

**MINUTES**  
**STARTRAN ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**  
**StarTran Conference Room 2**  
**August 25, 2011**

Members Present: Kim Phelps, Beatty Brasch, Debby Brehm, Steve Speicher

Members Absent: Kory George, John Baylor

Staff Present: Larry Worth, Mike Weston, Kitty Elliott, Scott Tharnish, Brian Praeuner, Glenn Knust, Connie Thoreson

**I. REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Chairman Kim Phelps, noted the Open Meetings Law, and Patron Conduct Notice posted on the north wall.

**A. Patrons to be Heard**

No patrons requested to speak.

**B. Review/Action Item**

- The **July 28, 2011 Advisory Board Meeting minutes** were approved as submitted.
- Larry Worth summarized the August 16, 2011 correspondence(attached) to the Advisory Board with regard to the City Council action to the **StarTran F.Y. 2011-12 budget**. In lieu of the \$212,000 budget reduction resultant from reducing Saturday services from 12 to 8 hours, proposed by the Mayor, the City Council proposed to increase the Low-Income (LI) 31-day pass from the current \$7.50 to \$10 (regular fixed-route) and the Low-Income HandiVan 31-day pass from the current \$15 to \$20 and maintain 12 hours Saturday services. The remaining shortfall to be found by the StarTran Advisory Board.

Mr. Worth clarified that the City Council has already adopted the F.Y. 2011-12 City of Lincoln Budget, however after the StarTran Advisory Board makes a recommendation to the City Council they may amend the budget by resolution if they choose to do so.

Staff proposed to the Advisory Board to raise the LI 31-day passes to \$10 (regular route) and \$20 (HandiVan); “deadheading 12 routes, 5 days/week; and utilize \$50,000 recently allocated State funding.

After much discussion the StarTran Advisory Board voted unanimously in favor of the following topics for a public hearing to be scheduled September 9, 2011...

- LI 31-day pass increase from \$7.50/\$15 to \$8/\$20
- 31-day pass increase from \$45/\$90 to \$50/\$100
- Summer Youth Pass increase from \$15 to \$20
- Reduction in service hours by eliminating 30 minutes on the first and last trip on select routes.

**Other topics of discussion, included:**

As a result of the budget discussion, it was noted that the UNL contract should be looked at for possible additional revenue. The Advisory Board would like to be made aware when the next contract is negotiated.

## August 25, 2011 StarTran Advisory Board Meeting Minutes - Page 2

Steve Speicher felt that the Advisory Board should be advocating to increase transit services rather than cutting services and raising fares. Mr. Speicher would also like for the Advisory Board to be included in the City of Lincoln (StarTran portion) budget process earlier.

- Brian Praeuner summarized the **F.Y. 2010-11 Draft Transit Surveillance Report**, per attachment. Mr. Praeuner noted the areas where StarTran does and does not meet the standards and the strategies to be utilized in order to meet the standards in the future. The StarTran Advisory Board voted unanimously to accept of the F.Y. 2010-11 Transit Surveillance Report. Mr. Praeuner will submit the report as required by the Federal Transit Administration.
- Larry Worth noted that StarTran was asked to sponsor a **free fare day in conjunction with the Project Homeless Connect**. Mr. Worth noted the revenue lost would amount to approximately \$1,000 and he pointed out the policy that the agency hosting the event should solicit a sponsor to offset the lost revenue. StarTran has been compensated for any past free fare days.

After discussion, the StarTran Advisory Board voted unanimously in favor for StarTran to reiterate the need for a sponsor to the hosting agency, and as an alternative offer 100 2-ride tickets valid for the day of the event.

### C. **Topics for Discussion**

- LPlan 2040 was discussed with Mr. Phelps stating he felt the Advisory Board should discuss further with StarTran staff, in order to give input to the Planning Department regarding the transportation portion of the plan..

### D. **Operations & Planning Report**

- Scott Tharnish noted the ridership decline for July 2010 as compared to July 2011 is due to the Special Olympics shuttle services being operated in July 2010. Regular route service ridership continues to increase.
- Mr. Worth noted the Audit contract was distributed to the Advisory Board for their information.
- It was noted that staff is working with the Mayor's office for new Advisory Board member appointments/re-appointments. The Mayor and City Council will make the final decisions in this regard.

### C. **Patrons to be Heard**

No patrons requested to speak.

### D. **Adjournment**

There is a StarTran Public Hearing scheduled for September 9, 2011, 4:00 p.m. at Aging Partners.

The next StarTran Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for September 29, 2011, 8:00 a.m. in the StarTran Conference Room.