

Transit Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 22, 2025

Time: 6pm – 8pm

Notetaker: Ashwin Bhumbla & Carolyn Birkenfeld

TAB Member Attendance

Member	Present (X)
Priya Balan	X
Deborah Barnard	X
Ashwin Bhumbla	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

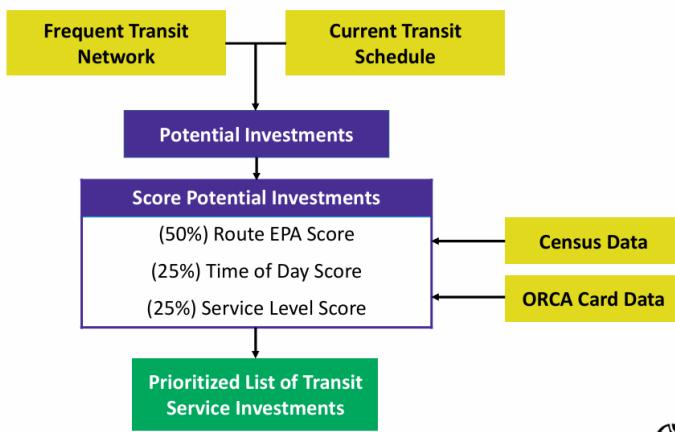
Seattle Transit Measure Prioritization Methodology

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