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Draft Meeting Minutes Monday, March 28, 2022

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

Meeting No. 22.03

Prepared by Mag Leung

Members Present:

Edmonton Transit Service Advisory Board

Lindsay Vanstone (Chair), Serena Tang (Vice Chair), Michelle Peters-Jones (Vice Chair), Giselle General, Bob Turner, Bryan Shepherd, Guy Milner

Regrets:

Mark Harvey, Jarrett Esslinger, Phil Reid, William Agbakoba

ETS & City of Edmonton Staff:
Councillor Erin Rutherford, ETSAB Council Advisor
Marc Lachance, ETS Staff Liaison
Mag Leung, ETS Planning & Scheduling Admin

External Liaison:

Steve Bradshaw (President, ATU 569) - Regrets

External Presenters:

Priyanka Babbar

Materials & Attachments:

- Meeting Agenda
- ETS Branch Highlights Report

Land acknowledgement - L. Vanstone

CALL TO ORDER 5:41 PM

AGENDA REVIEW DECISION

MOVED: by G. General to approve the March 28, 2022 agenda.

CARRIED

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING DECISION

MOVED: by S. Tang to approve the January & February 2022 minutes.

CARRIED

Women in Transit Research

• Presentation - Priyanka Babbar

Presentation started with information on Understanding and Responding to the Transit needs of women in Canada. Women are primary users of transit through a lot of agencies as they make up the majority of riders. Understanding and responding to their needs is important for transportation planning.

The following was presented::

Study Context and Objectives - to understand the differentiated needs and experiences of women's

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travel and to understand the current practice of considering women's distinct travel needs in public transit planning in Canada.

- Methodology Mixed methodology approach literature review based on Global North, considered all modes of transportation and hosted a webinar with 210 attendees with 4 women leaders. Agencies that were researched were BC, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec.
- Major findings How gender influences travel by traditional household roles, caregiving, domestic work, gender wage gap, feminized occupations. Common patterns of women traveling are during mid day or off peak time, more trip chaining, localized/ short distance trips, higher frequency of trips.
- Recommendation and next steps Partnerships between academics and practitioners, collect gender based data, customer satisfaction surveys, integrate gender equity evaluations into business cases and planning processes and achieve gender parity in the public transit workforce.

Discussion

Research found that the peak period when women travel is 2pm. Concerns for women walking further to the bus stops and longer distances turns women away from taking transit at night. BNR longer distance between bus stops is 600M. City of Edmonton Household survey happens every 10 years, the more updated research on this the better knowledge to capture more ridership.

New Business/Updates:

Hybrid/in person meeting in April

- Discussed if any board members were interested in hybrid or in person meeting for April as COE staff will be returning to the office.
- City administration will need to find a meeting room to accommodate hybrid/ in person meeting

Election for Executive Positions

New executive for ETSAB 2022-2023

- Chair Giselle General
- Vice Chair Michelle Peters- Jones
- Vice Chair Serena Tang

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Sub Committee Updates

Safety and Security

M.Peters-Jones

- Research is almost complete for Safety and Security for young people in transit
- Guy and Michelle will draft the report to Council and is looking forward to share this
- Findings have been interesting and aligns a lot with the Safety and Security report that was released.
- Draft report will be circulated to the board

Sustainable and Equitable Funding Models

G. General

 Was not able to have a meeting in March as they were busy reviewing presentation documents that ETS will be presenting to Council on. Unfortunately, this presentation was postponed to April 13th.

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 L. vansione and ivi. Lacriance to notify G. General when presentation material is available.
 - Will have sub committee members review and provide feedback drafted in a letter to Council prior to April 13th presentation.

External Updates ATU 569 S. Bradshaw Not available to present L. Vanstone will get in touch with Steve for an update

ETS Branch Highlights Report

M. Lachance

M.Lachance presented the ETS Branch Highlights Report

- Discussed face masks on transit and transit spaces, such as transit centres and LRT platforms, continue to be required
- March 18 marked the end of temporary bus service changes implemented on February 6 due to decreased staffing levels related to the Omicron variant.
- Construction of the Stadium LRT Station which began in May 2020 is expected to be complete early 2022. Work includes completing the new heated shelters, constructing the public plaza between the station and Commonwealth Stadium, and adding landscaping.
- BNR expansion opportunities The motion approved by Committee directs Administration to bring forward a budget service package for Council's consideration during the 2023-2026 budget discussions this fall.
- Regional Transit Service Commission Update March 14, the Edmonton Metropolitan Transit Services Commission (EMTSC) updated Edmonton City Council with their approach and work plan for 2022.
- Board would like to hear more about the ARC pilot, what kinds of data has been gathered from this
- Will schedule presentation for May/June for Regional work plan
- Concern was brought up regarding the shut down of washrooms in Transit stations. Washrooms will be reopened when safe to do so as it is currently not safe.

Councillor Emerging Issues Update

E. Rutherford

- Transit bylaw was passed
- Regional Transit at Council noticed some red flags Edmonton is committed to give up 10% of service hours to Regional commission by the end of 2022 beginning of 2023 and there will be more down the road. This is a significant amount so more discussion will be made, therefore no decision was made at the Council meeting.
- BNR team gave a fantastic report. They are responsive and are continually improving based on feedback. Council will continue to invest in transit. Motion was put forward.
- 4 year budget cycle coming up would like to hear feedback if there are any budget considerations from a transit perspective from the board. Please share with C. Rutherford would need to make motion soon in order for it to be part of of budget discussion
- Received \$69 million from Provincial and Federal government to help with operational cost and impacts from covid.

Edmonton Arts Council - EAC S. Tang No updates M. Peter Jones **Accessibility Advisory Committee - AAC** No updates **Monthly Branch Update with Carrie** L. Vanstone

- The Sustainability report was postponed due to needing more time to review with the financial team. Will be able to provide the report before it gets posted online for the board to review.
- On Demand service was added to an additional 5 neighborhoods. They were able to adjust service hours and levels to accommodate neighborhoods.

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 E15 working on the needs assessment for the 3 mobile home neighborhoods in Edmonton.

 Vision is to work toward a convenient, safe and easy to use attractive transit service.

 - Currently Security and safety issues are a big problem.
 - Would like to see more opportunities to work with ETSAB.
 - Has received lots of feedback from the ARC pilot project

Topics of the Night S. Tang

- Presentation from Priyanka Babbar on Women in transit research.
- ETSAB had their executive positions elected for 2022-2023 Giselle General (Chair), Michelle Peters-Jones (Vice Chair), and S. Tang(Vice Chair)
- Discussed ETSAB's role to be more involved in Regional Transit Service

Motion to Adjourn 740pm

CHAIR SIGN-OFF