

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH
AGENDA
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 28, 2013, 5:30 p.m.
MEDICINE LAKE CONFERENCE ROOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. TOPICS

- A Transit discussion
- B. Set Future Study Sessions

3. ADJOURN



**SPECIAL
COUNCIL MEETING
May 28, 2013**

To: Laurie Ahrens, City Manager
Prepared by: Sarah Hellekson, Transit / Solid Waste Manager
Reviewed by: Doran Cote Public Works Director
Date: May 21, 2013
Item: **Quarter 1 Report for Route 747 Service at Station 73**

1. ACTION REQUESTED:

None

2. BACKGROUND:

At the June 26, 2012 Special Council Meeting, the City Council approved a transit plan to increase the frequency of Plymouth Metrolink service between Station 73 and downtown Minneapolis in order to increase ridership. Staff was asked to provide the City Council and PACT with quarterly reports on Route 747 Service at Station 73 and its effect on ridership.

Increasing Ridership

According to manual counts conducted daily by the bus drivers, the number of passengers taking the route 747 buses has increased each month since the start of the service. The bus drivers manually count and record the riders for each route 747 trip. The average daily ridership is determined by the daily passenger count divided by the number of transit days for each month. Route 747 began Monday, December 10, 2012 with three morning trips and four afternoon trips between Station 73 and downtown.

Month	Monthly Ridership	Average Daily Ridership	Change in Monthly Ridership from Previous Month
December	523	35	
January	1,205	55	682
February	1,266	63	61
March	1,463	70	197

Frequency of Service Draws and Retains Riders

According to the surveys given to all route 747 riders one day each month, the majority of riders, existing and new, choose route 747 because of the frequency of service. New service surveys are being conducted the third Wednesday of each month on every route 747 bus. Each month, the

majority of respondents were existing Plymouth Metrolink riders before route 747 was implemented. However, these respondents expressed appreciation for the additional service. Route 747 is retaining existing riders.

The majority of riders completing the surveys responded that they chose to ride route 747 because of the service scheduled every 15 minutes between Station 73 and downtown.

Month	Total Surveys	Chose Route 747 due to additional service	
		Yes	No
January	46	26	19
February	56	48	6
March	40	31	9
April	60	48	11

New Riders

Results from surveys conducted monthly on route 747, show there are twenty new riders to the Plymouth Metrolink system in the first quarter of 2013 (January, February, March). There are twenty-seven new riders to date.

Riders' Comments

In summary, respondents expressed appreciation for the additional service, which makes the commute easier, less stressful, more flexible and convenient.

Existing riders like the additional choices with less waiting time between the buses at Station 73 and while waiting downtown. Some respondents commented that because there are more buses during the peak rush hour, there is additional seating capacity and the buses feel less crowded, which they find less stressful and more comfortable. Some respondents switched from riding Metro Transit to riding Plymouth Metrolink, preferring Plymouth Metrolink buses, First Transit's friendly drivers, and the parking, lobby and convenience of Station 73.

Several people mentioned that the route 747 additional service is extremely important and expressed concern that it may be temporary. There were requests for even more extended service. People expressed their thanks for this additional service. One customer wrote "A happy customer is a reliable, devoted customer."

The goal is to attract ten new passengers per quarter boarding at Station 73. According to monthly surveys, route 747 has attracted twenty new passengers to the Plymouth Metrolink system and Station 73 in the first quarter of 2013.¹ The regional transit performance standard is

¹ These surveys are only distributed on route 747 riders one day monthly. There may be more people new to Plymouth transit on other routes.

an average of twenty total passengers per in-service hour, or informally twenty passengers per trip.² As of March, 2013, route 747 meets this regional performance standard.

3. BUDGET IMPACT:

Fare revenue covers twenty-five percent of all Plymouth transit operating costs. On June 26, 2012, the City Council approved \$100,000 for additional service at Station 73. The projected cost increase of \$100,000 provided at the City Council meeting June 26, 2012 was based on 255 service days. The actual net cost of route 747 additional service between Station 73 and downtown Minneapolis from January through March, 2013 is \$14,299.76 (contract costs less fare revenue).

Route 747 Monthly Cost vs. Fare Revenue

	Jan 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Actual First Quarter	Projected First Quarter *
Contract Costs **	\$9,114.90	\$8,286.27	\$8,700.59	\$26,101.76	\$24,314.00
Fare Revenue ***	\$3,615.00	\$3,798.00	\$4,389.00	\$11,802.00	\$3,720.00
Net Cost	\$5,499.90	\$4,488.27	\$4,311.59	\$14,299.76	
Service Days	22	20	21	63	62
Total Rides per Trip	1,205	1,266	1,463	3,934	
New Passengers for Month per Survey	9	8	3	20	10
In-Service Hours	75.68	68.80	72.24	216.72	
Passengers/ In-Service Hour ****	15.92	18.40	20.25	18.15	
Cost Recovery Ratio	39.66%	45.83%	50.44%		
Rides at \$3/fare Required to Net Zero	3,038.30	2,762.09	2,900.20		

* Provided at June 26, 2012 City Council special meeting.

