



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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MINUTES

Standing Committee on Transportation Meeting

Location: Virtual via Zoom and 1010 Richards Street, Room 118

Date: March 19, 2024

Time: 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Violet Horvath, Chairperson; Teri Spinola-Campbell, Charlotte Townsend, Board Members; David Langille, Bryan Mick, Sue Radcliffe, Staff

ABSENT: Gerald Ohta, Board Member

GUEST: Ricky Hyunh

- I. Chairperson Violet Horvath called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.
- II. Committee members, staff, and guest introduced themselves.
- III. Chairperson Violet Horvath reported no written public testimony was submitted.
- IV. The Committee approved the January 8, 2024, meeting minutes (M/S/P Townsend/Spinola-Campbell).
- V. Unfinished Business

- A. Review of DCAB Guiding Principles on Public Transit Fixed Route Bus Service and Paratransit Services and DCAB Guiding Principles on the Mobility and Safety of Pedestrians with Disabilities and proposed amendments

The Committee reviewed the draft amendment to the Guiding Principles on Public Transit Fixed Route Bus Service and Paratransit. Committee member Charlotte Townsend suggested it should use person first language.

- B. Review of DCAB Guiding Principles on Public Transit Fixed Route Bus Service and Paratransit Services and DCAB Guiding Principles on the Mobility and Safety of Pedestrians with Disabilities and proposed amendments

Committee member Charlotte Townsend commented on principle 7 which addresses safety and security of pedestrians with disabilities and their interaction with other people using transportation devices was not very clear. Several amendments were suggested. It was pointed out that both

the planning and design of certain transportation programs can be the issue or in other cases the lack of enforcement.

Committee member Charlotte Townsend asked in relation to principle 10, whether roundabouts comply with Universal Design principles. Staff replied they would need to research this.

Chairperson Violet Horvath asked that the word "advocate" be added to each principle where appropriate.

Chairperson Violet Horvath commented that for principle 15, there are other disabilities besides mobility which would be appropriate to be represented on certain task forces, etc.

The full Board will consider the proposed amendments to both sets of Guiding Principles at a future meeting.

C. Kauai County Suspension of Bus and Paratransit Service on Sundays

The Committee discussed the reasons the County cited when announcing the suspension of Sunday services and asked about other alternatives people with disabilities may have if they need transportation on Sundays. It was noted that legally they are in compliance with the ADA since they are not offering fixed route bus service on Sundays. The Committee asked staff to send the County a letter with several questions so the Committee can better understand the current situation.

VI. New Business

A. Standing Agenda Items

Public Transit and Paratransit

Bryan Mick reported that the City and County of Honolulu has established a low income fare for paratransit riders for which DCAB advocated strongly. However, it was recently reported at the Honolulu Rate Commission meeting that only a handful of people have applied. The Department of Transportation Services and the Department of Community Services are brainstorming how to better publicize this program. Staff noted that the Department of Transportation Services website has the relevant information on the webpage for TheBus's low income fare program, but it is difficult to find.

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking - Ensuring Safe Accommodations for Air Travelers with Disabilities Using Wheelchairs

Committee member Teri Spinola-Campbell mentioned that there is a comment period open for the proposed rules which would greatly improve the experience for people with disabilities who are flying. Bryan Mick

replied that this topic is on the full Board's next meeting agenda, so hopefully DCAB will be able to submit comments before the deadline.

Universal Access in Aviation Biennial Conference

Bryan Mick mentioned that he previously attended this conference and thought there were some innovative things that went beyond the ADA's minimum requirements. Committee member Charlotte Townsend mentioned that she also attended the conference and unfortunately the airlines did not seem to be quickly adopting new equipment or programs. Bryan Mick agreed but mentioned this also covers the airport experience from the curb to the gate. DCAB forwarded the information over to the Hawaii Department of Transportation because this squarely fits into their area of jurisdiction. He is not sure if anyone from DCAB will attend the conference this year.

B. The next meeting will be on May 7, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

NOTE: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
BRYAN K. MICK