

Metro Public Safety Advisory Committee

General Committee Meeting #29

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, June 15th, 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: 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, Constance Strickland, Florence Annang

Absent: Andrea Urmanita, Charles Hammerstein, Raul Gomez, Jessica Kellogg, Glenda Murrell

d. **Approval of Meeting Minutes for 06/01/22**

- i. Committee members voted to approve the meeting minutes for the June 1st, 2022, meeting.
- ii. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

II. General Public Comment

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

III. Discussion Items

Recommendations on PSAC's Vision for Metro's Public Safety Ecosystem

Committee members discussed and voted to approve [recommendations on strategies and programming which constitute the committee's long-term vision for Metro's public safety ecosystem](#) on the transit system.

- a. **Context setting:** Facilitator France reviewed the process for drafting the recommendations, which included a group brainstorming session in the previous General Committee meeting and two working sessions to refine the draft document.

- b. Discussion:** committee members provided feedback on the recommendations and developed modifications for the final draft document.
- i. **Key Elements:** Member Davis reminded members of the importance of green space at stations and improved access for elderly riders/riders with disabilities. He also included a provision calling on Metro to utilize suggested donation fares if fareless transit is implemented.
 - ii. **Policing Contracts:** Member Tajsar asked why Relevant Documents 3.1 and 3.2 – both concerned with PSAC’s stance on Metro’s policing contracts – were not summarized as part of the recommendations.
 1. Facilitator France suggested a modification to explicitly state that the committee recommends Metro phase out the contracts and reallocate funding to non-law enforcement alternatives.
 2. Member Goodus indicated he does not support reducing funding or moving away from law enforcement at this time. He believes all services need to be funded adequately.
 3. Facilitator France suggested a modification that states “understanding that Metro has limited funding for public safety strategies, Metro may consider shifting what is currently allocated to law enforcement contracts, with the understanding that the recommended ecosystem does not exclude law enforcement.”
 - a. Member Tajsar agreed with the suggestion
 - b. Member Davis stated the importance of finding a balance between the various public safety strategies.
 - c. Member de Rivera shared that it is important for these recommendations to make a strong statement about the need for funding non-law enforcement alternatives.
 - d. Member Smith reminded members that PSAC has already approved recommendations on the law enforcement contracts and remains consistent with that directive.
 - iii. **Blue Light Infrastructure:** Member Davis emphasized the inclusion of a recommendation for the continued implementation of the Blue Light system.
 - iv. **Citations:** Member Ajayi suggested using the centralized information portal as a way for riders to check on the status of tickets they have received for fare evasion.
 1. Member Davis agreed with the difficulty of being able to find and track tickets with Metro’s current system.
 2. Facilitator France suggested adding language that the centralized communication portal should include a mechanism for riders to check on the status of any tickets.

- c. **Public Comment:** No public comments were provided.
- d. **Proposal:** Facilitator France put forward a proposal to approve the updated recommendations with the following amendments:
 - i. In the “A Call for Systemic Change” paragraph, add additional context about the use of non-law enforcement public safety measures and their funding via the phasing out of Metro’s law enforcement contracts.
 - ii. Under “Safety Infrastructure Improvements,” add a recommendation calling for the continued deployment of Blue Light and Call Point infrastructure.
 - iii. Under “Centralize Communication Portals for the Public,” add “resolve or contest citations” as one of the potential functions for this portal.
 - 1. In this same paragraph, add context about the importance of including call-in functionality and not limiting access solely to online portal options.
- e. **Voting Action**
 - i. Vote to approve Recommendations on PSAC’s Vision for Metro’s Public Safety Ecosystem:
 - 1. Yes: 9 No: 1 Abstain: 1
 - 2. The item was approved.

Recommendations for Metro’s Place-based Implementation Strategy

Committee members discussed and voted to approve recommendations on Metro’s Place-based Implementation Strategy.

- a. **Metro staff response to committee recommendations:** Metro staff shared that they support the recommendations and that they align with the agency’s goal to achieve place-based safety solutions.
- b. **Discussion:** Committee members provided feedback on the recommendations and developed modifications for the final draft.
 - i. **Criteria Weighting:** Member Ajayi asked if location criteria would be weighted evenly during decisions for deployment.
 - 1. Metro staff replied that they will work with their team to build out a weighted point system.
 - 2. Facilitator France asked for clarification from Metro staff as the Metro-drafted attachment is still missing details on the point system.
 - a. Metro staff confirmed that they still need to determine the evaluation criteria and scoring mechanism.
 - ii. **Complaints of Police Misconduct:** Member Smith recommended that complaints of police misconduct should be their separate criteria on the recommendations.

1. Members expressed support for this recommendation.
 2. Member Davis added that misconduct reports should not be summarized or condensed when Metro is reviewing these incidents.
- b. **Public Comment:** No public comments were provided.
- c. **Proposal:** Facilitator France put forward a proposal to approve the updated recommendations with the following amendments:
- i. Modify "Location Selection Criteria" #1 "Locations where a high number of assaults and/or police complaints" by:
 1. Changing the wording of "police complaints" to "complaints of misconduct against law enforcement officers".
 2. And separate "assaults" and "complaints of misconduct against law enforcement officers" into two separate criteria.
 - ii. Modify PSAC's recommendation to "Data on Harassment and Assaults" to indicate that Metro should utilize full, contextual reports on police misconduct, rather than abbreviated summary reports of any kind.
- d. **Voting action**
- i. Vote to approve PSAC's recommendations for Metro's Place-based Implementation System
 1. Yes: 11 No: 0 Abstain:0
 2. The item was approved.
- e. **Next steps:**
- i. Facilitation team will update both sets of recommendations and submit them to Metro staff and Metro CEO.

IV. General Public Comment

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

V. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

VI. Next Steps

- a. The committee will reconvene on 07/06/22.