

## Board of Directors of the Kansas City Streetcar Authority

January 25, 2023

### Meeting Summary Minutes

Zoom <https://kcstreetcar-org.zoom.us/j/81135807419?pwd=dXdhUFREQXFFOEtXUTVsZjFEed25vZz09>

600 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64106

#### 1. Call to Order

Michael Collins called the meeting to order. Mr. Collins introduced the new Board of Directors, Eric Bunch, Alissia Canady, and Robert McCormack., who are new City of KCMO appointees.

#### 2. Approval of Previous Meeting Summary Minutes

Jon Copaken moved to approve the December 7, 2023 meeting summary minutes, Matt Staub seconded and the motion carried.

#### 3. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

#### 4. Streetcar Expansion Updates

##### Main Street Extension Project

Jason Waldon updated the Board of Directors on the Main Street Extension. He said that the project is healthy, on time and on budget. Substantial completion is still on track for the end of 2024 with opening in 2025. The project is overall 67% complete. The team just returned from Elmira, NY completing a final inspection of the new Streetcars. Angie Laurie said that the first new vehicle (807) is expected to arrive the first week in February, with a new streetcar arriving 4-6 weeks later through summer 2024. There will be a testing period for each vehicle, that will include static and dynamic testing. Much of the initial testing will be at night and the burn in during the day. The goal is to commission each vehicle and have it certified for passenger service prior to construction completion. Mr. Gerend added that the goal is to get them in service as soon as possible because they have a two-year warranty, and we don't want them sitting waiting for construction to end. The original six vehicles are no longer on warranty.

Ms. Laurie added that the scope of work to retrofit the current downtown streetcar's sub systems will start after the new streetcars have all arrived. The objective is to have a unified fleet with the same technology.

##### Riverfront Extension\*

Ralph Davis reported on the Riverfront Extension. The KCATA Board approved the contract for Radmacher Brothers Excavating, who has been selected for the contractor, on December 20, 2023. A Notice to Proceed (NTP) is scheduled for January 29, 2024. Groundbreaking will be in late February/early March. Everyone will be invited to groundbreaking.

100% of the plans are under final review for the Bike and Pedestrian Bridge. They are reviewing Right of Way and Railroad access. KCMO is evaluating funding options. KCSA will support KCMO grant opportunities. On January 24, 2024 the KCATA Board also approved Alfred Benesh and Company as the construction inspectors.

#### 5. Transit Study Updates

Tom Gerend said the KC streetcar is a part of a regional transit system. He talked about some of the studies happening in the region. KCSA is not a part of these studies but could connect.

- MARC/ATA-Bi-State Sustainable Corridors
- MARC/ATA-Airport Study (near-term express bus)
- KCMO-Downtown to Airport Rail
- Johnson County Transit
- KCATA Fare Study

Jason Waldon added that the KCMO-Downtown to Airport Rail study has been approved.

Michael Collins added that preliminary conversations have been emerging regards to connecting to 18<sup>th</sup> and Vine area.

There are quite a few people that are interested in the discussion. There isn't a formal study underway yet, but he wanted to let the Board know about the conversations towards a potential study.

### (Streetcar Specific)

#### Northrail

Mr. Gerend said this study was started in 2019, before the Royals conversation started about the site selection. It was on hold until the KC Royals announced their site selection. Mr. Gerend said that the KCSA Board needs to decide if we want to reengage. KCSA has \$1m of State money specific to the Northrail evaluation that could be advanced. We probably don't want to lose it. We think there will be a need to connect North to Downtown. We are on a temporary pause but there is a decision to be made about the State resources.

Michael Collins thanked the KC Streetcar team for the coordinating effort and engagement of the regional transit system.

In response to a question raised about the \$1m spenddown timeframe, Mr. Gerend said it was appropriated in this fiscal year's budget, the clock was ticking when it was first included in the State's budget. We would have to formally petition the state to roll it over in next fiscal year's budget to have an extension. The money cannot be used for anything other than the Northrail study environmental study phase. Alissia Canady said it is best to ask for an extension or a modification to be able to spend it sooner. Mr. Gerend said that since we only have three months left in this fiscal year, we will need an extension to develop a scope.

#### East-West

Lauren Krutty updated the Board of the East-West Transit Study. She said the project partners were KCATA-KCSA-Unified Government-University of Kansas Health System. The work in phase 1 is completed. The conclusions are that Streetcar is the preferred mode and 39<sup>th</sup> Street and Linwood Blvd as the preferred corridor. A Phase 1.5 planning effort is underway. In Phase 1.5 the study will include technical analysis to identify station areas, develop potential cross-sections for segments and a technical evaluation of corridor turn/connections to Main Street. The goal is to progress towards a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA).

