



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

APRIL 10, 2019

PSTA staff held a public hearing on April 10, 2019 at 6:00 PM at PSTA Headquarters, 3201 Scherer Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33716, to receive public comments on the proposed June 2019 services changes affecting routes 9, 38, Demand Response (DART paratransit service), and the elimination of routes 5, 16, 22, 58, Dunedin Palm Harbor Connector, and the Safety Harbor Connector.

Present were: Brad Miller, CEO; Cassandra Borchers, Chief Development Officer; PSTA Board members Josh Shulman and Vince Cocks; PSTA staff members, and members of the public.

STAFF STATEMENT – Ms. Borchers read the staff statement.

PRESENTATION – Ms. Borchers provided a presentation outlining the proposed service changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Johnson, St. Petersburg resident, spoke about the elimination of Route 58. He said he uses this route for work.

David Dalby, St. Petersburg resident, said he is a disabled veteran and rides Route 22 to Bay Pines Hospital.

Melvyn Krohn, Clearwater resident, commented on the proposed elimination of the Safety Harbor Connector service and the impact it would have on the city.

Mark Shaw, Seminole resident, spoke about the elimination of Route 58 and all the places that you can get to with one ride on the 58.

Valerie Looker, Clearwater resident, spoke about the possible loss of the Demand Response (DART) service saying that she takes it to work every day.

Joan Looker, Clearwater resident, said that her daughter has gained independence since she has been a DART rider and would not like to see the service eliminated.

Robin Shaw, Seminole resident, (also speaking for Tracie Eichas and Zachary Hayes), spoke about the Route 58 along Bryan Dairy Road and the large businesses along that route. She also collected more signatures in opposition to the elimination of Route 58.

Christopher Skipper, Pinellas resident, spoke about all the proposed changes and eliminations. He is opposed to all the changes.

Chase Hollowell, Seminole resident, (also speaking for Amanda Cannon), spoke about the scheduling of the Route 58. He also spoke about the budget.

Sara Rosado, Safety Harbor resident, spoke about the elimination of the Safety Harbor Connector as well as the DART service.

Denise Deja, St. Petersburg resident, spoke about Routes 38, 5, and 22, and the bus being her only means of transportation.

One written comment was received from Tina Langford mentioning her concern about the elimination of Route 58. She uses this bus to get to work and her Veteran's Administration appointments. Ms. Langford also mentioned the elimination of Route 22 and asked that the frequency of this bus route does not decline.

ADJOURNMENT

The public hearing concluded at 6:41 PM.