Agenda

Work Plan Item: Interactions with Youth

1. Refresher on Citizens League Youth Engagement – Michelle Fure

2. Overview of MTPD Policies, Practices, Procedures, and Training related to Interactions with Youth – Sgt. Martens and Officer Loken

3. Overview of Metro Transit Student Pass Program, including how Metro Transit and Schools Address Student Safety and Security
   1. Program Overview – Lisa Anderson, Finance, and Tina Lovaas de Sosa, Service Development
   3. Student Perspectives – Invited but not confirmed

4. Wrap Up/Identify Next Steps – Work Group Member Discussion
Refresher on Citizens League Youth Engagement

• Youth from Minneapolis Public Schools, St. Paul youth organizers, youth-serving organizations

• Youth expressed they feel targeted by everyone
  – People riding transit show their discomfort around youth
  – They feel like they’re always being watched by operators, police, and other riders
  – They feel people assume they need careful watching and supervision
  – Perception that groups of young people present threat
Metro Transit Police Department
Youth Contacts
Investigation Unit

• Three Officers
• One Sergeant
• One Lieutenant
• One Captain
Juvenile Investigations

• One Officer
• 131 juvenile cases from January 1 to 10/29/2021. Averages to 13 cases a month
• 1,776 cases investigated, averaging 177 per month (adult and juvenile)
Policies

324.5 ADVISEMENTS
• When a juvenile is taken into custody on a warrant, the juvenile and his/her parent, guardian, or custodian, if present, shall immediately be informed of the existence of the warrant for immediate custody and, as soon as practicable, of the reasons why the juvenile is being taken into custody.
• If it is determined that a juvenile taken into custody is going to be placed into a secure detention facility or a shelter care facility, the officer shall advise both the juvenile and the juvenile’s parent, guardian, or custodian as soon as possible.

373.2.3 PARENTAL NOTIFICATION
• Upon arrest, it is the arresting officer's responsibility to ensure the parents of the arrested pupil are properly notified. Notification shall be made by the officer, regardless of subsequent notifications by the juvenile detention facility. Notifications should be documented and include the charges against the pupil and where the pupil will be taken.

324.9 USE OF RESTRAINT DEVICES
• Juvenile offenders may be handcuffed in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. However, non-offenders and status offenders should not be handcuffed unless they are combative or threatening.
• Restraints (leg restraints) shall only be used after less restrictive measures have failed and with the approval of the Shift Supervisor. Restraints shall only be used so long as it reasonably appears necessary for the juvenile’s protection or the protection of others.

324.13 INTERVIEWING OR INTERROGATING JUVENILE SUSPECTS
• No interview or interrogation of a juvenile should occur unless the juvenile has the apparent capacity to consent and does consent to an interview or interrogation.
Experience and Training

• Volunteer youth leader from 1988 – 2006
• Volunteer Junior High Program Coordinator 2011 – 2012
• Youth/Gang Investigator at Hennepin County Sheriffs Office
• Investigator handling juvenile cases for Metro Transit PD
• Attended multiple trainings and conferences concerning youth
Juvenile Cases

- Process: 1) Receive case 2) Read reports 3) Look at photos/videos of evidence 4) attempt to ID juvenile suspects 5) if juvenile suspects are positively ID’d the case is submitted to Hennepin, Ramsey, or whatever county the crime was committed.

- Diversion: to hold youth accountable for their behavior without resorting to legal sanctions, court oversight or the threat of confinement for low level offenses.

- Low level offenses: Smoking, Disorderly Conduct, etc…

- Diversion Programs are currently being decided and handled by the County Attorneys Offices

- HC Attorney Morgan Kunz is currently revising their Diversion Program for Hennepin County
MTPD Connections/Resources

- YCC (formerly known as Minneapolis Juvenile Supervision Center but new name is Youth Connection Center). I attend multiple meetings with them. Ramsey County currently does not have a program like YCC.
- Working with YCC Manager Josh Terrio and HC Attorney Morgan Kunz to facilitate MTPD Roll Calls for informational trainings
- Attend the Youth Violence Prevention Multi-Jurisdictional Meetings (City of Minneapolis)
- Minneapolis, St Paul Public, and Suburban Schools
- Local Police Departments
- Dignity House for Youth/The Link (Connected to YCC) Emergency Shelter for youth between the ages of 10 – 17 years old
- Safe Harbor – assist sexually exploited youth
MTPD Youth Outreach

