

# LCTA RIDERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the May 16, 2017 Ridership Committee Meeting held at 2 PM at the LCCC Corporate Learning Center in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

**Present:** Lorri Vandermark (LCTA), Frank Knorek (LCTA), Joe Fedak (Public), Norm Gavlick (LCTA), and Rosemary Lombardo (Public), and Angel Mathis (Public).

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## Topics Discussed:

- Review of meeting minutes from the 4/18/2017 ridership committee meeting.
- An LCTA official stated: Ridership Committee Meetings will still take place at the rotating location for the remainder of the year. However, attendance has not increased.
- A member of the public asked: Is the number 17 route now running to the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Airport on a regular basis?

An LCTA official stated: This new service will start on 5/22/2017. A bus stop will be located at the baggage area outside the terminal. Each day the #17 will have 10 runs to the airport from downtown Wilkes-Barre. It is a very cost effective way to travel to the airport.

- A member of the public asked: Is the Francis Slocum Route going to take place this year?

An LCTA official stated: Yes, it will happen as scheduled.

- An LCTA official stated: A main goal for 2018 is night service. Night service would run until about 11:45 PM, and would consist of a north and south loop. In order for this to happen, some underperforming routes would be cut. LCTA's goal is a minimum of 16 passenger boardings per revenue hour for each route.
- An LCTA official stated: As of 6/1/2017 there will be a changes to the fixed route bus fare rates. The rate structure was explained. See the LCTA Website for more details. LCTA anticipates raising the base fare in late 2017. Public meetings will be held in the fall to garner public comment. The base fare has not been raised since 2006.
- An LCTA official stated: Talks are in the works to allow LCCC students, staff, and faculty to ride LCTA fixed route bus service at no charge.
- An LCTA official stated: Talks are in the works to have LCTA and COLTS fixed route bus passes to be the same fare structure and be accepted by fare boxes on both systems. A LCTA or COLTS bus pass would work on either system.
- An LCTA official stated: Talks are in the works with Mericle Commercial Real Estate to potentially build a fixed route bus transfer station on Oak Street in Pittston and/or new the Pittston Walmart to service the East and West branch of the Centerpoint industrial parks.
- An LCTA official stated: Talks are in the works with State Senator John Yudichak's office and consultants to potentially construct an intermodal center in downtown Nanticoke.

- An LCTA official stated: A prototype of a new and improved fixed route bus transit system is being developed. The goal is to include night service. A tentative implementation date is Q4 2017. Public meetings will be held in late summer or early fall to garner public input.
- An LCTA official stated: There was a slight increase in the PennDot operating grant for the coming year. Also, Luzerne County Council voted unanimously on the required county grant matching funds.
- An LCTA official stated: LCTA is now fully operating its own transit system advertising and marketing. LCTA now owns and is fully responsible for all fixed route bus shelters. This includes construction and maintenance. The goal is to have more stops with bus shelters, but this can only be done as grant funding allows.
- A member of the public asked: If a bus shelter could be placed in Warrior Run by the borough building?  
An LCTA official stated: We will reach out to Warrior Run officials to see if we can make that happen.
- An LCTA official stated: No updates are available at this time on the Murray Complex and the potential site for a new LCTA HQ.
- An LCTA official stated: PennDOT just released its Public Transportation Performance Report. LCTA and COLTS had positive data on the target metrics measured, as compared to other peer systems in the state.
- A member of the public asked: If the consolidation of the PA Department of Human Services would affect LCTA?  
An LCTA official stated: We do not anticipate it will, but we will monitor the situation for further developments.  
An LCTA official stated: The Bi-County public transit consolidation study is still being conducted. Per PennDOT, the only savings would be in upper and middle managers, and in county matching funds.
- The next LCTA Ridership Committee Meeting will take place on 6/20/2017 at 2PM.  
Location: Pittston Chamber of Commerce in downtown Pittston City (Kennedy Blvd).