

# Cleveland City Council

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Agency: Transportation & Mobility Committee

Date: March 22, 2023

Start Time: 10:05am

End Time: 11:34pm

*The Transportation & Mobility Committee of Cleveland City Council reviews and discusses legislation related to city-owned airports, aviation, bridges, harbor and rivers and lake travel, as well as public transportation and limousine and taxi operations. It also oversees city business related to the Department of Port Control, the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, and the Cleveland Cuyahoga Port Authority. The committee reviews the financial stability and operation of the city's transportation enterprise funds, examines regional transportation policies of area wide agencies such as GCRTA and NOACA and how they impact the city. It also oversees planning and development efforts for multi-modal transportation operations and infrastructure, including rail and bike ways.*

Chairperson McCormick stated that there would be no legislation performed today because only one other committee member was in attendance, so there was no quorum. He did assure us that the agenda legislation would be released to the Finance Committee.

Nevertheless, Chairperson McCormick did allow the Transportation Mobility Administrator, Kaylie, along with her intern, from Case Western Reserve and the three scooter providers to present their 2022 Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Stage I Proposal. *(Unfortunately, I was unable to hear the names of the presenters in attendance)*

The SMART Stage I Proposal presentation consist of a:

Cleveland complete corridor project which has a design and prototype traffic signal system, an optical sensor-based bicycle and pedestrian detection, cellular communication hardware on vehicles, signal phasing to benefit multimodal users, create generic smart signal specifications that can be installed throughout the city and supports transit riders, walkers and bike riders.

Also, the applicant teams are Cleveland State University, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority and the City of Cleveland, a funding request of 1,820,500 for planning and prototyping and pilot locations.

Lastly the coming up for 2023 which consist of longer permit terms, more parking organization, neighborhood expansion, dynamic fleet policy, regional consistency and shared mobility fund utilization.

After the presentation Chairperson McCormick commented on the speed and time frame of the mobility scooters and was the scope of both speed and time frame common in comparison with other transportation mobility markets.

Administrator Kaylie responded by stating that the time frame of the mobility scooters had changed from the initial time of 7am to 7pm to now, 5am to 11pm. Also, there is not much conversation around the speed component because the speed is based on the max speed of 15mph according to law.

Vice Chair Slife asked if there were plans to expand services further out beyond the downtown and immediate surrounding areas?

Administrator Kaylie stated that there is much conversation about city wide expansion but there will be the need for community organizations, business and community leaders to become partners in the endeavor.

Councilperson Kazy asked what benefits to the city by having Transportation Mobility services?

Administrator Kaylie had no amount to share but stated that the city does receive a percent of all the proceeds that Transportation Mobility receives for the service.

Councilperson Kazy stated that he was going to submit legislation opposing the time frame of mobility usage by retracting the time back to 9pm.

Councilperson Kazy also asked how Transportation Mobility monitors the usage of the scooter services.

Administrator Kaylie explains that clients must register to use the service. There is a general admission to use the service but if they want any discounted benefits, they will have to upload certain documents. There is a specific enrollment process.

The next presentation had to do with the 2022 Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) grant.

The SMART grant consisted of new funding opportunity, SMART grant would be divided into two stages, and the SMART grant will target certain projects.

After the second presentation, councilperson Kazy requested that the Transportation Mobility administration submit to the committee a breakdown of Cleveland State University charge to the city for municipal services.

Meeting then adjourned. 11:34am

### Summary

The committee meeting was not too long because only three committee members were in attendance.

The questions asked were understandable and the responses were as direct as possible.

The presentations were clear, and the presenters explained as best they could.

The conversation surrounding the transportation mobility scooters was interesting to me because I always wondered where the scooters, I saw people riding, parking and leaving on the ground downtown came from.

The only issue I had was when councilperson Kasey arrived, he stated that he had gotten held up and that was why he was late. One of the committee members (I don't know which one) jokingly

commented that he may not want to use the phrase he used, 'held up". He laughed and restated by saying that he got detained. But he continued with his comment by implying that if he had been in Ward 3 his initial phrase would be more suitable. (Something to that effect).

I do believe that councilperson Kasey made his statement in jest, but I still felt a bit irritated by it. Ward 3 is a more diverse community and almost 40% of the population live below poverty level, which is why the comment struck me as an attack.

I can only pray and hope that our elected officials spend more of their time in office building up and not tearing down.