



Pittsburgh Regional Transit

Planning & Stakeholder Relations Committee

September 21, 2023

Board Committee Members

John Tague, Jr., Chair – in person
Ann Ogoreuc – in person
Stephanie Turman – virtual
Alli Doyle – virtual

Other Board Members

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

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the July 20, 2023, Planning & Stakeholder Relations Committee were approved. There was no committee meeting in August.

2. October 2023 Service Changes Recap (Phillip St. Pierre)

Beginning October 1, Routes 61D, 71A, 71C, 71D will terminate at the western end of Oakland and no longer serve Uptown and downtown Pittsburgh. These routes will turn around at Fifth Avenue and Robinson Street to begin their outbound routes (61D on Forbes, 71ACD on Fifth).

Routes will have “Short” added to their route names and head signs.

Staff will be in the field to assist starting September 23 and through October 5 along with all print, audio, and online messaging.

A public information session was held on September 12. General concerns from some of the 120 participants:

- Concerns about transfers for three reasons:
 - Cash users transferring needing to pay twice.
 - 3% of riders on the shortened routes use cash and may be required to pay twice to reach their destinations.
 - Persons with disabilities needing to board two vehicles.
 - 97.7% of riders of the 61ABCD/71ABCD are directly served by a Downtown-bound, one seat ride at their same bus stop.
 - 99% of riders still have a one seat ride within 5-minutes of their current bus stop.
 - Time delay in transferring.
- Concerns about not hearing about changes until August.
 - Public meetings on service changes began in 2017 and continued in 2018 with over 1,400 interactions and participants.

- The formal public comment period for these changes began November 2022 with a public information session and public hearings to receive comment for Board considerations of the major changes.
- About 700 responses from public comment period, overwhelmingly opposing changes to P3 route, which PRT has deferred a decision on while additional analysis is completed.
- The Board adopted the major services changes (except P3) in March 2023 for the October schedule changes.
- Staff presented details of the service change implementation in July 2023.

3. Authorization to Approve Title VI Analysis for October 2023 Major Service Change to Route P17 Lincoln Flyer (Aniqua Zahra)

The resolution to adopt the analysis was approved to be sent to the full board. This resolution would approve and adopt the P17 Title VI Analysis and would also authorize PRT staff to proceed with implementation of the P17 major service changes. These changes are expected to occur in October 2023 with the other October 2023 Service Changes.

- Route P17 will have a reverse commute service, which will follow the same route as the current weekday commute service.
- The new P17 service will also include a variant that will extend to Wilkinsburg Station via East Hills during AM and PM peak. This will give East Hills (route 79) riders a direct ride to and from Downtown.

Summary of Title VI Findings:

- Low-income population in service area: 24%
- PRT low-income population: 19%
- Percentage difference: 32%
- Finding: Positive change, no adverse impact
- Minority population in service area: 51%
- PRT minority population: 31%
- Percentage difference: 66%
- Finding: Positive change, no adverse impact

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 19, 2023, in the fifth floor Board Room at Pittsburgh Regional Transit offices.