

# LCTA Public Transit Ridership Forum Meeting Minutes

**Minutes from the October 20, 2021 Public Transit Ridership Forum Meeting held at 3:00 PM at the LCTA HQ in Kingston, PA and via GoTo Meeting.**

Present: Joe Roselle (LCTA), Robert Fiume (LCTA ED), Frank Knorek (LCTA), Valerie Kepner (LCTA Board), Tom Bindus (LCTA Board), Kathy Bednarek (LCTA) and Joe Fedak (public),

- A LCTA Official welcomed those in attendance, provided an overview of the meeting, and stated, that today's meeting would center on updated progress of what is happening at LCTA.
- A LCTA Official stated, there is nothing new to report as far as routes due to Covid. The Authority has been in talks with some industrial park tenants to potentially provide service, but due to the current labor situation and the virus, things are on hold.
- A LCTA Official stated to a member of the public, that a bus to Hillside Farms is not feasible due to the type of roads leading to the farm (narrow/bottoming out), and lack of turn-around area.
- A LCTA Official stated, the Authority is having some issues with hiring drivers for both fixed route bus and the Shared Ride vans due to the current labor market, the virus, and the nature of the role. Not everyone is a good fit for the role, and training takes time to complete.
- A LCTA Official stated, that on the fixed route bus side, we missed some runs due to a driver shortage, a driver passing away, and people out due to medical reasons.
- A LCTA Official stated, the Shared Ride Program ridership numbers are about 70% of where they are today, pre-Covid levels.
- A member of the public stated: In passing, I have seen just about all bus drivers now wearing masks while driving. A LCTA Official stated, the drivers are allowed to not wear a mask if the bus is empty with no passengers onboard.
- A member of the LCTA Board stated: Her term is up at the end of this year, and is unsure if it will be re-appointed. "I have enjoyed my time on the Board serving the public, and my goal was to get night service. We accomplished that, and I hope to be re-appointed to the Board."
- Both the LCTA Official and Board Members thanked those in attendance. The next LCTA Public Transit Ridership Forum meeting will be held at a time and location to be determined, and will be advertised to the public in advance.