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**MINUTES OF PVTA'S  
ROUTE COMMITTEE MEETING  
June 16, 2023**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Route Sub-Committee of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority Advisory Board met on Friday, June 16, 2023 at 10:30 AM remotely in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, supplemental state budget provisions for Fiscal Year 2023, authorizing public bodies to continue to hold entirely remote meetings, or so-called "hybrid" meetings, upon the provision of "adequate, alternative means" of public access, until March 31, 2025.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Members: Brian O'Leary, Belchertown; Peter Miller, Westfield; J.M. Sorrell, Williamsburg; Timothy Sheehan, Springfield;

**NOT PRESENT:**

Benjamin Hood, Palmer;

A quorum being present, Chairman of the Route Committee, Peter Miller, called the remote meeting of the Route Committee to order at 10:31 A.M.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were made.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2022**

Chairman Miller asked for a motion from the Route Committee to approve the meeting minutes of November 15, 2022.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded (Sorrell/O'Leary) to approve the meeting minutes of November 15, 2022.

Chairman Miller asked if there was any discussion, hearing none, asked for a roll call vote.

J.M. Sorrell: Yes

Brian O'Leary: Yes

Timothy Sheehan: Yes

Peter Miller: Yes

Motion passed, 4-0 vote.

#### **4. EASTFIELD MALL BUS STOP RELOCATION**

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

In anticipation of the closing of the Eastfield Mall, PVRTA staff conducted a review of the options available regarding bus stop relocation. Three main options were considered:

- Extend the route to the Big Y in Wilbraham with the route turning around there and returning on Boston Road with the next stop on Boston Road near Liquors 44.
- Re-route the route to travel along Fernbank Road to Kent Road then returning to Boston Road with the final stop being on Boston Road near Liquors 44.
- Moving the last stop for the B17 only, from the current Eastfield Mall location to Walmart on Boston Road.

We received 148 responses from both drivers and passengers and ultimately arrived at the following decisions regarding stop locations.

For both the B7 and the B17, the eastern end of the route will change from the Eastfield Mall to the Wilbraham Big Y. We will also be adding two new stops located near Boston Road / Dudley Street in Wilbraham, near Friendly's main plant to address expected demand for service here.

To ensure we have enough time to allow a reasonable layover for drivers with the slightly expanded route, we will be eliminating deviations into the Price Rite parking lot on Boston Road and the MassMutual offices on State St.

In addition, weekday, Saturday, and Sunday departure times have been adjusted throughout to improve schedule reliability and ensure ample layover time at Big Y in Wilbraham.

WP: We will be moving the endpoint for the Ware Palmer Route from the Eastfield Mall to the Wilbraham Big Y. All connections to the B7 and B17 that were made at the Eastfield Mall will now be made at the Big Y

WS: Similarly, service on the Wilbraham Shuttle will adjust to make connections with these routes at the Wilbraham Big Y.

No vote is required but would like to recommend this as an endorsement from the Route Committee.

Chairman Miller asked for a roll call vote.

J.M. Sorrell: Yes

Brian O'Leary: Yes

Timothy Sheehan: Yes

Peter Miller: Yes

Endorsement passed, 4-0 vote.

#### **5. ROUTE UPDATES**

Paul Burns reported that the following schedule adjustments will be made effective June 25, 2023:

G1: On Saturdays, the 6:50am departure from Union Station to Chicopee Center has been moved earlier to 6:30am and includes service to Chicopee Big Y. The return trip will leave Chicopee Big Y at 6:55am and arrive at Union Station at 7:20am. This change was made in response to requests from drivers on behalf of passengers hoping to access these stops earlier on Saturdays.

R10: As you may recall, runtimes for this route were streamlined in December to allow for quicker service end to end with less slack time in the run and a reduction in travel times of as much as 30 minutes. As part of the process, we committed to analyzing the impacts of the changes and adjusting as needed. The updated schedule will reflect adjustments to weekday departure times to improve schedule reliability.

## **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairman Miller reported that there is no other business to discuss.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Miller asked for a motion from the Route Committee to adjourn.

**MOTION:** Moved and seconded (O’Leary/Sorrell) to adjourn.

Chairman Miller asked if there was any discussion, hearing none, asked for a roll call vote.

J.M. Sorrell: Yes  
Brian O’Leary: Yes  
Timothy Sheehan: Yes  
Peter Miller: Yes

Motion passed, 4-0 vote.

The meeting of the PVTA Route Committee adjourned at 11:03 A.M.

**A TRUE RECORD**

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

Documents filed with Route Committee meeting packet:

- November 15, 2022 Route Committee Minutes

**Minutes Approved: November 13, 2023**