



JOINT TRANSPORTATION AND SPECIAL CALLED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2022 | 2:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS | CITY COUNCIL
FACEBOOK - <http://www.facebook.com/citycouncilbham>

MINUTES

COUNCILOR DARRELL B. O'QUINN, CHAIR
COUNCILORS LATONYA A. TATE AND CLINTON P. WOODS, COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Councilor(s) Present: O'Quinn, Tate, Woods

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Councilor O'Quinn.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA / MINUTES – August 22, 2022 and September 12, 2022.

Action Taken:

Councilor Woods Motioned to Approve.

Councilor Tate Seconded the Motion.

The August 22, 2022 Joint Transportation and Special Called Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes were approved as recorded.

Action Taken:

Councilor Woods Motioned to Approve.

Councilor Tate Seconded the Motion.

The September 12, 2022 Joint Transportation and Special Called Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes were approved as recorded.

III. BJCTA UPDATE: BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT)

PRESENTED BY: Glenn Dickerson, Chief of Finance, BJCTA

- Glenn Dickerson, Chief of Finance at the Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority thanked the City for the financial support of the BJCTA and the BRT.
- Since the launch of the BRT, there has been positive feedback.
- The BJCTA is making adjustments as necessary, currently have a shortage of operators and may have to pull operators from other routes to maintain the BRT schedule.
- The City of Birmingham allocated \$1 million to the BJCTA to manage the BRT program, but the BJCTA believes the actual cost of maintaining the program will be closer to the 3.5-4 million.
- This cost is a result of 11 additional operators being required to maintain the BRT schedule of every 15-20 minutes during peak hours and every 30-40 minutes during off peak hours.
- This schedule will require an increased cost of maintenance for the vehicles and more fuel.
- Other costs include landscaping at terminals as well as a customer service representative at each terminal.
- Mr. Dickerson also announced a partnership between VIA and BJCTA to support microtransit and provide point-to-point services between 7:00pm-11:00pm.
- This would increase BJCTA's efficiency by reducing the number of buses in operation based on ridership in the evenings. The details of the contract are still being determined and service is expected to begin in the next few weeks/months.
- This will be a jointly branded service between the City of Birmingham OB and BJCTA so the service would be seamless for citizens.

Action Taken:

No Action – Information Only.

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IV. VIA CONTRACT (BIRMINGHAM ON DEMAND)

- This contract will be for 3 years with VIA to maintain the Birmingham On Demand service for an amount not to exceed \$2.64 million.
- The RFP was sent out and VIA was the vendor selected.
- The service will continue as it currently exists.
- BDOT plans to come back to the Committee in October to present a plan for expansion.
- The next step is complementing service with BJCTA.

Action Taken:

- There was lengthy discussion about the best way to implement the expansion that will come as a result of VIA's contract with BJCTA so as to not confuse citizens.
- Councilor O'Quinn recommended again a two-tiered pricing structure that would offer connectivity to the current fixed route system at one price and a higher price for point to point service.

Action Taken:

Councilor Tate Motioned to Approve.

Councilor O'Quinn Seconded the Motion.

Item Recommended to the City Council Agenda.

V. RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PLANNING GRANT

- This is a joint effort between the City of Birmingham and BJCTA to apply for grant funding to create a project driven action implementation plan for transportation in the City of Birmingham.
- The City of Birmingham would commit 100k and BJCTA would match that 100k. This planning would include the current strategic plan and community engagement efforts to create a project based plan.
- This will help BDOT prioritize projects.

Action Taken:

Councilor Tate Motioned to Approve.

Councilor O'Quinn Seconded the Motion.

Item Recommended to the City Council Agenda.

VI. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilor O'Quinn announced that the 20/59 lighting project appears to be approaching completion.

Action Taken:

No Action – Information Only.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Tate Motioned to Adjourn.

Councilor O'Quinn Seconded the Motion.

The Meeting was Adjourned.