

Specialized Transportation Advisory Committee

August 22, 2025

MINUTES

Hybrid Teams/In-Person

1. Hoar called the meeting to order at 10:33 AM and asked for roll call and introductions.
 - a. **Paige Kerwin**, Operations Manager, ASUM Transportation
 - b. **Tami Hoar**, Executive Director, Summit Independent Living
 - c. **Spencer Starke**, Associate Planner, Mountain Line
 - d. **Glenn Ingram**, Transportation Planner, Missoula MPO
 - e. **Evan Hauser**, Project Manager, Missoula Housing Authority
 - f. **Desiree Dean**, Transportation Coordinator, DPHHS
 - g. **Brandon Viall**, Rehabilitation Technician, Vocational Rehab
 - h. **Chris Hightower**, Resource Center Supervisor, Missoula Aging Services
2. Public comment for items not on the agenda – None.
3. June 27, 2025, Meeting Minutes – Kerwin mentioned a title change for Spencer Starke on the minutes to reflect the appropriate title and agency. Kerwin motioned for approval of the minutes with edits, Viall seconded, and the minutes were approved.
4. Meeting Participation and Bylaws Discussion – Hoar updated the group on participation outreach progress. Mountain Line was able to reach AWARE, Inc.,

and a participant from their organization was identified. Opportunity Resources has decided they no longer plan to participate in STAC because they do not plan on requesting future state funding for vehicles. Dean shared her outreach efforts and experiences with other organizations who have pulled away from committees similar to STAC. Dean plans to reach out to Opportunity Resources.

Conversation ensued on the far-reaching efforts on other planning efforts that exists when participation is consistent within the committee. Dean recommended involving county commissioners, and Ingram said the MPO has overlap with commissioners involvement in other committees and could reach out to them.

5. MPO Public Participation Update – Ingram informed on this agenda item. The MPO is working on a process to amend their transportation planning efforts and formalize committees that are involved in the MPO. In September, results from the MPO's survey on committee integration will be presented. Dean recommended including an Orientation and Mobility specialist when walking audits occur.
6. Reserve Street Safety Action Plan – Ingram gave an abridged overview of the current standing of the project.
7. Mountain Line Update – Starke shared ridership statistics for June and July.
7,800 Paratransit rides were completed in the month of June, 475 active riders and 108 driver hours per day were recorded. 8,200 Paratransit rides were completed in the month of July, 493 active riders and 115 driver hours per day were recorded. An IVR system is being created through the scheduling software

used by the Paratransit office to automate some of the rider requests made through voicemail. A recreation shuttle to the Marshall Mountain area is planned to begin on September 13. Adaptive bikes can be taken on this shuttle, and information exists through Marshall Mountain on the trails and difficulty level. The Farmer's Market Trolley will stop running the first weekend of October. The route 3 detour configuration is going to remain as the regular routing after the Scott Street roundabout construction has been completed. The routing changes currently being worked on will not be deployed in January but are anticipated to be implemented next summer. Dean asked if the IVR system had been piloted, which it has not. A recommendation was made to have a pilot launched with the help of Summit. It is going to be an option but will not remove the option to wait in a call queue or speak to a Mountain Line employee.

8. Summit Update – Hoar gave an update on the construction work being done at Summit's new facility. Half of the building renovations have been completed, with a grand opening expected in late winter- early spring. The Summit peer group has completed a training with new Mountain Line drivers and will be working with City planners and Fairgrounds to review ADA accessibility with the Zootown Music Festival. A program will be launched this fall once the conference room at the Summit facility is completed call "Mail and Munchies", which is intended to encourage individuals to open their mail to inform on changes to Medicaid, SNAP, and other benefits that could go unnoticed if mail is not read.

9. Update on city planning efforts & current projects – The Scott Street roundabout project is completed and the Orange Street and Cregg Lane traffic light is anticipated to be completed in the next couple of months. The City's long-range plan was finalized and adopted in July.
10. ASUM update – Kerwin discussed orientation week and incoming students arriving on campus. Fixed route service will begin on August 25 to align with classes beginning. Maroon and Silver line will be operating, but no longer serving the Sawyer district as to reduce overlap with route implementation from Mountain Line. UDASH will no longer appear on the Transit App, and will be using PaseoGO instead.
11. Other business – Hightower gave an update on the volunteer driver program and it's progress. Volunteers continue to be onboarded and the program only allows for medical transport at this time.
12. The next meeting is scheduled for September 26, 2025. This meeting will take place at 1221 Shakespeare Street and virtually.