connect to major transit routes. • Providing bike parking at busy bus stops, and bike share options. New York bike share stats were provided as an example with an average of 5.2 rides per day. • Design examples were displayed with various options for the use of the ancillary zone as a mixed use zone, including transit platform designs that integrate with bike lanes with either pedestrians or cyclists having the right of way. • Bus stop safety and accessibility challenges in industrial areas were also highlighted. • Question and answer period followed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion around standards for bus stop placement. NACTO is the National Association of City Transportation Officials that provides standards at the community planning level, but these may not be specific to industrial areas. The members requested information on standards regarding bus stop placement and the bus shelter upgrade process within ETS. 	

5. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL	DECISION
Transit and Tourism DRAFT Final Report	S. Lee
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion around EEDC and EIA. Sean received some feedback to circulate to the members for information, and also interest from EIA to present to the Board at a future meeting on status of transit demands at the airport. • Sean confirmed for members that the sub-committee decided not to specify locations for hubs. • The Board discussed inclusion of recommendation to explore partnerships with tourism and hotels as a seventh item, since it is noted in the details of the report. • Sean confirmed that the sub-committee chose to avoid addressing the bus service to Greyhound and VIA Rail terminals in their TOR because they are aware that ETS has addressed it by allowing Greyhound to stop for customers at the Kingsway Transit Centre. • The Board voted unanimously in favour of approving the report for submission to UPC with inclusion of additional recommendation to <i>“Investigate the possibility of partnerships between ETS and the hospitality industry.”</i> <p>MOVED: by B. Macklon & seconded by S. Lee to approve the Tourism and Transit Report for submission to the Urban Planning Committee with the following addition: - Include an additional of cover page and recommendation to “Investigate the possibility of partnerships between ETS and the hospitality industry.”</p>	

<u>CARRIED</u>	
Automated Vehicles DRAFT TOR	C. Kelly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members expressed some concern for the scope of the terms, as the deliverable should be ready within three months. It was suggested that the items be assigned to specific members. Charlie confirmed that the first seven items are background/research items on automated vehicles in general to support the last two, which are transit-specific. All members voted in favour of approving the terms as is. 	
<p>MOVED: by C. Kelly & seconded by B. Curry to approve the Terms of Reference for the Automated Vehicle sub-committee.</p>	
<u>CARRIED</u>	

6. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES	INFORMATION
Transit Innovation	I. Roux
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vlad will schedule the next meeting and send invite to all members. 	
Gondolas/Cable Cars	I. Roux
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DRAFT terms of reference were distributed to members by Vlad, for review and approval at the August general meeting of the Board. The members requested search of previous Board files on record for work related to Gondolas in past years for consideration by sub-committee. 	

7. NEW BUSINESS	INFORMATION
Debrief of Recent Council Meetings, including BRT updates	I. Roux
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Izak noted that Councillor Nickel's office has been in contact to request a meeting after the Summer Recess regarding the BRT Routing letter submitted by the Board. 	
Central LRT Study Open House – July 20	I. Roux
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two board members attended the open house and found the presentation informative. The contractor has contacted the Chair to offer further information, including the option of a presentation to the Board at the August or September meeting. 	
Tracking of Information Requests from ETS Administration	S. Lee
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for formal tracking of information requests from the ETSAB. Track both when the request was made, and when the information was provided back with easily accessible path to the information. Christy recommended using a google sheet for tracking information requests. Marc suggested providing the responses in the Branch Highlights Report, linked to the tracking sheet. Information requests that need to be tracked to be confirmed by the Board at monthly meetings. 	

8. INFORMATION SECTION	INFORMATION
ATU Update	M. Tetterington
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mark provided ATU feedback on ETS' Transit Strategy Report to Council. The Dial-a-Bus concept was described in some detail for members' information. Bus Operators as a safe person/safe place for the public was also highlighted. Mark confirmed for members that a modification to the placement of the mirrors on some buses was recently piloted. The mirrors were lowered by shorting the mounting posts by 4.5". This created a blind spot for drivers who were shorter, or set their seats low. It was noted that if manufacturers could narrow the corner posts that may be a better solution. 	

DATS Advisory Group Update	B. Macklon
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DAG does not meet during the summer months. Updates were not applicable. 	

ETS Branch Highlights Report	M. Lachance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The July Branch Highlights report was presented. Question and answer period followed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board requested the status of Marc’s proposal for Transit statistics as outlined in earlier meetings this year. Marc noted that public release requires approval at the Deputy City Manager level, which has been taking some time. Izak requested that the ridership statistics provided previously be added back on to the monthly Branch Highlights report. Members inquired about whether turn style gates are being included in the design for Smart Fare, and Marc confirmed that the Valley Line LRT design philosophy of lowering the impact/footprint of the facility does not support this. The stations are a smaller scale than the existing lines. The number of electric buses procured was requested. Marc confirmed that the procurement process is underway and will depend on bid amounts. The new garage is being constructed with the capacity for 40 buses, and the minimum number approved for purchase is 25 buses. Marc confirmed that ETSAB’s inquiry regarding links between bus stops and LRT stations on July 1st should be addressed in the new service schedule that will be active from September. The status of message signs at Grandin was requested. Marc confirmed that the contractor managing the signs are still trouble-shooting, and cannot diagnose the problem if the signs are shut off. There is no solution or timeline as yet that Marc is aware of. The Board requested another update in two months. 	

9. TOPIC OF THE NIGHT	DECISION
	I. Roux
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The approval of the Board’s Transit and Tourism report to the Urban Planning Committee, which identifies some options to make transit more attractive and conducive for tourists and visitors, was chosen as the topic of the night. 	

10. MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING	DECISION
<p>MOVED: by I. Hubert & seconded by M. Samji on August 28th, 2017 to approve these July 31st, 2017 minutes.</p>	
CARRIED	

Next Meeting Information:
Date: Monday, August 28, 2017
Time: 5: 30PM – 8:00PM
Location: Heritage Room, City Hall