

# LCTA Public Transit Ridership Forum Meeting Minutes

**Minutes from the April 16, 2019 Public Transit Ridership Forum Meeting held at 2:00 PM at the LCTA HQ in Kingston, PA and via Facebook Live.**

**Present:** Norm Gavlick (LCTA ED), Lorri Vandermark-Palovachak (LCTA), Joe Fedak (Public), and 12 online public attendees.

**Statistics:** 293 views, 29 comments, 12 likes, and 4 shares.

- An LCTA Official welcomed those in attendance, provided an overview of the meeting, and stated that today's meeting would center on the topic of ridership and routes.
- An LCTA Official provided an overview of the fixed route bus system, the planning process LCTA uses to evaluate where a route goes, and provided the definition of "Ridership".
- An LCTA Official provided an overview of the ways how the public and employers can submit input in order to improve routes and bus service.
- An LCTA Official provided an overview of the ways how an employer can integrate LCTA public transportation services to meet their workforce needs.
- An LCTA Official stated: "Our agency is developing a database of employer shift times to better plan and coordinate routes in order to better service employee transportation needs."
- An LCTA Official stated: "Employers can also take a survey of employee transit needs, which LCTA can provide the survey materials, if needed."
- An LCTA Official stated: "LCTA offers customized travel training, available free of charge, to employers and organizations."
- The LCTA ED stated: "As a reminder, the public is welcome to attend our Ridership Meetings in-person at our HQ in Kingston. All Ridership Meetings are available and open to the public, in addition to being broadcast on Facebook Live."
- The LCTA ED stated: "Our goal is to maximize ridership demand and availability to supply public transportation services, while doing so in a responsible and efficient way."
- The LCTA ED explained how specialized computer software and data is used in the planning process to develop new bus routes and modify existing ones.
- The LCTA ED provided an overview of the fixed route ridership numbers per route, explained the reasons behind the top performing routes, what financial/operational factors are limiting further expansion of the system and service levels, and provided an overview of the PennDOT ridership metrics.
- The LCTA ED provided an overview of the current status of the MATP legislation and the PA Turnpike funding situation, and how both could potentially impact LCTA service levels and operations.
- The LCTA ED provided an overview of how, over the past 4 years, LCTA fixed route bus service is expanding to meet the needs of expanding regional industrial park employers.

- The LCTA ED provided an overview of how LCTA plans to meet the increased ridership needs in the South Valley section of Luzerne County.
- The LCTA ED provided an updated status on the PennDOT FRITS project, and how the data gathered will assist in route planning by determining the performance of individual stops along the route.
- LCTA Officials conducted a Q&A session with the audience members in attendance.
- In response to a question from a member of the public, the LCTA ED stated: “There is the potential for the expansion of night service to Glen Lyon”.
- In response to a question from a member of the public, the LCTA ED stated: “The Francis Slocum State Park run will still operate this summer with no changes from last year. There is a new bench installed at the park bus stop. I believe LCTA is still the only public transit agency in Pennsylvania who provides service to a PA state park on a regular basis”.
- The LCTA ED stated: “Thank you for riding. Thank you for your time today, we will see you again next month!”
- The next LCTA Public Transit Ridership Forum meeting will be held at a time and location to be determined, and will be advertised to the public in advance.