

# Specialized Transportation Advisory Committee

June 24, 2022

## MINUTES

Via Zoom

### 1. Roll call and introductions

- a. **Lisa Shepard**, CEO Missoula Aging Services
- b. **Desiree Dean-Kaldor**, State of Montana Transportation Coordinator
- c. **Jennifer Sweten**, Director of Operations, Mountain Line
- d. **Tom Thompson**, Peer from Summit Independent Living
- e. **Travis Hoffman**, Summit Independent Living
- f. **Jon Sand**, MPO
- g. **Marsha Hauk**, Missoula Manor
- h. **Shanti Johnson**, Communications, Mountain Line
- i. **Tami Hoar**, Summit Independent Living Director
- j. **Mike McCollough**, Missoula Development Services
- k. **Vickie Rectenwald**, ASUM, University of Montana

### 2. Public comment

- a. None.

### 3. Approval of April 22nd meeting minutes

- a. Lisa Shepard moved to approve the minutes. Mike McCollough seconded.  
Passed unanimously.

## 4. Mountain Line Updates

### a. Service Expansion

- i. Begins Sunday July 10<sup>th</sup>, first time public transportation will be operated on a Sunday in Montana
- ii. The agency has doubled employee count in the last year, has remodeled building in anticipation of service expansion
- iii. Starting July 10<sup>th</sup>
  1. M-F 5:45am - 10:45pm
  2. Saturday 8:45 -10:45pm
  3. Sunday 8:45am - 8:45pm
- iv. When fixed route operating, paratransit has complementary services available.

### b. Software Updates

- i. Recently rolled out new fixed route app
- ii. Paratransit software will be updated next, this includes looking for volunteers to identify software bugs.
- iii. Call in service will still be available, however new software will allow riders to schedule over app, review/ change schedule, and receive notifications. This also streamlines the process for Mountain Line staff.

### c. Paratransit Updates

- i. Paratransit provides over 200 rides per day, staff has increased from 1 to 3 persons.
- ii. Vehicle fleet continues to be an issue due to manufacturing delays and Buy America policy.

## 5. Summit Updates

### a. Walking Audit Scheduled for July 22

- i. Meg, Travis, and Jon have been organizing and Inclusive and Interdisciplinary Walking Audit in the downtown area.
- ii. American Sign Language and audio-visual descriptions will be available.
- iii. Members of the public and city staff are invited to join, the workshop will start in City Council Chambers and wrap up in the First Interstate Bank building after a group walk down Higgins, across the bridge to the 3<sup>rd</sup>/Myrtle traffic calming installation.

## 6. Update on city planning efforts & current projects

- a. Coordinating with Summit on I2 Walking Audit scheduled for July 22
- b. Planning efforts around Higgins Avenue continue. Preferred alternative will be available to the public in Fall 2022.
- c. MPO staff is applying for two federal grant opportunities
  - i. Reconnecting Communities – East Missoula/Hwy 22 (Plan area)
  - ii. Safe Streets and Roads for All – South Ave. (Reserve to Clements)

## 7. Other business & announcements

a. Lisa, Missoula Aging Services (MAS)

- i. In order to better serve older residents, MAS is hosting listening sessions in neighborhoods around the Missoula community, including Lolo, Frenchtown, and Seeley Lake.
- ii. Seeking questions and comments from community members.
- iii. Sessions run from June 29 – August 24, refreshments provided.
- iv. For more information call 728-7682 or visit [missoulaagingservices.org](http://missoulaagingservices.org)

8. The next meeting is scheduled for 10:30 AM, August 26, 2022