

**BATTLE CREEK
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
TRANSIT BUILDING via Zoom, Virtual Meeting
Friday March 4, 2022
2:00 PM**

Committee Members Present: Vice Mayor Faris, Commissioners Blood, Morris and Reynolds, all attending remotely from Battle Creek, Michigan.

Committee Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Ted Dearing, Assistant City Manager: Mallory Avis, Transit Director: Marcel Stoetzel, Deputy City Attorney: Alicia Greene, Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order: Comm. Blood called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Vice Mayor Faris, supported by Comm. Morris, to approve the September 20, 2022. All in favor, none opposed. Motion approved.

Current BCT Operations

Ms. Avis reviewed current BCT Operations, highlighting the current mask mandate required by the TSA Security Directive, noting good compliance of passengers and operators.

Ms. Avis noted reduced services on the Main and Post and NE Capital routes, put into place in January due to staffing issues, and is being restored, Monday March 7, 2022, to the previously modified schedule (schedules still not at full level).

BCGo celebrates their 1 year anniversary, covering all of Calhoun County. Ms. Avis noted the program will run until funding is exhausted, with hopes of receiving additional funds to keep some form of the operation in place.

Vice Mayor Faris and Comm. Morris thanked Ms. Avis and her team for all their hard work.

Ms. Avis shared, the efficiency of BCGo vs. Tele-Transit, noting the future fleet of Tele-Transit moving toward the BCGo model of vehicle.

Proposed Future Service Changes

Ms. Avis reviewed potential future service changes, including eliminating narrow pathways in neighborhoods, utilizing more trunk lines, implementing additional stops to the VA-Fort Custer route and possibly expanding services to other areas, such as the City of Springfield.

Ms. Avis stated proposed plans will be brought before the PTC for review in the near future.

Vice Mayor Faris emphasized support is needed from the City of Springfield with potential expanded services.

Ms. Avis stated all bus shelters are currently under environmental review, funding has been allocated but not yet funded.

Proposed FY 2023 Fare Increases

Ms. Avis noted, BCT will allow for a minimum of 30 days public comment/outreach and hold a public hearing prior to bringing before the City Commission for consideration and implementation on July 1, 2022.

The Committee discussed the proposed fare structure changes.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Faris, supported by Comm. Reynolds, to approve the FY 2023 fare increase proposed by the Transit Department. All in favor, none opposed. Motion approved.

Public Comment: None

Committee Comment: Vice Mayor Faris thanked all the Committee members and Transit staff for the work put into the fare increases.

Adjournment: Comm. Blood adjourned the meeting at 2:50 PM.