

**Transportation Services Advisory Committee Minutes
February 7, 2024**

This was an in-person meeting with a zoom option.

Present:

Ms. Mary Cearley
Mr. Ed Costello
Mr. Bill Cox
Mr. Evan Cox
Mr. Joe Dillard
Lt. Jennifer Enloe
Ms. Erin Jones
Ms. Katelyn Kellogg
Mr. James "Jim" Kovar
Mr. Tim McLaughlin
Ms. Jamie Norgaard
Ms. Amanda Pelton
Mr. Tom Reber
Ms. Flora Reeves
Ms. Jessica Simpson

Online:

Ms. Ava Blackburn
Ms. Tamra Young for Ms. Deborah Wright

Absent:

Mr. Andrew Applewhite
Mr. Nick Farmer
Dr. Angie Hill Price
Dr. Andrew Klein
Mr. Peter Lange
Mr. Andrew Moore
Ms. Mikayla Slaydon

Guests:

Ms. Deb Albert
Ms. Lilia Gonzales
Ms. Madison Metsker-Galarza
Mr. Justin Tippy
Dr. Tracey Hammond

Called to Order 11:45 a.m. by Ms. Debbie Lollar

1. Review/Approve Minutes from December 6, 2023, Meeting – Ms. Debbie Lollar
 - 1.1. Approved by – Mr. Tom Reber
 - 1.2. Seconded by – Mr. Bill Cox
2. Updates – Ms. Debbie Lollar
 - 2.1. The first full week of class carried 45,000 rides a day. This is a 10% increase over last Spring. Route 01, 03 highest.
 - 2.2. Parking revenue is down 3% for the first week, but permit sales are up about 3%
 - 2.3. Service interruptions in some of our facilities
 - Ice/rain/temps led to condensation issues in North Side Garage (NSG) taking all 3 elevators down. Two elevators are back online.
 - Dr. Tracey Hammond - will this create an issue every time we have this kind of weather?
 - 2.3..1. Ms. Debbie Lollar - we are reviewing with vendor and construction team to determine warranty issue, weatherproofing issue, etc. and preparing.
 - 2.3..2. Mr. Bill Cox - from a facilities standpoint, these elevators are our most modernized and parts are difficult to find so did an excellent job of sourcing parts and work.

- 2.4. Mr. Peter Lange has been asked by President to step in as interim COO. Creating some shifts in our organization as well - Interim positions for Ms. Debbie Lollar, Ms. Madeline Dillard, Mr. Justin Tippy, Mr. Clint Willis and Mr. Randy Harrison.
3. Bus Routes & Para Transit On Demand App Demos: Mr. Justin Tippy
 - 3.1. Novus Para Transit – 50-60 faculty, staff, or students that rely on us for rides. Previously handled scheduling with a spreadsheet, now through the app which operates like an Uber/Lyft app.
 - Helped the efficiency of the system running and customers understanding and being able to edit their trip.
 - Will receive alerts and notifications of their ride.
 - 3.2. MyRide bus route – live January 6
 - Still shows live data and route tables.
 - Can now add announcements and blast information to users of the app.
 - If you create an account, you can mark routes as favorites, and they'll always pull up for you.
 - Watched video.
 - Google app absorbed our transit information and in Google maps, you can see our bus routes now. We still advocate that you use the A&M app to ensure you receive most up to date information, including announcements within the app.
 - 3.2..1. Mr. Jim Kovar - how will this impact game days? The app will be updated to reflect rides that day.
 - 3.2..2. Ms. Jessica Simpson - will the app allow riders to distinguish between different bus orgs? Madeline - BTD is not currently in Google, so their routes won't show, but we are working with them to get this information updated.
4. Bush/Wellborn Project: Ms. Deb Albert (PowerPoint Presentation)
 - 4.1. Disclaimer - still early in this project. There is a lot we don't know yet, so you'll hear from us again. We know construction will come fast, so to prepare and be ready to implement change we need to communicate now.
 - 4.1..1. Please be thinking about how we can engage with your units and let us know.
 - 4.1..2. Ms. Debbie Lollar - I would ask that you also think about what we as a campus can do differently to allow for this construction to be least impactful.
 - 4.2. The project is fully funded and scheduled for FY'26
 - 4.2..1. Mr. Joe Dillard - what is the plan for the land where McDonald's was? It's private land and engineering plans are still in the works.
 - 4.2..2. Mr. Jim Kovar - what is the plan to texture/slip proof these ramps down to a 35' drop? I have seen people slide through the Villa Maria area with the slightest rain or ice? Ms. Deb Albert - this will be a concrete laydown, but we know that concrete can ice as well so it will have to be taken into consideration.
 - 4.3. Pros - 2818 will be completed, Hwy 6 will be wrapping up with a potential start date of Dec. '24. TxDot is looking for creative ways to keep this project on task and ensure it's completed on time, things like 'no excuse milestones.'
 - 4.3..1. Mr. Bill Cox - this is a complex project much more than what we usually do around here. What is TxDOT doing to engage others, not our typical contractors? Ms. Deb Albert - we will have a scheduled coordinator on this project who will level out parts

of the project and bring in some larger contractors. Also, MY personal opinion is that the Hwy 6 project is turning out huge, will be over \$500M, and that's going to require larger contractors to be in town working that project. Since they are already setup in town, they'll be led to bid.

4.4. Managing expectations (when everyone has to go somewhere else slide)

4.4..1. Ideas?

4.4..2. Dr. Tracey Hammond - let faculty know because they are scheduling conferences years out now. Mr. Tim McLaughlin – I agree with meeting with faculty because they'll start building class schedules now.

4.4..3. Mr. Bill Cox – I recommend talking with Student Senate to get their input/perspective and convey that information to your other groups. Ava said she can help coordinate.

4.5. Scheduled date - Dec. 2025 with construction starting March 2026.

Meeting adjourned – 12:51 PM

Next meeting – March 6, 2024