

Metro Public Safety Advisory Committee

General Committee Meeting #28

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, June 1st, 2022

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

a. **Zoom Meeting Protocols**

- i. Facilitator Richard France called the meeting to order. Facilitator Dryjanski announced that Spanish and American Sign Language interpretation services would be available during the meeting.

b. **Agenda**

- i. Facilitator France reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

c. **Roll Call**

Present: Andrea Urmanita, Ashley Ajayi, Darryl Goodus, Glenda Murrell, James Wen, Jose Raigoza, Maricela de Rivera, Chauncey Smith, Mohammad Tajsar, Esteban Gallardo, Ma'ayan Dembo, Sabrina Howard, Scarlett de Leon, Clarence Davis, Charles Hammerstein, Glenda Murrell, Constance Strickland

Absent: Raul Gomez, Jessica Kellogg, Florence Annang

d. **Approval of Meeting Minutes for 05/18/22**

- i. Committee members voted to approve the meeting minutes for the May 18th, 2022, meeting.
- ii. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

II. General Public Comment

The facilitators opened public comments. No public comments were provided.

III. Discussion

Envisioning the future public safety ecosystem on Metro

Committee members discussed strategies and programming that would make up the committee's long-term vision for a public safety approach that will be presented to Metro staff for their consideration.

a. **Topic summaries**

- i. Facilitator France described six topic areas related to public safety that the committee has discussed over the past year: station programming, station & infrastructure improvements, public education & messaging, supportive services, staff stewardship & training, and oversight & accountability. These six topics will comprise the initial

framework of the public safety ecosystem recommendations.

- ii. Committee members shared questions and additional categories to be added to the framework.

- iii. **Programming**

1. Member Ajayi highlighted the importance of distributing programming information to ensure riders are aware of upcoming events or new programs being launched.

- iv. **Station and infrastructure improvements**

1. Member Davis indicated that Metro should utilize public art to illustrate historic local moments, as a way for Metro to support local artists and create community-specific spaces.
 - a. Member Smith uplifted Member Davis' comment and other past priorities that emphasize the need for increased community art and green spaces at Metro stations.
 - b. Metro staff shared a [link](#) to information and resources on Metro's public art program.
2. Member Dembo indicated that Metro should prioritize adding shade and shelter from heat/rain as a key infrastructure improvement.
3. Member Raigoza suggested installing plexiglass at bus shelters, rather than glass, to avoid injuries to riders and their pets when there is shelter damage.
4. Member Davis suggested adding continuously accessible surveys at stations and stops to get data on rider experiences. He suggested using some kind of physical infrastructure rather than human surveyors.
5. Member Raigoza called out the MacArthur Park station as an example of the safety and programming benefits of having designated areas for vendors.
 - a. Member Ajayi suggested allowing street vending underground on connections between lines.
 - b. She also called out the importance of having improved wayfinding signage in stations.

- v. **Public education and messaging**

1. Member Wen requested bystander and upstander training be included in this sub-category. He defined an upstander is someone who actively tries to intervene in a crisis.
 - a. Members Strickland and Ajayi supported the request.

- vi. **Staff Stewardship and training**

1. Member Davis highlighted the opportunity to ensure cultural competency

training is part of the transit ambassadors' training curriculum.

vii. **Additional themes and subtopics**

1. Member Davis suggested developing a color-coding system that matches routes with the communities they serve.
 - a. Facilitator France suggested including the recommendation as part of a community wayfinding or design guidelines improvement.
2. Member Murrell recommends increasing the number of CCTV cameras to help operators accurately assess situations and make calls for help.
3. Member Smith suggested considering the inclusion of fareless transit for all low-income riders.
 - a. Facilitator France suggested including this topic under supportive services.
4. Member Dembo requested to add "more frequent and reliable transit service" as a public safety strategy.

b. **Mentimeter Results:** The results of the meeting's Mentimeter exercise (referenced in Sections 3.b.-3.f.) can be found [at this link](#).

c. **Mentimeter exercise:** Facilitator Dryjanski lead the committee through a short Mentimeter poll to identify the top three priority areas for discussion that evening.

- i. Member Wen suggested having cleanliness as its own category.
 1. Facilitator Dryjanski recommended having cleanliness framed as part of station & infrastructure improvements, but also have it under the staff stewardship & presence category when considering the increased deployment of the janitorial staff.
- ii. Committee members voted to discuss the following three categories during the meeting: supportive services, station & infrastructure improvements, and oversight & accountability.

d. **Supportive Services**

- i. Member de Rivera highlighted the importance of community input and recommended Metro continue to request input from a diversity of riders, community members, and advocacy organizations.
- ii. Member Goodus suggested expanding the Metro Micro program and having increased collaboration across service providers.
 1. Member Howard expressed support for this comment.

e. **Station infrastructure improvements**

- i. Member Garcia commented that it is important to make public transit as accessible

as possible through a variety of travel modes, something that may be achieved by adopting strong policies for station-adjacent design guidelines.

- ii. Member De Leon recommended Metro pursue building more bus-only lanes.
 - 1. Members de Rivera and Dembo supported this suggestion.
- iii. Member Raigoza suggested an audit of custodial needs to get to the root cause of continued unmet maintenance needs at certain stations.
- iv. Member Wen recommended an advertisement campaign explaining the various uniforms of Metro staff and the work/services they represent on the Metro system.

f. Next steps and look ahead

- i. The facilitation team will circulate a set of draft recommendations that will be voted on during the next committee meeting.
- ii. An additional meeting will be added on June 29th to consider the PSAC's position on recommendations for the LA Sheriff's Department contract and provide an update on Metro's budget progress.

IV. General Public Comment

The facilitation team took public comments from meeting participants.

- a. Commentor suggested including the Accessibility Advisory Committee as part of the organizations Metro consults with on a future public safety ecosystem.

V. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

VI. Next Steps

- a. The committee will reconvene on 06/15/22.