

**MINUTES OF PVTA'S  
PARATRANSIT COMMITTEE MEETING  
September 21, 2022**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Paratransit Sub-Committee of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority Advisory Board met on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 11:30 AM remotely in accordance with the Governor's State of Emergency Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, Section 20, relieving from the requirement of section 20 of chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, permitting a public body to allow remote participation by all members.

**PRESENT:**

Members: Mark Gold, Longmeadow; Paula Dubord, Wilbraham; Becky Moriarty, Hampden; Brian O'Leary, Belchertown; Michael Squindo, Agawam;

**NOT PRESENT:**

Steve Huntley, Chicopee; Cindy Tarail, Easthampton

A quorum being present, Mark Gold called the meeting to order at 11:39 AM

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were made.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2022**

Mark Gold asked for a motion from the Paratransit Committee to approve the meeting minutes of March 17, 2022.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded (O'Leary/Moriarty) to approve the meeting minutes of March 17, 2022.

Mark Gold asked if there was any discussion, hearing none, asked for a roll call vote.

Mark Gold: Yes

Paula Dubord: Yes

Becky Moriarty: Yes

Brian O'Leary: Yes

Michael Squindo: Abstain

Motion passed, 4-0 vote with 1 abstention.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF EXTENDING DIAL-A-RIDE PILOT**

Paul Burns, Director of Transit Operations, reported the following:

The expanded Dial-A-Ride pilot, approved by the Board in March, continues to be successful. No operational issues have been reported, and all Dial-A-Ride trip requests have been accommodated. Operationally, the new Dial-A-Ride hours provide the opportunity for MV to shift Dial-A-Ride trips away from peak hours without having to deny Dial-A-Ride trips.

Saturday Dial-A-Ride trips have increased from an average of 8% of all Saturday trips in April to 23% of all Saturday trips in August reaching a high of 27% on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Weekly Dial-A-Ride trips show a consistent increase from April through August, with Dial-A-Ride passengers increasing from 19% in March to a high of 26% in the first week of August and averaging 24% each week for the month of August.

Given the success of the Pilot, we are asking the Board to authorize PVRTA to conduct a Title VI analysis and hold public hearings on making the new Dial-A-Ride hours permanent. We are also asking the Board to extend the Pilot program until January 31, 2023 while we complete these tasks.

Mark Gold asked for a motion from the Paratransit Committee to approve extending PVRTA's Dial-A-Ride Pilot program until January 31, 2023.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded (O'Leary/Squindo) to approve extending PVRTA's Dial-A-Ride Pilot program until January 31, 2023.

Mark Gold asked if there was any discussion, hearing none, asked for a roll call vote.

Mark Gold: Yes

Paula Dubord: Yes

Becky Moriarty: Yes

Brian O'Leary: Yes

Michael Squindo: Yes

Motion passed, 5-0 vote.

#### **5. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC HEARINGS & TITLE VI ANALYSIS TO MAKE EXTENDED DIAL-A-RIDE SCHEDULE PERMANENT**

Mark Gold asked for a motion from the Paratransit Committee to approve PVRTA to conduct a Title VI Analysis and hold public hearings on making the new Dial-A-Ride hours permanent.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded (Moriarty/Dubord) to approve PVRTA to conduct a Title VI Analysis and hold public hearings on making the new Dial-A-Ride hours permanent.

Mark Gold asked if there was any discussion, hearing none, asked for a roll call vote.

Mark Gold: Yes

Paula Dubord: Yes

Becky Moriarty: Yes

Brian O'Leary: Yes

Michael Squindo: Yes

Motion passed, 5-0 vote.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mark Gold reported that there is no other business to discuss.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Mark Gold asked for a motion from the Paratransit Committee to adjourn.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded (O’Leary/Squindo) to adjourn.

Mark Gold asked for a roll call vote.

Mark Gold: Yes

Paula Dubord: Yes

Becky Moriarty: Yes

Brian O’Leary: Yes

Michael Squindo: Yes

Motion passed, 5-0 vote.

The meeting of the Paratransit Committee adjourned at 11:57 A.M.

**A TRUE RECORD**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**BRANDY PELLETIER**

Documents filed with Paratransit Committee meeting packet:

- March 17, 2022 Paratransit Committee Minutes

**Minutes Approved: 1-23-23**