

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
2019 TRANSIT SUMMIT
INFORMATION ITEM**

SUBJECT: Advisory Board Comments

ELECTION DISTRICT(S): Countywide

STAFF CONTACTS: Scott Gross, Transportation and Capital Infrastructure
Penny Newquist, Transportation and Capital Infrastructure
Joe Kroboth, III, Transportation and Capital Infrastructure

PURPOSE: To provide the Transit Advisory Board (TAB), Commission on Aging, Disability Services Board (DSB), and Loudoun Health Council the opportunity to offer comments to the Board of Supervisors (Board) on transit related matters.

BACKGROUND: The TAB¹ is a 15 member body, appointed by the Board, tasked with advising the Board on ways to improve existing County transit service in addition to beneficial changes or additions to any future transit services. The TAB actively seeks input from a broad range of riders and organizations on the bus services provided by Loudoun County and any other item, mechanism, process or program that relates to transit service. The TAB's comments are provided as Attachment 1.

The Commission on Aging², appointed by the Board, serves as an advisory board to the Board of Supervisors, Loudoun County Area Agency on Aging, and other Loudoun County agencies on matters affecting older residents. The Commission on Aging's comments will be provided at the Transit Summit.

The Disability Services Board³ is an at-large advisory body appointed by the Board. It serves as a resource to the Board and county staff by identifying and advising on issues of importance to people with disabilities, their families and caregivers. Its members work with county staff, community partners and businesses to strive to make Loudoun an accessible and inclusive community for all people. The comments of the Disability Services Board will be provided at the Transit Summit.

The Loudoun Health Council⁴ is an advisory body appointed by the Board that works in conjunction with county and town government staff to foster the programs and services necessary

¹ [Transit Advisory Board website](#)

² [Commission on Aging website](#)

³ [Disability Services Board website](#)

⁴ [Loudoun Health Council](#)

to ensure and enhance the health of everyone who lives or works in Loudoun County. The Health Council's comments are provided as Attachment 2.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Written comments provided by the Transit Advisory Board Chair in advance of the Transit Summit
2. Written comments provided by the Loudoun Health Council in advance of the Transit Summit

2019 Transit Summit
July 23, 2019

Loudoun County Transit Advisory Board

Mr. Rushi Shah

Madame Chair and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

My name is Rushi Shah and I am the Chairman of the Transit Advisory Board which is charged with providing a liaison to the Board of Supervisors and County Staff concerning local bus, Metro Connection, Long Haul Commuter, Disabled and Elderly, and other transit services in Loudoun County.

The Transit Advisory Board, or TAB, very much appreciates this opportunity to address the Board on the timely and crucial issue of current and future transit in Loudoun County.

TAB consists of a diverse group of interested parties and constituencies with a substantial stake and interest in Loudoun County Transit Services. During the course of the Board's consideration you will hear from other TAB members who are speaking to you concerning the specific interests of their constituents. What I am presenting to you this evening is the consensus of the entire TAB membership, all of whom have reviewed and approved the TAB positions and recommendations set forth in this presentation. For ease of reference, I have provided a written version of this presentation with copies for each of you.

The following constitute the observations, comments, and recommendations of the TAB related to current and future transit services in Loudoun County and for Loudoun County residents and workers:

First: The TAB is excited about the upcoming Metrorail introduction to Loudoun County. We have worked closely with staff to ensure that the supporting ecosystem will be ready. This includes bus service to and from Loudoun Station, parking options, and how the Long Haul bus service can continue to compliment the new Metrorail service.

Second: Now that plans for the Metrorail and its support are nearing finalization the TAB is starting to tackle some of the other major issues facing Loudoun citizens. Earlier this year, Supervisor Meyer approached the TAB to determine how we can better support the aging and disabled population within the county. The TAB determined that we need to first define the problem as completely as possible. Earlier this spring, Chair Randall's board member initiative with support from the BOS to hire a consultant to help with that identification will go a long way to ensuring the right solutions to the problem(s). Upon completion of the consultant's report, the current TAB will review and provide recommendations to DTCl and the future TAB.

On a personal note, I am very pleased we are looking into this. This is a problem for so many within the county and providing a workable solution will give greater mobility to an often-overlooked population.

