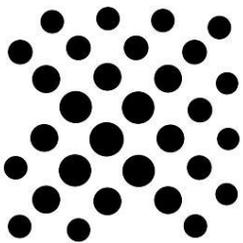


# Knoxville Transportation Authority

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 24, 2022  
City County Building Main Assembly Room



**kat**

KNOXVILLE  
AREA TRANSIT

## Monthly Report

January 27, 2022

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INDYA KINCANNON  
MAYOR  
(865)215-2040



**CITY OF KNOXVILLE**  
KNOXVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

AGENDA  
KNOXVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

City County Building Main Assembly Room  
Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 3:00 pm

**CHRIS CROUCH**  
CHAIR

**JIM RICHARDS**  
VICE-CHAIR

**MARY SMITH-BELL**  
RECORDING SECRETARY

**SANDY BOOHER**

**TOMMY SMITH**

**MARK HAIRR**

**DOUGLAS LAWYER**

**CANDACE BRAKEWOOD**

**KIMBERLY WATKINS**

**CHRISTI KIRK**

**JOHN LAWHORN**  
ATTORNEY TO K.T.A.

- I. Determination of Quorum
- II. Approval of Minutes – January 27, 2022
- III. Reports
  - A. KTA Chair
  - B. Commissioner's Comments
  - C. Staff
    - i. City of Knoxville Director of Transit
      - a. KAT Reimagined: The Comprehensive Operational Analysis Progress to Date
    - ii. TPO Transit Planner
- IV. New Business
- V. Old Business
- VI. Public Comments
- VII. Set Next Meeting for March 24, 2022 and Adjourn

**This meeting and all communications between members is subject to the provisions of the Tennessee OpenMeetings Act, TENN. CODE ANN. § 8-44-101, et seq.**

**Minutes**  
**KNOXVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**  
**City County Building Main Assembly Room**  
**Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 3:00 pm**

**I. Determination of Quorum**

Chair Crouch called the meeting to order and acknowledged there was a quorum. Other Commissioners in attendance were as follows:

Commissioner Booher  
Commissioner Hairr  
Commissioner Smith  
Commissioner Kirk

**II. Approval of Minutes- December 16, 2022**

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from December 16, 2021 meeting. Commissioner Hairr seconded the motion. The board was unanimous.

**III. Reports**

**A. KTA Chair**

Chair Crouch welcomed our new commissioner Tommy Smith to the board.

Commissioner Smith gave the board a little background on him and his work experience. He also stated that he is a City Council Member representing the 1<sup>st</sup> District.

Chair Crouch recognized that KAT has zero accidents again this month and thanked everyone.

**B. Commissioners' Comments**

Commissioner Booher commented that people are still upset about the access to West Town Mall and asked if there were further discussions about the issue.

Mr. Thorne announced that there was a meeting before Christmas and there was a discussion on how to better serve the mall. He

added that there would be a follow up meeting in February. He ended by saying that they are still working on a solution for this issue.

### C. Staff

#### i. City of Knoxville Director of Transit

Mr. Thorne announced that the ITS hardware installation is still ongoing with about 1/3 of the buses fully installed. KAT is excited about going live with that soon. He added that KAT does not have a date when everything will be ready at this time but hopefully it will be soon.

Mr. Thorne announced that due to technology issues there is a delay in a return to full service levels for Routes 17, 20, 32, 34 and the Green Line Trolley. That date has been changed to March 14, 2022.

Chair Crouch inquired about the update on the electric buses.

Mr. Thorne responded that they are still being tested. Some are out on routes, the plan is to get them out for service by the end of February 2022.

Commissioner Smith inquired about the text feature and if it is included in the ITS changes.

Mr. Thorne responded that yes it is a part of the changes.

Mrs. Woodiel-Brill added that there is a transition period between two different software companies. Some of the buses do not currently receive the same bus location information as the other buses. The new technology is transitioning to the new texting option.

She added that it will work the same but right now some details are being worked out. Eventually, everything will be taken over by the new hardware and then all of the next bus information will be available but right now it is in the transitioning process.

Mr. Thorne added that we are trying to keep the same text-to-number but it is a process.

Ms. Woodiel-Brill continued to give an update on The Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA). The staff is going full speed at this point doing some of the really detailed work. She added that she along with Mr. Doug Burton and Mr. Issac Thorne and two of our bus operators and the Director of Operations have been spending some intensive days with the consultants looking at the system, data, ridership, and all kinds of service options.

She added that the work is not finished. This will continue over the next week and then the consultants will combine the ideas, discuss options and come up with a realistic approach.

The next phase will be the initial round of public engagement. KAT also looked at transit regionally and spent time with folks from around the region (Maryville, Blount Co., Loudon Co, and Oak Ridge) just to see what other needs are out there long term. The consultants will also spend time with the board so they will be up to speed.

ii. TPO Transit Planner

Mr. Burton introduced himself to our new KTA member and added that besides the COA there are two other components to look at.

One being how can CAC, KAT, and ETHRA provide services. They all are different and provide different services through Knoxville. How can they better coordinate.

And then there is the regional component. These components are important to consider in this study.

Mr. Thorne added that any recommendations from this study will come before the board. The board will be a part of this process.

Chair Crouch added that, given the current process, there may not be a reason for the original COA committee.

Attorney Lawhorn recommended that the committee stand down for now instead of dismantling.

#### **IV. New Business**

Attorney Lawhorn gave an update on the nomination committee 2022. He added that the committee consisted of him with Commissioners Hairr and Commissioner Lawyer. That committee are bringing nominees to the board to consider:

Commissioner Crouch, Commissioner Richards, and Mary Smith-Bell as Recording Secretary.

He added that under the by-laws current officers are eligible to serve one more term in their current position.

He went on to say that KAT does retain the authority to elect a recording secretary, historically that person has been a staff member of KAT or COK.

Attorney Lawhorn then added that these nominees are brought to the board as a motion to be voted upon and if there are other nominees they can be added.

Chair Crouch asked if there were comments or questions from the board and if there were any additional nominees.

No nominees were added.

The board agreed to the nominees listed by the committee for KTA Officers 2022.

Commissioner Chris Crouch as Chair  
Commissioner Jim Richards as Vice-Chair  
Mary Smith-Bell as Recording Secretary

## **V. Old Business**

There was no old business

## **VI. Public Comment**

There are no public comments.

## **VII. Set Next Meeting and Adjourn**

The next meeting was set for February 24, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Smith-Bell

KTA Recording Secretary