



From Virtual City Council meeting . . . to the Business Council

Prepared by Rich Groves, Executive Director
North Kansas City Business Council
May 4, 2021

Note: As a reminder, the notes below represent topics that, in my judgement, might be of interest to the business community. It does not include everything that was on the agenda.

Work Session – 6:00 p.m.

The purpose of this work session was to review the Flex bus service and explore other possible alternatives prior to presentation of a proposed new contract at a future City Council meeting

The cost of this service comprises a majority of the total cost of bus service paid to the KCATA by the City of North Kansas City. The cost per ride is very high due to low usership of this generous program which allows point-to-point transportation within North Kansas City for a very low cost for the rider. It is available to both residents and non-residents using smaller size buses.

Regular Session – 7:00 p.m.

Shared Active Transportation (aka Bird Scooters)

[Following is information extracted from City Council agenda documents. Underlines are mine.]

An Operating Agreement is required because Shared Active Transportation companies are using the City's right-of-way to conduct private business. The Operating Agreement for consideration establishes requirements related to licensing, safety, parking of vehicles, speed, maintenance, and data sharing. The operating agreement also establishes where scooters may be parked, establishes the company's responsibility to ensure scooters are used per the requirements of the agreement, and how the City may report problems. The term of the agreement is through the end of 2022 with the option to extend for two additional one-year terms.

The proposed fee to be paid by Bird is a per ride fee of 15 cents for every ride in North Kansas City rather than the \$1 per scooter deployed. This fee structure is the current structure in place in KCMO and many other cities where Shared Active Transportation companies are operating, including Omaha, Portland, Wichita, and Phoenix. Scooters provide a benefit to the public by providing a form of transportation that is relatively low impact to public infrastructure. They also do not require or take up parking, which can be an issue in localized spots at key times. Use of scooters is likely to have some of the same benefits as increased biking, which is shown to have a positive effect on retail sales and property values

City ordinances define where riders may lawfully operate scooters within NKC, namely on the street or in bicycle lanes, but not on sidewalks.

City Council members strongly supported giving access to riding scooters across the Heart of America dedicated, protected bike lane because of the economic value to North Kansas City businesses by making it easy for River Market residents to come to North Kansas City attractions.

Approved.

Improvements to Knox Street and E 13th Ave

Approval was given to partner with the North Kansas City Special Road District to improve the roadway which provides a southern access to and from The Rabbit Hole. The City and the Road District will each bear 50% of the cost – approximately \$175 thousand each. In addition to paving there also a need to improve drainage so that the parking areas won't have pools of water.

Staff Comments

YMCA Report

Among the various reports provided to City Council members is a monthly financial report from the YMCA. Following is a recap of the progress made by the YMCA since it took over programming at the North Kansas City Community Center. Under the leadership of Executive Director Tina Weaver they made a valiant effort last year to avoid a 12 month deficit, but Covid restrictions have had a significant negative impact on memberships and use of the facility. January would normally be a very positive month with new memberships, but you can see the impact below.

Surplus/(Deficit):

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
January	\$110,377	\$ 92,283	\$116,559	\$101,181	(\$ 6,237)
February	\$ 3,672	(\$ 3,454)	(\$ 22,308)	\$ 8,629	(\$ 8,109)
March	(\$88,612)	(\$ 76,565)	(\$ 45,442)	\$ 20,634	(\$ 15,483)
April	(\$ 473)	\$ 15,771	\$ 31,053	(\$ 1,301)	
May	(\$16,587)	(\$ 3,794)	\$ 28,119	(\$ 21,390)	
June	(\$14,919)	(\$ 13,162)	\$ 27,992	\$ 21,379	
July	(\$18,669)	\$ 4,911	\$ 5,878	(\$ 73,463)	
August	(\$36,437)	(\$ 63,620)	(\$ 78,357)	(\$ 17,243)	
September	(\$74,133)	\$ 3,007	\$ 16,784	(\$ 15,402)	
October	(\$20,267)	\$ 27,940	\$ 13,714	(\$ 18,566)	
November	(\$ 5,821)	\$ 5,015	\$ 19,424	\$ 41,207	
December	(\$ 59,652)	(\$ 32,282)	(\$ 88,678)	(\$ 21,524)	
Total	(\$221,521)	(\$43,282)	\$ 24,737	\$ 24,142	(\$29,829)

The full agenda for this meeting with links to critical documents is available on the City's website www.nkc.org under the heading of Agendas and Minutes. As always, additional details about City Council agenda topics are often available as attachments on the City's website www.nkc.org and later as <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR2r-HHt4PmQLpfdToFLzhg> part of the approved minutes.