

# Local Advisory Council (LAC) Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 16, 2021



## LAC Member Attendance

District One	Andre Bryant	Present
District Two	Tamara Perrin	Present
District Three	James Jones	Present
District Four	Tammy Black	Present
District Five	Sabrina Simmons	Present
District Six	Yvonne Roundtree	Present
District Seven	Fayne Chennault	Present
DAAA	Rick Spivey	Present
DAAA	Anita Owen	Present

## Notes

This was a virtual meeting. Nine LAC members and approximately thirty-seven other people, including administrative staff and community members attended the meeting.

Don Lozen provides meeting guidelines before the meeting being officially opened. He also welcomed new member Tamara Perrin from District Two.

## Remarks-Executive Director Mikel Oglesby

Mr. Oglesby stated that recent changes with the fixed route system wouldn't change Detroit MetroLift services.

Details of the service changes are detailed on the DDOT webpage. The fixed-route changes were made to right-size the service; to provide service with the bus drivers we have. Routes that were eliminated are suspensions. It is hoped the service will be resumed in 2022.

DDOT Bus Tracker app is linked to the Cleaver Device system. It is being tested and appears to be meeting the needs of ridership.

DDOT's biggest challenge is getting enough drivers which is a big issue for transit systems across the country.

The New Freedom program may be extended into next year based on available monies.



Mr. Oglesby stated he is monitoring and working with Transdev on making sure the recent phone system failure is being addressed and there is an emergency plan if such a problem arises in the future.

Mr. Oglesby stated he would be attending all LAC meetings going forward.

## Call to Order

Yvonne Roundtree, Chairperson, 10:17 a.m.

## Opening Remarks/Chairperson

Ms. Roundtree expressed her thanks for being able to serve as the LAC Chairperson for the last four years. Today is her last meeting as Chairperson. She stated she will be active as the District Six representative for the next two years.

## Approval of the May 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve was initiated by James Jones. Seconded by Tamara Perrin. Motion carried unanimously.

## Chairperson's Report

Nothing to report.

## DDOT Administrative Reports

- A. Assistant Deputy Director of Administration-Maryanne Walsh-NTR.**
- B. Assistant Deputy Director of Operations-Lois Pittman-NTR.**
- C. Transit PD- Lt. Arnold-NTR.**
- D. Scheduling and Planning Director-Steve Patrinick-Mr. Oglesby articulated everything I planned to discuss regarding service changes and the bus tracker system.**
- E. Grants Manager-Maggie Zhang-NTR.**
- F. Detroit MetroLift Manager-Simone Moore-Allowing same day service as the result of the phone outage. Corporate is developing a contingency plan for future phone outage issues.**
- G. Assistant Director-Operations-Larry Tiller-NTR.**
- H. ADA Coordinator, Paratransit-Pam King-Want to state again that the recent suspension of fixed line service would have no impact on Detroit MetroLift service.**



- I. **ADA Coordinator, Fixed Route-Don Lozen-** State there have been several complaints about priority seats being tied up making it difficult for senior and disabled riders to use the seats. The Operations department has helped address the problem and together the problem is resolved. He also stated that he has attended both the Gilbert and Shoemaker Terminal meeting to emphasize that both the FTA and DOJ have publicly stated that nothing has changed with regards to ADA enforcement on public transportation.

## Election of LAC Officers for 2022-2023

Ms. Roundtree presented a slate of candidates:

- **Andre Bryant-Chairperson**
- **James Jones-Vice-Chairperson**
- **Tamara Perrin-Secretary**

Since there was no one running against any of the candidates, Ms. Roundtree asked that the LAC vote by proclamation to elect the slate of officers. The LAC affirmed the election of each officer by proclamation.

## 2022 Transit Accessibility Report

Ms. Roundtree asked if each member of the council had read the plan. Ms. Chennault stated she was unable to read it because she can't open attachments on her computer. Mr. Lozen stated he would mail her a hard copy of the document.

Ms. Roundtree asked for discussion or questions regarding the plan. LAC Members declared the plan to be acceptable and had no questions.

Ms. Roundtree then asked for a vote on the plan. The motion pass with every member voting in the affirmative.

## Old Business

None

## New Business

None



## Public Comments

1. **Stephen Handschu.** Stated he agreed with Mayor Duggan that DDOT hasn't been running as it should. The City has run a bus system for 99 years and it is "still" not working correctly. He complained about Mr. Oglesby not being at LAC meeting or running off to another meeting. He claimed the recent changes in service is truly a service reduction and shows the incompetency of DDOT.
2. **Robert Pawlowski.** He thanked Ms. Roundtree for her years of leadership as Chairperson of the LAC. He further stated that the new State Fair Transit Center is another building block in rebuilding Detroit. It will be a great facility with many amenities.
3. **Steve Patrinick, Manager of Scheduling and Planning-**stated the service needed to be predictable, and the changes made will make it so. He also defined how doubling and tripling works on a bus line.
4. **Precious Daniels-** Wanted to know how the new Federal transit money was going to be spent. Don Lozen stated that it was too early to know what is planned since the bill just passed.
5. **Sabrina Simmons-** Complained that the blind community wasn't consulted when developing the new bus tracker app. It isn't designed to be used by blind riders. Again, she stated she feels like a second-class citizen, and as a tax paying citizen of Detroit she feels slapped in the face and quite angry. "I deserve better."
6. **From the Chat-** Marguerite Maddox stated she will write concerns in the box to make sure her issues are known. Rick Spivey was thankful for the opportunity to speak, to support the LAC and welcomed Ms. Perrin back to the LAC.
7. **Steve Handschu-** he finished his stated as he was cut off on his first comment because he spoke over two minutes. He wants New Freedom to continue since it was the best program DDOT has initiated. He encouraged City Council and the Mayor to support it. He would like to see more transparency regarding DDOT budget and monies.
8. **Robert Pawlowski-** spoke again on the State Fair Transit Center. He believes that there should be more management of ridership so travel can be more efficient and create less pollution.

## Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

## Introduction of New Leadership

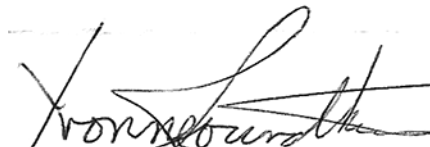

The new leadership team was introduced and made a statement about themselves.



## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned after a motion was made by James Jones at 11:28 am.

Respectfully Submitted

  
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Yvonne Roundtree  
Chairperson LAC  
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Donald C. Lozen  
Regulatory Compliance Officer-ADA