

CAPITAL METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY PUBLIC HEARING

2910 East Fifth Street Austin, TX 78702

~ Minutes ~

Wednesday, May 12, 2021
12:00 PM

12:05 PM Hearing Called To Order
12:45 PM Adjourned

I. Presentations:

1. Title VI Policy Update Presentation

Executive Vice President for Planning and Development Sharmila Mukherjee was joined by Capital Metro Senior Planner Rose Lisska for the presentation.

Sharmila kicked off the presentation by reviewing the language from the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that pertains to Title VI as context for the current updates. As a recipient of federal funds Capital Metro is required to adopt certain thresholds when adjustments to service are made. Rose and Sharmila then reviewed the overall Capital Metro service change process, Title VI program update schedule, and the approach that Capital Metro has taken to the Title VI policy update.

Rose and Sharmila then reviewed the Capital Metro Major Service Change Policy, the Disproportionate Burden Policy, and the Disparate Impact Policy, and the proposed threshold changes, including comparisons with peer transit agencies. Sharmila reviewed the objectives that are being looked at as changes to the thresholds are considered, and summarized the specific recommendations to policy language. Under the proposal the thresholds for the Disproportionate Burden and Disparate Impact policies would rise from 2% to 10%.

II. Public Comment:

Zenobia Joseph, citizen, spoke in opposition to the proposed changes to the thresholds. She has asked repeatedly for Route 392 to be restored to the Arboretum, and the Route 240 Rutland was eliminated entirely. Her understanding is that the City of Austin will be relocating homeless people to 1934 Rutland. Samsung will be rebating about \$200 million over 17 years, and there is a rebate from Apple, but there is no transportation along the corridor. She would ask that Capital Metro make the service more equitable for people in the northeast Austin, and not just serve the White and Hispanic people in the southwest and central parts of our city.

Charlene Harris, citizen, spoke and agreed with Ms. Joseph that certain areas of the city are not well represented or served. She is having to walk further to access transit -- particularly in the area around Manor and Rogge -- which is difficult in the rain and heat. Capital Metro needs to do a better job serving low income and homeless residents. Many stops lack benches and shelters. She feels that many voices are not being heard.

III. Items for Future Discussion:

IV. Adjournment

ADA Compliance

Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications are provided upon request. Please call (512) 369-6040 or email ed.easton@capmetro.org if you need more information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Wade Cooper, Chair; Jeffrey Travillion, Vice Chair; Eric Stratton, Secretary; Terry Mitchell; Troy Hill; Ann Kitchen, Leslie Pool and Pio Renteria.

The Board of Directors may go into closed session under the Texas Open Meetings Act. In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, consultation with attorney for any legal issues, under Section 551.072 for real property issues; under Section 551.074 for personnel matters, or under Section 551.076, for deliberation regarding the deployment or implementation of security personnel or devices; arising regarding any item listed on this agenda.