

**_SKAGIT TRANSIT
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, May 14, 2019
Skagit Station Conference Room
Mount Vernon, WA

Committee Members

Craig Edens
Louise Edens, Chair
Chris Jones, Vice-Chair
Joe Kunzler, Special Projects Assistant
Judy Jones
Dave Stephens
Valerie Rose
Joy King

Skagit Transit

Brad Windler, Planning & Outreach Supervisor

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Chair Louise Edens.

II. Minutes

A motion was made to postpone approval of minutes because print version was not at meeting.

III. Staff Report

Brad Windler updated the CAC on Skagit Transit

He stated that public meetings and presentations regarding the proposal will occur with varying attendance. He also provided the history of fare changes and noted paratransit costs \$30 or more per trip. A discussion of fixed costs on fixed route ensued. It was noted that for the record most paratransit riders ever in one day occurred in early May.

Discussion on consolidation of riders on paratransit occurred.

IV. Special Projects

All agreed to ride transit and get the word out when a fare increase goes into effect.

V. Roundtable

Other discussions 31 day pass of \$30 may be considered for fixed route. Seniors fare \$1.50 on fixed route.

For consideration, offering fixed route free if purchase paratransit pass.

Joe would like two fare increase adjustments – one for first year at \$1 then year later increase to \$1.50 on paratransit.

Medicaid will cover costs of paratransit trips monthly pass if rider goes to one medical trip a month.

Louise further discussed fare increases in steps and education on how much money a rider can save by using transit rather than driving a car.

Louise also discussed fare increases more often than once in 11 years. Offer modest fare increases more frequently.

Discussion of advertising inside and on the coaches was explored. 1st amendment rights have been an issue for some transit advertisers.

Language in the ADA act does not permit paratransit fees to exceed fixed route.

Multi ride punch card option discussion for using on both para transit and fixed route.

Voted on CAC recommendations regarding fares for Fixed Route and Paratransit

Paratransit mandatory \$1 fare phasing to a \$2 fare after 1 year has passed. (Passed 7 to 3)

Medicaid sign up assistance for getting paratransit pass on Skagit Transit shall provide steps for all who qualify by going to one medical appointment per month. (Unanimous)

Fare increases will occur more frequently than every 10 years. (Unanimous)

Youth pass for summer 3 months will be offered in year 2020. (Unanimous)

Recess from these meetings July and August this year. (Unanimous)

VI. New Business

Berry Dairy Days Festival parade is June 15 – all CAC welcome to accompany bus on parade route.

Skagit Transit board meeting in June or July is when Board decides on fare changes. Comments may be made up to June 18 board meeting. At meeting DO NOT state you are part of CAC committee. You represent yourself solely at the June board meeting. CAC comments will be submitted to the Board prior to the June board meeting.

VII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Joe and seconded by Dick to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. by Chair Louise.

Brad Windler, Planner & Outreach Supervisor