

Specialized Transportation Advisory Committee

March 25, 2022

AGENDA

Via Zoom

Computer or Mobile App:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91439271039?pwd=VjJWOERxRnc0Q1h0eDVyU3kreWtHZz09>

Meeting ID: 914 3927 1039

Passcode: 921839

Dial In: 1-669-900-9128

1. Roll call and introductions

- a. Desiree Dean-Kaldor, State of Montana Transportation Coordinator
- b. Bob Giordano, City Roundabout Committee, Missoula Institute for Sustainable Transportation (MIST) & Freecycles
- c. Jennifer Sweten, Director of Operations, Mountain Line
- d. Tom Thompson, Peer from Summit Independent Living
- e. Sara Streeter, Member of the Public & Paratransit Rider
- f. Travis Hoffman, Summit Independent Living
- g. Jon Sand, MPO
- h. Marsha Hauk, Missoula Manor
- i. Shanti Johnson, Communications, Mountain Line

2. Public comment

- a. None.

3. Approval of February 25th meeting minutes

- a. Desiree Dean-Kaldor moved to approve the February 25 minutes. Travis Hoffman seconded. Passed unanimously.

4. City Roundabout Committee (Bob Giordano)

- a. Travis requested the updated resolution be sent to STAC members; Bob said he will send it to Jennifer to send out after his presentation.
- b. Bob has been directing Freecycles for over 25 years in Missoula and shared his passion for sustainable transportation in our community. He started his presentation by defining what a roundabout is, as opposed to other traffic calming / organizing structures. He also explained the safety benefits of roundabouts in terms of decreased accidents, injuries and fatalities. While safety is the main focus, Bob also explained that roundabouts help save gas and reduce emissions.
- c. Bob gave a brief overview of the draft Roundabout Policy Resolution to be emailed out to all STAC members. This draft was created by the subcommittee on roundabouts; Bob doesn't believe it's been to City Council yet. Travis shared a version of the draft he received from the MPO in 2019.
- d. Discussion followed. Questions were asked about the location of pedestrian crossings and raised pedestrian crossings in relationship to

roundabouts. Accessibility concerns related to pedestrian crossings at roundabouts were also discussed.

- e. It was determined to bring the resolution to the next STAC meeting to either vote to support it or to assemble a committee to recommend changes.

5. Mountain Line update

- a. Mountain Line will be reaching out to those who have expressed interest in testing out the new Paratransit software in mid-April. The app and online application that accompany the new software will not be available to the public when Mountain Line makes the initial switch to the new software in May. The agency will first launch the software internally, impacting internal operations first with limited public changes, then will debut the more public-facing application in the summer.
- b. Mountain Line returned to full service this month, including 15-minute service on Routes 1 & 2.
- c. MDT informed Mountain Line that, due to manufacturing delays, new vehicles are further delayed.
- d. Paratransit ridership is in excess of 225 riders per day.
- e. Shuttle Van service has been reinstated, including a weekly Saturday grocery runs. Ridership remains low on this service.
- f. The agency celebrated National Transit Operator Appreciation Day March 18 and Jennifer thanked the community for the gratitude that poured in over the last month.

6. Update on city planning efforts & current projects

- a. Higgins Ave Corridor Walking Audit will be held Thursday, April 7, 3p-5p.
Jon will be emailing invitations for this project.
- b. Jennifer requested Jon communicate the starting location so Mountain Line can organize Paratransit rides to the audit.
- c. Design concepts for the Higgins Ave Corridor were released to the public earlier this month and the MPO is actively soliciting public comment.
- d. The MPO is working on grant applications to address multimodal connections in the Sx^wtpqyen area. Road construction will begin in that area this summer to extend some roadways.

7. Other business & announcements

- a. None.

8. The next meeting is scheduled for 10:30 AM, April 22, 2022.