



Meeting Minutes

Riders' Advisory Council

May 21, 2020

In Attendance:

Riders / Public

Linda Carothers
Astamay Curtis

RTA Staff

Andrew Johnson
Cole McCarren
Cristin Tolen

Partner Staff / Commissioners

Jason Quan

1. Approval of February 13, 2020 meeting minutes

The February 13, 2020 meeting minutes were approved without requiring any edits.

2. RTA Announcements

- COVID-19 Response
 - RTA is currently spraying all vehicles and facilities nightly with hospital-grade disinfectant in response to the COVID-19 outbreak
 - Currently looking in to driver barriers, other mitigation procedures as we begin to think about reinstating fare collection – no hard date on that right now
 - Following state guidelines for mask usage on public transit, and luckily haven't had many issues
 - Currently running a quasi-weekend schedule 7 days a week, will ramp back up to near full service in coming month so that 1-hour frequencies are reintroduced on all routes other than the 402B, 406, and 414.
 - And, the 402A will run on Sundays now, with the 408 running the regular Monday-Saturday route pattern – should provide double the service to most areas along route 408.

- Service will run 7 AM to 8 PM weekdays, till 8 PM on weekends, and full Sunday service.
- Other RTA news
 - Realtime bus arrival data is now integrated on to all major trip planning / public transportation apps – try planning your next trip on Google Maps or Transit App
 - Marketing campaign for this news is coming soon
 - Realtime service alerts are being integrated in to trip planners, so the same information you currently get on our @RTA_alerts service alerts Twitter feed will also be available on whatever app you track your bus with, with the added benefit of getting notifications if you subscribe to them on your favorite routes
 - This is currently live and being used more internally each day as we phase it in to full production use
 - New buses are on the way for a fall delivery, a handful of new vehicles will be a part of the RTA fleet, as has been discussed in prior meetings

3. Public Comment

- Astamay asked about face shields, Andrew responded that they are asked to wear them when they are strapping down ADA passengers but that they're not really to be used while just driving
- Astamay asked about Phase 2 of the TDP and Cristin advised that the county is seeing projections for significant contractions in the overall economy and government budgets, and a net reduction of government services
 - RTA currently projects that we will maintain current levels of transit service, but that opportunities for more funding for additional services will greatly reduce
- Linda voiced feedback that she understands that services had to reduce for the time being but is very happy to hear that service will open up from 7 AM to 8 PM on weekdays, as she works in the evening and that will help her out
- Astamay asked about COVID-related funding, and Cristin informed her that the county did receive that funding
- Linda asked about notices for service restorations and RTA informed her that we would post notices and send out alerts in advance of the service additions.

4. Adjournment

Future Meeting Dates:

Next Commission Meeting –

Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020, 1:00PM, Online via Zoom (meeting link will be posted on web)

Next RAC Meeting –

Thursday, August 13th, 2020, 6:00PM, *location TBD*

Acronyms

AAC	Anne Arundel County
PGC	Prince George's County
RTA	Regional Transportation Agency
RAC	Riders Advisory Council
TDP	Transit Development Plan
SMS	Short Message Service (text messages)
IVR	Interactive Voice Response