

ELDERLY AND DISABLED TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EDTAC)

Committee Meeting Minutes
Via Teleconference
Wednesday, May 12, 2021
1:00 - 3:00pm

The Elderly and Disable Transit Advisory Committee (EDTAC) met Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 1:00pm via conference call.

In attendance:

EDTAC MEMBERS:

Blake Roberts, Chair
Jim Shiber
Catrina Gosine
Ken Moore
Kathleen McCool
Cindy Garcia

DTC Representatives:

John Sisson, CEO
Sara Fuller, Marketing
Belinda Strickland, Civil Rights Specialist
Maha Inabathini, Application Support Specialist
Rhonda Perry, Sr. Financial Support Manager
Steve Ottinger, Planning
Margaret Webb, Paratransit Director
Paul Kulesza, Fixed Route Director
Latonya Steele, Customer Service Supervisor
Cean Carter, Eligibility Supervisor
Shannon Lugo, Civil Rights Specialist
William Lawless, Reservation Supervisor

Guest:

None

Members Absent:

Bruce Fisher

Call to Order

Blake Roberts, Chair, called meeting to order and the March 10, 2021 meeting minutes were approved.

Round Table Introductions

COVID-19 Relief Bill Update- John Sisson, CEO

There have been three stimulus acts passed that transit has received funds for. CARES Act 25 million, CRRSAA Act 40 million and the American Rescue Act 73 million. DeDOT including DTC is expected to lose about 181 million from tolls, fare box, motor fuels. In FY 2022 expected to lose money also. There are many COVID related expenses such as: mask, sanitizer, increased cleaning in all facilities and on buses and barriers on buses for operators. There is also a plan to remove the fabric seats on Fixed Route buses and replace them with plastic seating that will make it much easier to

clean. We will also continue to add barriers. There are also, rider incentives such as expanding the Get-A-Job-Get-A-Ride Program and helping students use transit. In Sussex County health individuals are using paratransit to go to paratransit customers homes to be vaccinated. Ridership will continue to be down for a while but thankfully DTC has continued to run all services including SEPTA and no employees have been laid off. The demand will be there as more people get vaccinated and start to go more places. DTC now has Para-Prepay system available statewide and plan to place Fare Validators on buses so it's less contact.

On Time Performance- Margaret Webb, Paratransit Director

November 2020

NCC- 17,527- 94% on time KC- 7,968- 96% on time SC- 7,579- 94%

December 2020

NCC- 17,541- 94% on time KC- 7,968- 95% on time SC- 7,537- 93% on time

January 2021

NCC- 17,848- 96.3% on time KC- 7,532- 95.4% on time SC- 7,297- 92.5% on time

February 2021

NCC- 16,371- 94.5% on time KC- 7,361- 94.6% on time SC- 7,444-93.1% on time

January and February 2021 numbers were impacted by weather

March 2021- statewide trip count 42,157

NCC- 22,540- 92.9% on time KC- 9,829- 94.3% on time SC- 9,788- 92%

April 2021- statewide trip count 42,650

NCC- 23,202- 90.6% on time KC- 9,421- 94.01% on time SC- 10,027- 89% on time

Ridership is increasing. Paratransit didn't hire anyone last year however, hiring will start again to fill the vacancies.

On Time Performance- Paul Kulesza, Fixed Route Director

(Data forwarded to members)

The combined on-time performance average for **April 2021 FY 2021 was 77%**

New Castle County Fixed Route was **72%**

New Castle County Contract Services was **92%**

Kent County Fixed Route was **85%**

Sussex County Contract Services was **70%**

Septa **60%**

Resorts was **85%**

Services changes will be effective September 12, 2021. Trying to improve things for Operators and riders. Starting May 21, 2021 fixed route buses will allow full capacity (42) passengers.

Updates from DTC:

- **Steve Ottinger, Planning**

Community Conversations have started check the website for dates and times. Public Hearing will be held virtually on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 from 4pm-6pm. The website provides a link to the comment form and information pertaining to accessibility needs. The announcement is also on Fixed route and Paratransit.

Open Forum

Adjourn

Next meeting Scheduled for July 14, 2021