



# Town of Sudbury

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<https://sudbury.ma.us/transportation/>

## Sudbury Transportation Committee

### Minutes

Friday, June 27, 2025

10:30 AM

Via Town Zoom Conference Call

Core Members Present: Daniel Carty, Alice Sapienza, Nickole Boardman, Mary Brauer, Cheryl Wallace, Adam Burney

Core Members Absent:

Advisory Group Present:

Advisory Group Absent: Martha Welsh, Chief Scott Nix, Carmine Gentile, Maura Carty

Guests: Jill Dube (Sudbury Senior Center Asst. Director/Outreach Coordinator), Vivian Zeng (Director of Public Health), Linda Faust, Kay Bell, Kirsten Wilcox (Town Social Worker)

**Confirmation of Quorum:** The statutory requirements as to notice having been met, Dan Carty as chair convened the meeting at 10:33 AM. Dan made an announcement that this was a public meeting, and the meeting was being broadcast live via zoom and recorded by Sudbury TV. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present. Dan assigned Adam as co-host. Dan stated that he would like to end this meeting within an hour.

**Selection of Clerk:** Alice was assigned duties of Clerk for the meeting.

**Reason for Meeting:** Dan thanked everyone for meeting off-cycle (i.e., one week after the prior meeting), noting that there were a number of important issues affecting the GoSudbury programs currently in process. He reviewed the following desired chronology with regard to GoSudbury: the month of July to plan for the changes; the month of August to communicate about the changes with riders; and 1 September as the date on which changes to GoSudbury programs would be implemented.

**Issues in Process:** Next, Dan reviewed several tasks relevant to the CatchConnect service currently underway:

- *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)* between Sudbury and MetroWest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA). Dan has the lead on this regarding continuation of CatchConnect service. There is agreement by the MWRTA that the service will have no disruption as the MOU is being finalized.
- *Contacting Senior Center riders:* Nickole has notified riders of this service continuation.

- *Contacting Sudbury Housing* (Longfellow, Musketahquid, Coolidge): Nina Lurie, town social worker, has notified the relevant individuals (reported to committee by Kirsten).

Regarding CatchConnect, Jill reported that MWRTA staff will hold an information session at the Senior Center, to help individuals use the CatchConnect app.

In terms of other issues in process, Adam said that the new Uber contract had been signed by town legal counsel and was back for review with Uber. No significant amendments were expected. The addendum to the Uber contract, which stipulates that Sudbury will move from the current geofence dashboard to Uber's system of vouchers, can follow contract signing. There will be no "hard stop" of the current dashboard until Sudbury determines we are ready. Dan has sent a copy of the GoSudbury sign-up form as template to social workers and Senior Center staff, for review and revision.

Nickole and Nina composed a draft transportation resource flyer with draft eligibility guidelines. These will be sent to Dan for distribution to the committee for their review. Brief discussion followed about eligibility guidelines. Jill reminded members that once a new person completes the form, s/he will be called by Senior Center and/or social worker regarding any documentation or information needed. Dan thanked Vivian for all her help and input on these considerations.

**Vouchers:** In addition to the new (for Sudbury) Uber voucher system, the committee has also been considering vouchers for taxi rides. Dan reviewed his conversations with Tim Kelley (JFK) and JoAnne Thompson (Tommy's Taxi) this past week about the GoSudbury programs. He emphasized that neither director was surprised, nor were they at all concerned about either the dispatch change (Cross-Town Connect dispatch service ends in September) or the expected use of vouchers. Because both companies have worked with vouchers, Dan will set up a call with each company and representatives from the Senior Center and social work to talk about the mechanics. Both Weston and Wayland have provided taxi vouchers for some time, and Tommy's Taxi staff are also familiar with vouchers from Framingham State University.

**Accessible Vehicles:** Alice brought up the recent situation about lack of wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAV) for rider transport (two families had contacted the Senior Center about WAV service). Only JFK has an accessible vehicle, but it is often under prior contract and, for the latter families, not available. Alice had found a service but based in Fitchburg, so very expensive to use. Cheryl noted there was a service based in Waltham, and she was encouraged to find out more about this. Cheryl also said that Nina could not offer any WAV providers, and that was an ongoing problem for them as well.

The possible expansion of Dial-a-Ride's fully accessible service (provided by Kiessling under the MWRTA) was raised by Alice. Currently this is described on the MWRTA website as follows:

*Sudbury: Service offered: Age 60 or over and disabled under the age of 60. Seniors apply through the Sudbury Council on Aging by calling: 978-443-3055*

Dan and Adam will follow up on whether the current service, now offered only on certain afternoons, can be modified and how it could be funded.

**Items To Be Addressed:** Based on discussions, Dan listed the following items for determination at the next meeting:

- GoSudbury new ride eligibility guidelines
- GoSudbury new registration process
- Communication to riders of changes in GoSudbury programs
- Vouchers (\$30 for month for Uber; mechanics to be determined for taxis)
- Funding (Adam stated no change to current system of accounting is needed; the Town “pays the bills”)
- CTC dispatch and new mechanics of taxi process (self-reserve, vouchers, etc.); Alice noted that CTC simply alternates requests between JFK and Tommy’s (and, when JFK is unavailable, sends requests to Tommy’s)
- Contracts for the taxi companies are up this month, but service will continue; new contracts will be needed for both.

In addition, Dan reviewed the take-away tasks by responsible individual:

- Jill and MWRTA: hold information session on app how-to
- Vivian: provide flyers regarding transportation to Dan (who will send to committee)
- Nickole and Adam: evaluate MWRTA Dial-a-Ride service expansion
- Cheryl: obtain Waltham WAV service information
- Jill: draft rider communication and send to Dan (who will send to committee)
- Adam: review and revise taxi contracts.

**Minutes:** Adam shared his screen with the minutes for 13 June that he prepared, as reviewed. Alice moved to approve as amended; Adam seconded; roll call to approve was unanimous.

**Guest Input:** Kay Bell asked that communication (flyers, etc.) to riders be accessible and Vivian responded in the affirmative.

**Next Meeting:** Going back to the 2-week cycle of meeting, the next meeting of the committee will be Friday, July 11, at 10:30 by Zoom.

**Adjournment:** Adam moved to adjourn; Cheryl seconded. Roll call vote to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 11:21 AM.