Third: In addition to the work mentioned above, the TAB will provide additional focus on local bus service in general. As the county grows, the need for public transportation to and from points within the county grows. We will continue to provide guidance on where to best deploy our limited resources that maximizes value and utility for everyone within Loudoun county.

Fourth: The TAB has started an outreach campaign to solicit additional feedback from the community. Late last year, we created an infographic to assist in that. This is a part of our continued effort to provide feedback from throughout the county. I have attached a copy of that infographic to your board packet.

Finally, I wanted to follow up on comments I and my predecessor made before this board regarding local bus fleet updating and Google maps integration. We commend the transit department for completing the upgrades of the local bus fleet. The new buses and their technology will help power us as we head into the next decade. Further, the addition of routes to Google maps will make the lives of many Loudoun commuters, both regular and occasional, easier when trying to figure out how to get to where they are going. I know this is a service I've been personally waiting for and it should be complete by year's end.

On behalf of the TAB members many of whom are here tonight, I thank you for the opportunity to address the Board on these important issues of the County's developing transit system. I am willing to answer any questions the Board members have, either tonight, or at any other time related to any transit, or transit related issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Rushi Shah
Chairman, Transit Advisory Board



LOUDOUN COUNTY Transit Advisory Board

You have transportation needs, wants, and interests. You are not alone. We want to help you but we need you to help us help you! The Loudoun County Transit Advisory Board (TAB) is your voice for all of Loudoun's transit options. Whether it is commuter (long haul bus or Metro), local, or paratransit, we want to hear from you! Don't use transit? Tell us why! **Phone:** 703.771.5665 **Email:** TAB@loudoun.gov

The Transit Advisory Board meets every 2 months. Go to www.Loudoun.gov/transitadvisoryboard for meeting time and locations. Come join us while we make public transit better in Loudoun County!

Number of trips by Loudoun County Transit in 2018:

Commuter Bus Trips	Metro Connection Trips	Local Fixed Route Trips	ADA Trips
+951K	+341K	+384K	+13K

How many bus fares were free due to the I-66 tolls? **+55K**
From 04/16/18 thru 06/2/18

How many miles did they cover? **+127K**

How many cars did they take off the road? **+27K**

Number of miles that Loudoun County Transit covered in 2018:

Commuter Bus Revenue Miles	Metro Connection Revenue Miles	Local Fixed Route Revenue Miles
+972K	+757K	+1.1M

Designed by
Mike Burns

Visit us at: www.loudoun.gov/transitadvisoryboard

2019 Transit Summit

July 23, 2019

Loudoun Health Council

Mr. Rick Meidlinger

Comments for Board of Supervisors meeting, July 23 @ 6:00. Rick Meidlinger/Loudoun Health Council

Good Evening, members of the Board.

My name is Rick Meidlinger.

I am a citizen volunteer representing the Loudoun Health Council this evening.

Of all the issues that the Council reviews during our monthly meetings, which include:

- Immunizations for all ages
- Human Trafficking
- One Stop Shop/HUB for accessing healthcare services throughout the county
- Teenage Vaping
- Lyme Disease
- Mental Health
- Healthy Eating/Produce Distribution
- Dental Health
- Richmond legislative updates
- Stress on our roads/transportation issues
- Other Issues

Transportation issues seem to overlap as one of the critical success factors to having our community access healthcare that is available within Loudoun County.

We have welcomed the opportunity to learn of a number of services already provided in the county, but are not readily or easy to access in addition to providing input via the Human Services Strategic Plan TRANSPORTATION workgroup.

Several ideas have resonated strongly with the Council:

- Updated County website for links, phone numbers, location, contacts, hours of operation for services already available
 - Additionally include the kinds of transportation that are available to access care:
 - Public transportation
 - Bus routes
 - “Smart Card for Care” to be used with an Uber/Lyft service
 - Partnering with non-profit organizations, healthcare providers, Chamber of Commerce members to support, market and off-set any additional cost
- Transportation HUBS
 - One main area for pick-up and drop-off at key healthcare facilities as well as BIG, bright, bi-lingual, easy to read signage at these areas as well as bus shelters, county facilities, business centers.
- Transportation Day
 - Designate a day to highlight and make our community aware of the existing and new methods of getting from place to place

We were delighted to learn of some of the resources and ideas that may be forthcoming.

The Health Council looks forward to and is eager to support and encourage the health of our community through recommendations to the Board.

Thank you for this opportunity tonight.