

ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Video/Conference Call (Teams), 520 Gorge Road East

MINUTES (Unapproved)

For September 10, 2021, 10:30am – 12noon

In attendance: D. Monsour (Chair), S. Jennings, J. Robertson, K. Highsted, M. Kang (Supplemental Committee Member), S. Sowden (Supplemental Committee Member), Bill Davey (HandyDART), Kelli-Ann Armstrong (BCT Staff Liaison)

Regrets: L. Collett, I. Sommerville

Guests: Ryan Shotton (BCT Staff)

1	Call to Order at 10:30am		Chair
2	Confirmation of Quorum <u>4 voting members:</u> D. Monsour, S. Jennings, J. Robertson, and K. Highsted		Chair
3	Approval of the Agenda Motion: S. Jennings 2 nd : J. Robertson - Carried	Approval	Chair
4	Approval of Minutes from June 11, 2021 Addendum: add Committee Member I. Sommerville to list of attendees Motion: K. Highsted 2 nd : S. Jennings - Carried	Approval	Chair
5	Chair's Remarks Welcome Everyone. Regret to inform the Committee that B. Pratt has resigned due to personal reasons. Recruitment process for new Committee Members will be begin this Fall, with confirmation of successful applicants by VRTC in early 2022.		Chair
6	Business Arising from Previous Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ K. Highsted and K. Armstrong will discuss parameters of a survey for committee members to complete in preparation for a goal setting meeting in July - COMPLETED▪ K. Armstrong informed the Committee that the VRTC approved the proposed changes to the ATAC Charter at its August 2021 meeting. VRTC asked for one addition to the proposed changes: that the Vice Chair position be selected from existing committee members.		
7	Standing Items Handy DART Presentation A report from HandyDART GM, B. Davey was presented to the Committee. Highlights of the presentation include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The number of trips is increasing over time, but not to the pre-COVID rates yet (approx. 70% of pre-pandemic service levels)	For Info	Bill Davey, GM, (First Transit) HandyDART

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - August 2021 – 17,000 trips YTD; August 2020 – 10,000 trips YTD; August 2019 – 23,000 trips YTD - Biggest growth of service delivery is from return of adult day programs - 2-4pm weekdays is the busiest time - However all types of trips are increasing except for medical appointments - Continuing to maintain social distancing in vehicles and wearing face coverings - 85% of trips booked 2 days in advance and 87% of same day bookings have been accommodated - Staffing in all positions and every level is a currently a significant challenge - Overall, HandyDART service is in a position of growth <p>Comments/Questions from Committee Members included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vehicles are very clean, recently noticed a change in positive energy of booking agents and drivers, kudos to everyone - Will double vaccinations for drivers be mandatory? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Committee informed that both HandyDART and BC Transit have been and will continue to follow mandates from the PHO, and only if the PHO requires staff to be double vaccinated will that requirement be put into effect o Suggestion made that perhaps rapid testing could be offered for those who are not vaccinated o Committee reminded that PHO recommendations will dictate HandyDART and BC Transit policies <p>B. Davey thanked Committee Members for their support and shared that they thought having this level of community involvement through a group like ATAC was enlightening</p> <p>*K. Highsted left the meeting at 11am.</p>		
8	New Business		
	<p>Travel Training Program</p> <p>A report from S. Sowden was presented to the Committee. Highlights from the report include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Like other programs, the pandemic negatively impacted the program, especially on outreach presentations to schools, care homes, employers - Prior to COVID, 50-60 individuals would receive training, last month 35 training sessions were held - Sometimes BCT Safety and Training staff will attend a presentation with a bus and allow people to practice - Since the program started, 5000 clients have had 1:1 training - Clients range from all demographics – seniors, single parents, individuals with disabilities; approximately half the clients are referred 	For Info	Susan Sowden, Execu-Net

	<p>to the program and have chosen independence and flexibility with the fixed route system vs. HandyDART service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training occurs 7 days a week, and at times that are relevant to the client - Community members can obtain info about the Travel Training Program on the BC Transit website and hard copy brochures (Travel Training and Accessible Transit) <p>Committee members were appreciative of the information and the service that the Travel Training Program provides</p> <p>New HandyDART Facility Update A power point presentation was provided to the Committee by R. Shotton on the new HandyDART facility's neighbourhood working group. ATAC Chair, D. Monsour is a member of the working group. A video created for the project, was also shared with the Committee Highlights of the presentation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1200 people participated in the on-line public engagement opportunities and 120+ people participated at the August 2021 in person session - The project has 6 overarching guidelines including First Nations involvement and environment stewardship - The new facility will be BC Transit's first Gold LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) project - A ground breaking ceremony will be planned during the Fall 2021 <p>*B. Davey and R. Shotton left meeting @ 11:40am</p> <p>Committee Discussion – Recruitment of new Committee Members and Agenda Items for December 10, 2021 meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruitment of new Committee Members for the next term (2022-2023) will be initiated in the Fall of 2021; approval of new Committee members by VRTC will be at 1st Commission meeting held in 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Committee supportive of regular attendance and capability to meet virtually of all new and returning committee members - Preparation for next ATAC meeting with Marketing and Communications to be conducted at a special meeting to be scheduled Friday, October 22, 2021 (10:30-11:30am) 	For Info	Ryan Shotton, BCT Staff, Communications
9	<p>Review of Action Items from Current Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o K. Armstrong to send appointment to Committee Members for October 22nd meeting 		
10	<p>Adjournment Motion: J. Robertson ; 2nd: S. Jennings - Carried Meeting adjourned @ 11:55am</p>		