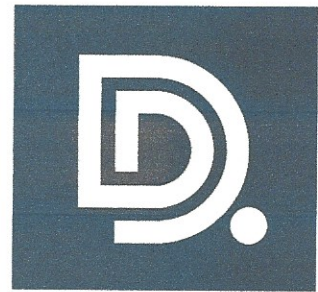


Local Advisory Council (LAC) Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 15, 2022



LAC Member Attendance

District One	Andre Bryant	Present
District Two	Tamara Perrin	Present
District Three	James Jones	Absent
District Four	Tammy Black	Absent
District Five	Sabrina Simmons	Present
District Six	Yvonne Roundtree	Present
District Seven	Fayne Chennault	Present
DAAA	Rick Spivey	Present
DAAA	Anita Owen	Present

Notes

This was a virtual meeting. Seven of Nine LAC members were in attendance. There were 38 people who attending divided between Administrative Staff and community members, including Kim Tandy, District Manager District Two.

Don Lozen provide meeting guidelines prior to the meeting being officially opened.

Call to Order

Andre Bryant, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

Opening Remarks/Chairperson

Mr. Bryant wished everyone a Happy New Year. He expressed his gratitude for being elected Chairperson of the LAC.

Approval of the November 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve was initiated by Tamara Perrin. Second by Sabrina Simmons. Motion Approved by accent.

Chairperson's Report

Nothing to report.

DDOT Administrative Reports

A. Assistant Deputy Director of Administration-Maryanne Walsh

Stated that Mr. Oglesby met with WOW (Warriors on Wheels) last week and had a robust meeting discussing the future direction of Paratransit. There will be more such meetings in the future.

B. Assistant Director of Operations-Melvin Barkley

Introduced himself to the LAC and gave his work history in transportation which included work for DDOT Paratransit years ago. He asked for the LAC to provide feedback on the service. He asked that comments be made by calling 313 933 1300.

C. Transit PD-Lt. Arnold

Discussed recent issues with snow removal at bus stops that Transit Police helped to solve for riders. Officers are able to respond more effectively to issues on the bus.

D. Scheduling and Planning-Steve Patrnick

Reviewed the November service changes and gave an update on the revision of the review of the system. DDOT just hired a consultant so public input meetings won't start until March or early April.

E. Assistant Director - Vehicle Maintenance-Robert Granger

Mr. Granger stated that there is a severe shortage of mechanics and asked that if anyone know a good mechanic that he would appreciate a referral. In spite of the shortage, best efforts are being put forward to keep the buses safe and in good repair.

F. Maintenance Manager-Geo Joy

He stated his position and related he had no updates for the meeting.

G. Superintendent-Larry Tiller

Mr. Tiller reported no new updates. He asked that riders make complaints about violations of priority seating so he can follow up. Drivers have been notified by memo and discussion about the importance of priority seating is being handled properly.

H. General Manager, MetroLift-Simone Moore

The mask mandate is in effect until March 18, 2022. Discussed the need for drivers and riders to wear masks. Let MetroLift know if drivers aren't wearing masks. Call back feature will return this spring. Our mobile app appears to have a couple of bugs we are working out, especially the screenreader.

I. ADA Coordinator-Fixed Route and Paratransit-Don Lozen

Mr. Lozen announced that he is now providing oversight to both the fixed route and Paratransit system. He is currently involved with ensuring DDOT meets all regulatory compliant issues for the FTA audit that will take place in the next 3-4 months. There is a current concern about priority seats not being put down after wheelchairs are secured which gives the impression that they aren't usable. He is addressing that. The Secret Riders are providing good monitoring of the system. They have been asked to fill out a new form on the accessibility features of the fixed line buses. This is to prove that our buses are ADA compliant for the FTA review.

Old Business

No old business

New Business-LAC Leadership Recommendations

Tamara Perrin, LAC Member- stated she has made some contacts in her district to advance public transportation. She had to leave the meeting, but she will meet with the chair, and Mr. Lozen to help plan the LAC efforts to reach out to District and Council Members.

Faye Chennault, LAC Member- She stated she spoke with Mona Ali, District 7 Manager, and Mr. Springs to encourage them to attend the LAC meetings and to continue conversations to improve transportation for seniors and disabled riders

Sabrina Simmons, LAC Member- Stated she has contacted Brian Fisher, District 5 Neighborhood Deputy District Manager to discuss transportation issues. They are to have a meeting soon.

Public Comments

1. **Renard Monczunski-** He wanted clarification on Mr. Oglesby announcement on his plans to transition paratransit to DDOT to take over everything except operations. He also wanted clarification on Mr. Oglesby announcement on New Freedom still having funding, and not taking people, though they have (MetroLift) been encouraged to still take on people and run down their funding. I am encouraged that DDOT is addressing issues but want to know how under the



- new system how will driver problems will be address; such as language barrier, sexual assault accusations, how will drivers be trained and held accountable.
2. **Stephen Handschu**-Complained about the lack of pertinent information being disseminated to the LAC. He was miffed that no one could provide information on New Freedom or about other facets of DDOT operations. He was frustrated that he had difficulty logging on to the meeting. He made a suggestion that a stool be used to help riders board MetroLift vehicles. He also stated that he would like DDOT staff to identify themselves by name and title when speaking. He made a second comment on his experiences with priority seats being folded and drivers stated they were like that in case a wheelchair rider was to board. He has also seen drivers tie off the priority seats.
 3. **Robert Pawlowski**- He welcomed the new chairmen, Andre Bryant. He to know why hasn't DDOT embraced the Q Straint system for wheelchair tie-down. SMART has it, and why DDOT hasn't got it, is concerning. He complained that Customer Service staff have an attitude and don't listen. He would give them a letter grade of D. He wants this problem addressed. Needs to approved this year.
 4. **Marguerite Maddox**-She asked about the Priority Seat issue that Mr. Lozen brought up. She stated that there are issues with walkers not being stored properly on the bus. She supports efforts to make sure Priority Seating is managed better. She also asked for that the question in the chat be read which asked if new people can be accepted for the New Freedom program.
 5. **Sabrina Simmons (LAC District 5 Representative)** She indicated that she knows blind individuals who want to receive notice of the LAC meeting and would like to know how that can happen. She also expressed concern that Administrative staff have not given reports at both the November, 2021 meeting and today.

Other

Reports from Lt. Arnold, Transit Police and Don Lozen, ADA Coordinator, were given. (Content is reported under DDOT Administrative Reports)

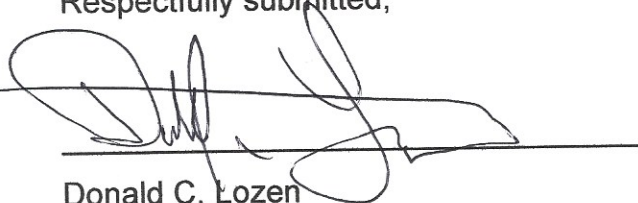
Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and support by Tamara Perrin. The motion passed unanimously at 11:04 a.m.

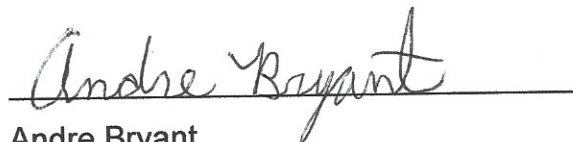


The next meeting is May 17, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donald C. Lozen', written over a horizontal line.

Donald C. Lozen
Regulatory Compliance Officer-ADA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andre Bryant', written over a horizontal line.

Andre Bryant
Chairperson, Local Advisory Council