

TRAC Minutes

September 2023

HRT's Transit Riders Advisory Committee (TRAC) met on Wednesday, September 6, in Hampton. Chairperson Denise Johnson convened the meeting at 6:01 P.M.

TRAC members in attendance were Denise Johnson, Commissioner August Bullock, Melissa Osborne, and Ben Grau.

HRT staff in attendance were Antoinette White, Linda Hodge, Sherry Scott, Kevin Brown, Rodney Evans, Rodney Davis, and Henry Ryto.

Attending from the general public were Andrew Hardin and Joshua Cardell.

The July minutes were approved as submitted. The motion was by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Ben Grau.

Antoinette White made the following points about the November service board:

1. Route 109 will be detached from Routes 117 and 120 and run independently to Buckroe Beach.
2. Routes 115, 117, and 120 will be absorbed into the Route 115. Buses will run the loop both clockwise and counterclockwise.
3. Thirty-minute service will be restored on Routes 8 & 21.
4. Route 20 will be activated as an RTS route and operate every 15 minutes during peak periods.
5. Routes 4 and 11 will be interlined.
6. There will be schedule adjustments on the Routes 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 13, 14, 23, 24, 36, 45, 57, 960, and 961.
7. Route 15's timepoint at Janaf will be eliminated, improving the outbound Route 15's ability to make the Military Circle lineup.

Also, Portsmouth's County & Court lineup will temporarily move to Crawford Street while the parking garage is being razed.

In his Director's Remarks, Rodney Davis reviewed TRAC CAFs and provided the following report:

1. The Hampton Transit Center customer information booth has been closed for more than a month because the air conditioning in the lobby and booth is not working.
2. There will be a 5k run in the vicinity of the Newport News Transit Center on September 23. Detours will impact bus operations. (NOTE: The run date was changed to October 7.)

3. IT has provided Customer Relations the ability to make public address announcements at the transit centers. This capability will not be used on a routine basis, but primarily during severe inclement weather and emergency situations.

In her Chair's remarks, Denise Johnson thanked Henry Ryto, Rodney Davis, Antoinette White, Kevin Brown, and her fellow TRAC members for their work.

During the Roundtable:

1. Commissioner Bullock asked if it were possible to have information on service adjustments during severe inclement weather run on the ticker tape provided by some news channels. Rodney Davis replied that he knew that the Communications Department issues press releases during these situations, but he would pass the idea on to Communications.
2. Rodney Evans asked if there was anything that could be done to address the delays on the Route 961.
3. Linda Hodges explained the structure of bus operator teams.

During Public Comment:

1. Andrew Hardin inquired as to whether a former Route 964 stop could be restored.
2. Joshua Cardell expressed his thoughts on pending service changes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 P.M.