

# MINUTES

## Concord Kannapolis Area Transit Commission

May 9th, 2023, 8:30AM

Rider Transit Center

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### MEMBERS:

Mayor Bill Dusch-City of Concord  
Dianne Berry- City of Kannapolis  
Darrell Jackson- City of Kannapolis  
Betty Stocks-City of Concord  
John Sweat-City of Concord

### OTHERS:

Andy Christy- Rider Transit  
Jaime Tippet Poe- Rider Transit  
Craig Meeks-Rider Transit  
Pam Hinson-City of Concord  
Wilmer Melton- City of Kannapolis

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### Call to Order, Quorum, and Approval of Minutes

Mayor Dusch called the meeting to order at 8:32 am, declared a quorum.

No individuals present for public comment.

Mr. Christy stated that the minutes from the March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 Concord Kannapolis Area Transit Commission meeting will be presented for approval at the next meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### ADA-Accessible Ford Transit Van Purchase

Mr. Christy presented information regarding the request for four ADA-Accessible Ford Transit Vans. Significant supply chain challenges for public transit systems across the United States exist, particularly limiting the availability of new vehicles for purchase in the van and LTV categories. The Community Transportation Association of America estimates that nationwide, more than 25,000 vehicles of this type are well past their useful life and overdue for replacement, with that number increasing constantly. The estimate for normalization of the small transit vehicle supply is currently five to seven years. The three Ford Transit vans Rider Transit currently utilizes are well past their useful life, a burden for maintenance and operations staff, and are eligible for replacement. With the continued growth of Rider Transit's ADA Paratransit program and the maintenance challenges with two other LTV Paratransit vehicles that are not quite ready for replacement, staff is requesting approval for the purchase of one new van in addition to the three replacements, to ensure a safe, reliable, and fully functional vehicle fleet for service delivery to our passengers.

Recently, Rider staff was made aware of the availability of 100 ADA-accessible, lift-equipped Ford Transit vehicles that can be purchased utilizing the State of Oklahoma transit vehicle contract. NC DOT has purchased off of this contract recently. They've been built and delivered to Creative Bus Sales, and are awaiting purchase on a first come, first served basis.

Per vehicle cost is not to exceed \$91,550. FTA grant funding in the amount of \$311,270 has been secured in a project fund for these four vehicles and would cover 85% of the cost. The remaining 15% (\$54,930) would be split 50/50 between Concord and Kannapolis at \$27,465 each.

Ms. Berry asked about ridership on ADA Paratransit and the primary trip purpose of our passengers.

Mr. Christy gave updated ridership from March 2023-1,744, April 2023-1,546, and year to date-4,944 through April 30<sup>th</sup>. He stated that although we have no trip purpose restriction under ADA Paratransit, there are a large portion of our trips that are medical appointments.

Mr. Melton asked if the current fleet has met their useful life.

Mr. Christy confirmed that the current fleet is well beyond useful life and has begun having significant mechanical concerns which is affecting our riders.

Mr. Jackson asked about anticipated recoup from sell of current vans in fleet.

Mr. Christy stated that we would retain the first \$5,000 of the proceeds plus the local share of the remaining amount. anything over \$5,000 has to be approved from FTA and returned to them. We would have to return the federal share to FTA of any sales proceeds above \$5,000.

**Recommendation/Action:** Recommend approval for purchase from Creative Bus Sales of three replacement and one new ADA-accessible Ford Transit Lift-Equipped Vans for the Rider Transit ADA Paratransit program with a not-to-exceed cost per vehicle of \$91,550/van.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve the purchase of three replacement and one new ADA-accessible Ford Transit Lift-Equipped Vans. Ms. Stocks second. Unanimous

Mr. Sweat stated that this Ad-Hoc meeting is great, especially for this purpose.

### **Other Business**

- Ms. Hinson brought the recommendation that moving forward Mr. Weslowski should present items to Kannapolis City Council.  
Mr. Melton clarified that he only needs to do that if it is a non-budgeted item. If there are not financial items, it would be appreciated if Mr. Weslowski came to Kannapolis City Council with occasional updates. He also requests that Mr. Weslowski meet with the budget team in the future.  
Ms. Berry stated that it might be helpful to have a "Rider Transit 101" for Kannapolis City Council because most of them have not served on the Concord Kannapolis Area Transit Commission.  
Mr. Christy asked if we need to update the Interlocal Agreement to reflect this information.  
Ms. Hinson stated that we may need to update it to state that all non-budgeted allocations could trigger a meeting/presentation.
- Next Meeting Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 8:30am at the Rider Transit Center

Mayor Dusch requested a motion to adjourn. Ms. Berry made a motion; Ms. Jackson second. Unanimous. With no additional discussion or items on agenda, meeting adjourned at 8:52 am.