

MEETING SUMMARY

Project: Transit Center Study

Meeting: Midtown Community Council Board Meeting

Date/Time: July 20, 2023, 9:00 am

Location: 3111 Denali St, Suite 201, Anchorage

Attendees: Joann Mitchell with Kinney Engineering

Randy Brown with Public Transportation Department

7 people were in attendance.

The Midtown CC does not meet in the summer; their next regular meeting will not be until September 13 so we presented to their board members.

Joann Mitchell introduced the project, providing an overview of the process and the schedule.

- Because the Transit Center will be temporarily relocated while the current location is being redeveloped, it is a good opportunity to evaluate the best site for the permanent location of the transit center.
- Two phase process. Phase 1 is to determine the requirements for the Transit Center with input from a Transit Advisory Committee. Using this information, a list of potential sites will be created.
- The list of sites will be presented to a group of stakeholders and the public in September. Based on feedback, that list will be narrowed down to about 3 sites.
- Phase 2: Those 3 sites will be developed further—conceptual site plans will be developed so rough cost
 estimates can be done and the impacts to the bus system as a whole will be determined.
- This information will be brought to the stakeholders and the public for their feedback in February/March. From that, a recommendation will be made.
 - o Recommendation could be to continue to use the existing location or to not have a transit center at all.
- Sites to be considered will be in downtown, midtown, or U-Med District. We will be looking at sites where riders want to go (typically employment centers) and can travel to/from the center location relatively easily.
- It is a 14-month process.
- We do not have a list of potential sites at this time. It was brought up by the board members that in the past, the National Archives site at 40th and Denali was considered as was the University Center and the area adjacent to the Frontier Building (the triangular area where the A/C couplet splits—there is a coffee hut on the lot now).
- Board members asked what amenities might be included with the new transit center. What will it look like? Randy responded that that would be determined—it could be a multi-use facility with retail and restaurants (similar to what the downtown transit center once was) to a simple hub. It would depend on what the public wanted and what was available/who was interested in developing a multi-use center. The board members mentioned the safety issues and problems with the downtown transit center prior to the access being closed. Randy pointed out that there aren't any problems with the Dimond transit center so transit centers can be safe places.
- Randy mentioned the life of a transit center is typically 50 years, so the existing facility is reaching the end of that timeframe—another reason why now is a good time to study this.
- Jason Bergerson will represent the community council at the stakeholders workshop (bergerson.jason@gmail.com).