

# Transit Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** October 22, 2025  
**Time:** 6pm – 8pm  
**Notetaker:** Ashwin Bhumbala & Carolyn Birkenfeld

## TAB Member Attendance

Member	Present (X)
Priya Balan	X
Deborah Barnard	X
Ashwin Bhumbala	X
Zach Burton	X
Shirley Chu	X
Dana Coppernoll-Houston	X
Katie Freeman	
Art Kuniyuki	X
Sidney Orr	X
Sandro Pani	
Carolyn Tillinger	X

## Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion:	To approve September TAB meeting minutes
Motioned by:	Ashwin
Seconded:	Art
Nays:	None
Vote outcome:	Approved

## Public Comment

None

## Presentations

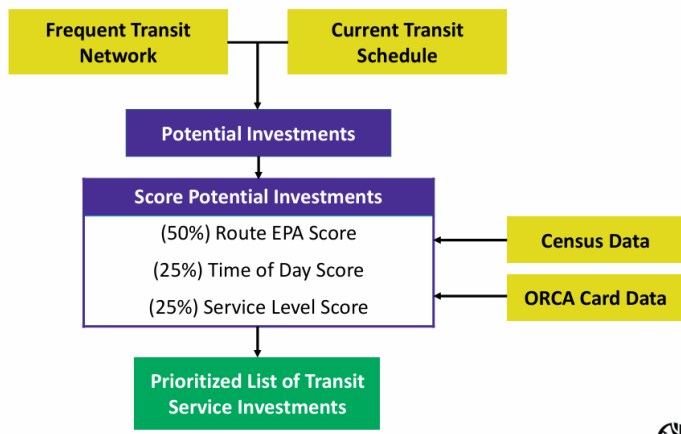
### Seattle Transit Measure Prioritization Methodology

*Carolyn Birkenfeld (SDOT)*

#### Presentation

- 56% of STM funding goes towards purchasing service hours from KCM

- 7% of platform hours (standard unit of transit service) for Seattle Buses (Routes that have 65% or more bus stops in Seattle) are funded by STM
  - Extending 10 minute frequency to midnight might take around 5k more annual platform hours for example
- STM is funded via sales tax which is regressive so STM takes in history of inequity, needs of BIPOC folks in mind when deciding on where to invest
- Timeline
  - 2021 - Racial Equity Toolkit (RET) is developed for STM investments
- Methodology



- Even though ridership isn't a direct input, more trips funding is showing to induce more ridership
- Transit service investments
  - 2024 - ~3k additional weekly bus trips
  - 85% of trips supported off-peak travel in midday, evenings, nights, and weekends

## Discussion

- For time of day if percent of all ridership using reduced fare ORCA cards is used, does this include free youth fare
  - Student and employment passes are considered full adult fare
  - Youth fare is considered reduced fare but with free youth fare, likely fewer youth tapping on
- For service level investment, is this purely funding based or performance based? For example with the 8
- Does ridership indirectly factor in with the FTN? Is there a particular reason that ridership is not a direct input?
- How does this relate or contrast with initial service investments made by KCM
  - KCM considers crowding and reliability more
  - Consider plans that's in Metro Connects. But it's been awhile, since the pandemic, that this can be a factor rather than putting out fires with crowding and reliability.

- Did STM have to be a Sales tax
  - Back in 2020, partnered with Evans School of Public Policy to look into other forms of taxation
  - That research has been done and is available
- How does purchasing service-hours work?
  - Constraint is operator numbers

## Board Business

### TAB Elections

- Co-Chairs
  - Ashwin
  - Zach
- Vice Chair
  - Deborah
- Secretary
  - Sidney

Motion:	To elect the above slate of TAB Officer positions
Motioned by:	Ashwin
Seconded:	Dana
Nays:	None
Vote outcome:	Approved

### TAB Retreat Planning

- Municipal Tower
- Work planning
- Think about what we want the next STM to be

### Budget Subcommittee

Motion:	To approve the TAB Budget Subcommittee to develop and send a letter with TAB's feedback on the proposed budget
Motioned by:	Ashwin
Seconded:	Dana, Deborah
Nays:	None
Vote outcome:	Approved

## Meeting Adjourned