Ms. Krutty shared some of the findings from phase 1 of the study.

- **Streetcar**
- **15 stations + 1 Transit Center**
- **6.9 miles**
- **39<sup>th</sup> > Main > Linwood**



She also shared some cost assumptions: The annual operating and maintenance cost for the total corridor cost (UKHS to van Brunt) will be \$11.5m and the capital cost is assumed at \$1.1-\$1.3B.

Assumes: Costs assumptions based on conceptual planning to date (high-level parametric estimates), Full corridor cost from UKHS to 31<sup>st</sup> & Van Brunt, a 2030 year of expenditure, a 5% annual inflation and an FTA recommended contingencies.

Upcoming planning efforts with the Federally awarded RAISE Grant (\$4.5m):

- Complete the development and adoption of the LPA.
- Begin the next phase of planning (environmental, preliminary engineering, and public engagement).

- Develop phasing and financial strategy including identifying capital and operating funding.
- Begin coordination with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Potential Implementation Timeline:



In response to a question asked about TDD being the funding model, Ms. Krutty said that potential funding models were looked at to fund a TDD option. Nearly 40% of the corridor already falls within the existing TDD. They don't think TDD approach would be feasible for the East-West project and are looking at other initiatives. A full-depth analysis has not been done for this project.

There was a robust discussion around inflation and how much construction will cost. MS. Canady suggested that whoever is doing the study looked into the Central City Economic Development (CCED).

## 6. KC By-Laws Amendment\*

Tom Gerend said that the Board has had conversations for a few years on the transitioning from the Downtown TDD to the Main Street Rail TDD. There are two existing board members representing Downtown TDD. The Downtown TDD will soon be fully deactivated. There is a contractual obligation in our 3-party agreement to modify the Board representation. The agreement also requires the City of KCMO to concur with those changes. He asked Doug Stone to discuss changes. The By-Laws are included in the Board packets. Mr. Stone said that Lynn Carlton and Matt Staub are the current Downtown TDD Directors. The change that is being proposed is that the two seats now filled by the Directors of Downtown streetcar TDD would transition to be filled by the Directors of the Main Street Rail TDD. One would always be the Main Street TDD Chairperson, and the second seat would be one person elected at large by the TDD that will be appointed by the TDD Board. The City of KCMO said they approve that structure. The amendment is ready to move forward, with an April 1, 2024, effective date. The last meeting of the Downtown TDD members will be March 21, 2024. Meanwhile the Main Street Rail TDD will need to go through a process to make their appointment and this gives them time.

Matt Staub moved to approve the proposed KCSA by-laws amendment, effective April 1, 2024, Jon Stephens seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed.

