



Planning & Stakeholder Relations Committee

February 15, 2024

Board Committee Members

John Tague – in person
Ann Ogoreuc – in person
Stephanie Turman – virtual
Ali Doyle – virtual

Other Board Members

Jennifer Liptak - virtual
Michele Zmijanac - virtual
Lori Mizgorski – virtual
Joe Totten – virtual
Jeff Letwin – virtual
Nick Pisciotano - virtual

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 18, 2024, Planning & Stakeholder Relations Committee were approved.

2. Post-Pandemic Service changes (Amy Silbermann and Inez Colon)

Service Level and Operator changes March 2020-February 2024:

Service levels:

- Weekday service: -15.6%
- Saturday service: +0.4%
- Sunday service: +3.8%
- Overall change (weekly): -10.5%

Operators:

- From 1,155 to 1,017
- Overall change: -11.9%

PRT has worked very hard to recruit more operators by:

- Increasing the hourly training pay rate;
- Offering incentives to student operators with a CDL;
- Ending the Covid Vaccine Mandate;
- And Hosting a PRT Job Fair on December 15, 2023.

3. PRTX University Line BRT Project Update (Amy Silbermann)

Construction began in September 2023. The Downtown construction phase will include five new stations with large glass shelters and upgraded amenities.

Downtown Construction Impacts:

- Intermittent road and sidewalk work
 - ADA ramp replacement
 - Paving in areas
- Signal improvements

- Station Construction
 - Shelter installation
 - Equipment installation (Fare equipment, CCTV, next bus signage, etc.)
- Painting of bus lane throughout loop.

In coordination with the start of construction, PRT reduced service on four bus routes (61D, 71A, 71C, 71D) in October 2023 due to the operator shortage and the congestion that we anticipate from BRT construction downtown.

An update of the performance of these four routes based on data from October-December 2023 showed:

- Ridership on those four routes decreased by 25%;
- Ridership on the four routes that continue into Downtown increased by 35%;
- In total, looking at the eight routes impacted, ridership increased by 3%;
- The entire bus network saw a 4% increase during the same time.

With no further business, the Planning & Stakeholder Relations Committee meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, 2024, in the fifth floor Board Room at Pittsburgh Regional Transit offices.