- Badges for Baseball partner with Cal Ripken Foundation
- Cops and Kids Fishing with Brooklyn Park PD
- Shop with a Cop – multiple events
- Picnic/Park events with youth
- MTPD is in the process of hiring a Civilian Juvenile Outreach Coordinator that will take over all outreach events

Note: Except Shop with a Cop, events have been suspended during COVID.
Overview of Metro Transit Student Pass Program, including how Metro Transit and schools address student safety and security

1. **Program Overview** – Lisa Anderson, Finance, and Tina Lovaas de Sosa, Service Development

2. **Minneapolis Public Schools Perspectives on Security of Students Riding Transit** – Jason Matlock, Director of Emergency Management, Safety & Security for MPS

3. **Student Perspectives** – *Invited but not confirmed*
Student Pass Program
What is it?

- An unlimited ride transit pass program offered to high schools – 5 participant minimum
- The school has the option to pass along the cost to the student/family
- Schools choose pass type
  - with time restrictions (5 am to 10 pm) or without, valid 24/7
Program History

• 2009: demonstration program began
  • 6 charters/districts participated; MPS being the largest
  • 2800 students using the passes
• 2010: program became official
• 2021: 55 schools – 8800 students using passes
  • Metro Transit entirely replaces some yellow bus service
    • MPS | Patrick Henry, North, Edison, FAIR Downtown, Wellstone, South, Roosevelt, Heritage, Washburn, Southwest
    • SPPS | Johnson, Creative Arts, Central*, Como Park*, Washington Tech*, Harding*
• 3.2 million rides taken during the last non-pandemic school year (2018-19)

*added to Student Pass program Fall 2021 due to yellow bus staffing shortages
How to Join?

• An eligible high school submits an application found on our website
  • Service Development review required if 300+ participants
• An agreement is prepared for signatures of both parties
• Process documents and authorized access to Metro Transit’s customer portal given to designated personnel at the school to aid in managing their program
  • Order passes
  • Register passes issued to students
  • Report a replaced pass
  • Deactivating passes
  • Suspend passes
  • Run reports of active passes or suspended passes
Code of Conduct

• Each school gets an electronic version (PDF) of our code of conduct that is given to each student to read and agree to
• Minneapolis Public Schools has their own version
Conduct

Be courteous and have respect for others.
Always validate your ride - $150 fine.
No smoking, eating or loud music.
Keep cell phone discussions quiet and brief.
Keep yourself and your times clean.
Inappropriate actions or language are grounds for being banned from Metro Transit services for 30 days or more and Student Pass could be deactivated. New passes will require a reactivation fee.
Remain seated when possible - if standing hold onto hand rails.
Those with wheelchairs or walkers board first and exit last.
On buses, aisle facing seats are reserved for those with disabilities and senior customers.
If bus or train is full, please give your seat to a senior or customers with disabilities.
On train platforms, stand behind the yellow line.
Never stand or play on the tracks.
Do not attempt to board a train or bus as the doors are closing.
No skateboarding, rollerblading or bicycling on train platforms.
On trains, in an emergency, intercoms are located at the front and back doors of each car.
Emergency phones are located on each train platform.
On a bus, notify the driver if there is an emergency.
Report a lost or stolen Student Pass Card to Metro Transit Customer Relations and/or Service Center immediately. Replacement cards will require a fee.
If your Student Pass is lost or spoiled you will be responsible for your own transportation.

I have reviewed the Metro Transit Code of Conduct and understand the expectations for proper behavior while using public transportation. I also understand that my Student Pass may be deactivated if I violate any of the rules.

Student Name (Please Print) Date

Student Signature

Pass Number (16 digit number in lower right)
Safety & Security

• Printed and/or PowerPoint materials with student safety tips available
  • How to stay safe around buses and trains
  • What to do if they feel unsafe while riding
    • Text for Safety, inform the operator, emergency call boxes on METRO platforms
• Scheduling considerations – high ridership MPS sites
• Reported safety concerns forwarded to MTPD
  • Lake St. Station (Blue Line)
    • public intoxication/substance abuse, harassment
  • Incidents of onboard harassment
Next Steps

• Based on today’s discussion:
  – Do you want more information on any of the subjects discussed today?
  – Did the group decide anything today that should be noted when drafting recommendations?

• Next Work Group Meeting: December 3, 2021
  – Work plan focus area for this meeting: Data, governance, and accountability, structures