** Contract costs are the 2013 service rate of \$120.44 per in-service hour. An in-service hour is the measurement of a trip.

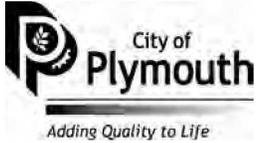
*** Fare revenue is \$3 per actual passengers per trip.

**** The regional transit performance standard is an average of 20 passengers per in-service hour, or informally 20 passengers per trip [*Regional 2030 Transportation Policy Plan, Final November 2010, p. G-10*].

4. ATTACHMENTS:

None.

² Metropolitan Council, *Regional 2030 Transportation Policy Plan*, Final November 2010, p. G 10.



To: Mayor and City Council

**REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING**

Prepared by: Laurie Ahrens, City Manager

May 28, 2013

Item: Set Future Study Sessions

1. ACTION REQUESTED:

Review the list of pending study sessions and set meetings as desired. Calendars are attached to assist with scheduling.

Pending Study Session Topics

(at least 3 Council members have approved the following study items on the list)

- Discuss Human Rights Committee
- CPR Training

Other requests for study session topics:

- Update with City Manager - fall
- Discuss watershed plan updates (GB)

June 2013

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5 7:00 PM PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING Council Chambers	6	7	8
9	10	11 5:30 PM SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING City Manager Selection Process Medicine Lake Room 7:00 PM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Council Chambers	12 7:00 PM ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE (EQC) MEETING Council Chambers	13 7:00 PM PARK & REC ADVISORY COMMISSION (PRAC) MEETING Plymouth Creek Center	14	15
16	17	18	19 7:00 PM PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING Council Chambers	20	21	22
23 30	24	25 7:00 PM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Council Chambers	26 7:00 PM PLYMOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSIT (PACT) STUDY SESSION Medicine Lake Room	27 7:00 PM HRA MEETING Medicine Lake Room	28	29 8:00 AM MUSIC IN PLYMOUTH 5K FUN RUN Hilde Performance Center

Modified on 05/23/13

July 2013

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2 5:00 PM MUSIC IN PLYMOUTH Hilde Performance Center	3	4  INDEPENDENCE DAY CITY OFFICES CLOSED	5	6
7	8	9 7:00 PM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Council Chambers	10 7:00 PM ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE (EQC) MEETING Council Chambers	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 7:00 PM PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING Council Chambers	18	19	20
21	22	23 CANCELLED 7:00 PM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Council Chambers	24 7:00 PM PLYMOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSIT (PACT) STUDY SESSION Medicine Lake Room	25 7:00 PM HRA MEETING Medicine Lake Room	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Modified on 05/23/13

August 2013

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6 2:30-5:00 PM NIGHT TO UNITE KICKOFF Plymouth Creek Center 6:30-9:30 PM NIGHT TO UNITE	7 7:00 PM PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING Council Chambers	8	9	10
11	12	13 7:00 PM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Council Chambers	14 7:00 PM ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE (EQC) MEETING Council Chambers	15	16	17
18	19	20 6:00 PM BUDGET STUDY SESSION Medicine Lake Room	21 7:00 PM PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING Council Chambers	22 7:00 PM HRA MEETING Medicine Lake Room	23	24
25	26	27 7:00 PM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Council Chambers	28 7:00 PM PLYMOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSIT (PACT) REGULAR MEETING Medicine Lake Room	29	30	31

Modified on 05/23/13

September 2013

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2  LABOR DAY CITY OFFICES CLOSED	3	4 <i>Rosh HaShanah Begins at Sunset</i>	5	6	7
8	9	10 7:00 PM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Council Chambers	11 7:00 PM ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE (EQC) MEETING Medicine Lake Room	12 7:00 PM PARK & REC ADVISORY COMMISSION (PRAC) MEETING Council Chambers	13 <i>Yom Kippur Begins at Sunset</i>	14
15	16	17	18 7:00 PM PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING Council Chambers	19	20	21
22	23	24 7:00 PM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Council Chambers	25 7:00 PM PLYMOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSIT (PACT) STUDY SESSION Medicine Lake Room	26 7:00 PM HRA MEETING Medicine Lake Room	27	28 9:00 AM PLYMOUTH FIREFIGHTERS 5K Fire Station #2 11:30 AM PLYMOUTH ON PARADE CELEBRATION City Center Area
29	30					

Modified on 05/23/13