



City of Racine

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Meeting Minutes - Final

Transit and Parking Commission

Wednesday, August 8, 2018

4:30 PM

City Hall, Room 303

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M.

Present: Deborah Ganaway, Mark Kowbel, John Heckenlively, Ray DeHahn
Excused: Dustan Balkcom

Also Present: Mike Maierle, Willie McDonald, Mark Yehlen, Jim Palenick, John Magee

Approval of Minutes for the June 20, 2018 Meeting

The minutes of the June 20, 2018 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.

[0679-18](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication from the Transit and Parking System Manager requesting to lower the rate for evening parking in ramps managed by ABM.

Recommendation of the Transit and Parking Commission on 06-20-18: Defer

Recommendation of the Transit and Parking Commission on 08-08-18: Recommend a 6-month trial period of a \$1.00 evening parking rate between 5:00 P.M. and 5:00 A.M. in the Civic Centre, Gaslight, Lake Avenue and Shoop ramps.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Alderman DeHahn noted that some people who return to downtown in the evening are paying for all day parking twice in the same day.

Staff noted that evening parking demand is strong downtown in the evenings. The goal is to try to encourage more people to use the ramps in the evening.

Motion made by DeHahn, seconded by Heckenlively to recommend a 6-month trial period of a \$1.00 evening parking rate between 5:00 P.M. and 5:00 A.M. in the Civic Centre, Gaslight, Lake Avenue and Shoop ramps. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

[0814-18](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication from the Transit and Parking

System Manager requesting authorization for the Mayor and City Clerk to sign a 2018 contract for RYDE to provide public transit service to the Racine Unified School District (RUSD) for the 2018-2019 school year after review by the City Attorney.

Recommendation of the Transit and Parking Commission on

08-08-18: The Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to sign a 2018 contract for RYDE to provide public transit service to the Racine Unified School District (RUSD) for the 2018-2019 school year after review by the City Attorney.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Staff recommended no change to the contract amount. Service stayed largely the same. Contract covers cost. Total number of students subscribed to RYDE is 994.

Motion made by Kowbel, seconded by DeHahn to approve.

Members voting aye: Kowbel, DeHahn

Members abstaining: Heckenlively

Motion passed 2:1

Recommended For Approval

[0815-18](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication from the Transit and Parking System Manager requesting authorization for the Mayor and City Clerk to authorize an application to the Wisconsin Transit Capital Assistance Grant Program (VW Mitigation Program) and agree that the receipt of a grant under this program will result in a reduction of future municipal payments pursuant to § 79.035(7), Wis. Stats.

Recommendation of the Transit and Parking Commission on

08-08-18: Approve authorizing application to the Wisconsin Transit Capital Assistance Grant Program (VW Mitigation Program) for up to eight buses, agreeing to a reduction of future municipal payments if necessary to pay for the local share, and applying to other grant programs, including Department of Workforce Development grants.

Fiscal Note: N/A

City Administrator James Palenick spoke to the Commission. \$32 million is available for transit statewide under this program. Flexibility in grant application is necessary. Deadline is September 28, 2018. Staff is researching electric buses under this program.

The Department of Workforce Development's Fast Forward grant program has a grant titled "Commuter to Careers" for which we may qualify. It has a short deadline.

Motion made by Kowbel, seconded by DeHahn to approve authorizing application to the Wisconsin Transit Capital Assistance Grant Program (VW Mitigation Program) for up to eight buses, agreeing to a reduction of future municipal payments if necessary to

pay for the local share, and applying to other grant programs, including Department of Workforce Development grants. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

General Manager's Operations Report

Comparing 2018 to 2017 for June, fixed route ridership was down 4.0%, revenue down 4.1%. Paratransit ridership was up 13.3%, revenue up 12.9%.

Comparing 2018 to 2017 for the first six months of the year, fixed route ridership was down 3.8%, revenue down 4.4%. Paratransit ridership was up 14.0%, revenue up 11.8%.

Five buses are currently out-of-service due to major maintenance issues. Five of nine bus routes have detours.

Motion made by Kowbel, seconded by DeHahn to receive and file. Passed unanimously.

Transit and Parking System Manager's Report

Based on Common Council action, the Transit and Parking Commission will be reconstituted as a transit only commission. Parking will move to the Public Works and Services Committee. Union negotiations are underway. Budget season is starting.

Motion made by DeHahn, seconded by Heckenlively to receive and file. Passed unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 P.M.

If you are disabled and have accessibility needs or need information interpreted for you, please contact the Department of Public Works, (262) 636-9122, at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.