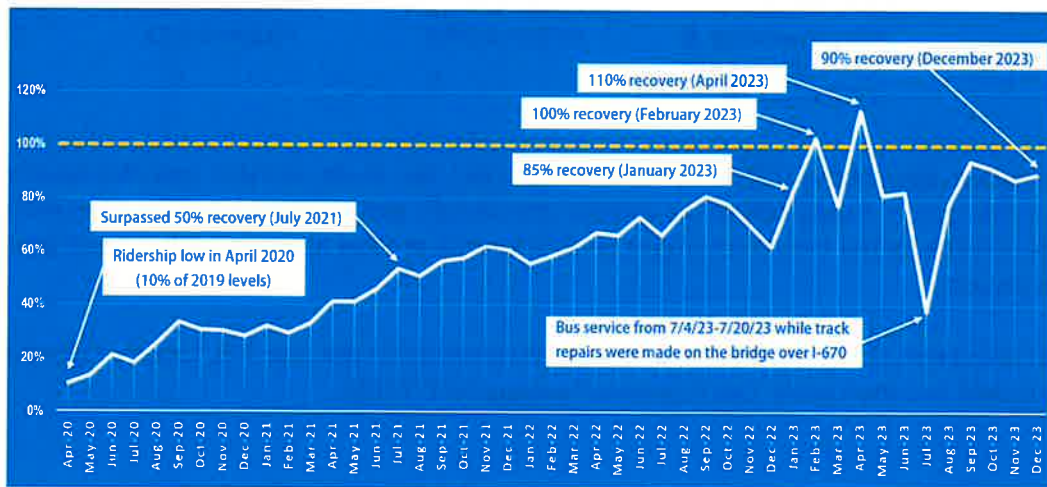
## 7. Committee Reports

### A. Operations Committee

Lauren Krutty said she wanted to acknowledge the KCATA cyber security breach that happened two days ago. KCSA is connected to the KCATA in many ways, most directly on the operation side. It is impacting our vehicle location system that tracks 3 cars on the route as well as real time arrival and scheduling information. KCSA does have a cyber security plan and all the protocols were followed. Ties have been severed with the KCATA network in the interim. Staff believes that the breach didn't impact their network. Operations are still going with the operators using radio communication and calling out locations. The Real Time arrival signs are blank.

Major Daniel Gates said that MOU between KCSA and KCPD was signed by both the Chief of Police and Tom Gerend. He has been working with Chief Graves to determine when the acquisition of the police car can happen as well as when a full-time Officer will be in place. Both will be funded by KCSA. The full-time Officer will be supplemented with off-duty officers. There is an Academy class coming out in the beginning of March which will help to decide when someone can be staffed to KCSA. Mr. Gerend said it is important for the scaling component that we build this to have an infrastructure to grow as the system grows. KCSA staff is excited about the new capacity.

In the interest of time Ms. Krutty said she wasn't going to go through all of the ridership slides, but they can be found at [www.kcstreetcar.org](http://www.kcstreetcar.org) She did address the recovery slide. She said that the system is at 90% recovery at the end of 2023. The dip in recovery is when we had to repair the 670 bridge and wasn't in service for 2.5 weeks.



### B. Marketing Committee

Donna Mandelbaum said she gave the Marketing Committee update. Sponsorship and advertising. She said that at the end of 2023, we ended up with the highest sponsorship and advertising since we started in 2016. 2024 is looking to be great already. In January, current contracts are at \$67,175. There are three annual streetcar wraps for 2024. The KC Library and Power and Light District wraps were revealed a couple of weeks ago. KC Current is also returning, and the agreements are being worked on now. There are also a short-term wrap agreements with the KC Zoo and Sporting KC coming online. HCA and ReStart are on the routes until the end of March.

Ms. Mandelbaum said with the new streetcars arriving we need to communicate with more riders. When the new streetcars arrive, they will be in test mode for a certain period. A new safety testing campaign will be deployed. She shared the "Not in Service and Testing" graphics that will be on the window. There will be a news release on the website and social media. Along with expansion, they are tweaking and adjusting some of the brand assets, including the route map. She shared pictures of the new Branding graphics. These new brand graphics will help solidify that the Streetcar is the spine of the regional transit system. The code of conduct graphic has been updated as well. All the data is the same as the current code of conduct, but the images make it easier to understand. The goal is to have all the graphics completed over the next several months.

### C. Budget and Finance Committee

Tom Gerend said the monthly financial management reports were included in the Board Packets. A February Budget, Finance and Audit Committee meeting is scheduled for February. Most of the meeting will be to go over audit findings. We are at the back end of the audit. He thanked Ebony Jackson for her work on the audit. He reminded the Board that this year we are working with a new audit firm and that there is a Federal single audit as well as our annual audit. It has been a more rigorous evaluation. We are checking a lot of internal controls.

Jason Swords moved to accept the November and December financial reports, Lynn Carlton seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### 8. Executive Director's report

- Conversations are being had with Union Station about partnering with them for safety.
- Hoping to be back in the VMF in March and hosting the March Board meeting there.
- Assessing mainline location options for future on-route for security/operations/lost and found capabilities.
- We will be advancing the midtown maintenance of way building at 38<sup>th</sup> and Baltimore this year.

**9.No Closed Session.**

10.The next meeting will be held on March 21, 2024 in person at Port KC Berkely Pkwy, KCMO with a virtual Zoom option.

**Board Members Attending**

Councilman Eric Bunch

Alissia Canady

Lynn Carlton

Michael Collins

Jon Copaken

George Guastello

David Johnson

Robert McCormack

Matt Staub

Jon Stephens

Jason Swords

**Others attending**

Alissia Canady, Canady Law

Ralph Davis, KCSA

Maj. Daniel Gates

Tom Gerend, KCSA

Ebony Jackson, KCSA

Angie Laurie, KCMO

Donna Mandelbaum, KCSA

Gil Melgajero, HTSI

Jon Schlegel, HTSI

Rachel Stokers, Fox 4 News

Doug Stone, Lewis Rice

Jason Waldron, KCMO