



# Passenger Link

*Published quarterly exclusively for  
CityLink passengers*

July 2022

Volume XVII, Issue 4

## GPMTD Board Names Chris Ahart Chair and Welcomes Don Knox



Chris Ahart

Members of the GPMTD Board of Trustees selected Chris Ahart as the new Board Chair at the May 2, 2022 board meeting. This is Ahart's first term as Board Chair. Ahart represents the Village of Peoria Heights, and he was appointed to the GPMTD Board of Trustees by Mayor Michael Phelan on February 2, 2022. Ahart succeeded Dr. Maxine Wortham as Board Chair, who most recently served as Board Chair and is retiring from the board.

Don Knox was appointed to the GPMTD Board of Trustees at the Peoria City Council meeting on April 26, 2022. Knox is representing the City of Peoria and he was appointed by Mayor Rita Ali. He is serving as Trustee and the Chair of the Program Development Committee.



Don Knox

In addition to the selection of Chris Ahart as Board Chair, the GPMTD Board of Trustees made the following appointment of officers at the meeting on May 2, 2022:

- Patti Sterling Polk, Vice Chair (Representing Peoria; Appointed May 1, 2021)
- Jeff Hoerr, Treasurer (Representing Peoria; Appointed May 1, 2021)
- Sharon McBride, Secretary (Representing West Peoria; Appointed May 5, 1997)
- Don Knox, Trustee (Representing Peoria; Appointed May 1, 2022)

## GPMTD Hosting WOW! ADA Celebration and Resource Fair

GPMTD is hosting its inaugural **WOW! ADA CELEBRATION & RESOURCE FAIR**. The GPMTD ADA Committee, chaired by GPMTD Board Trustee Patti Sterling Polk, is spearheading this **FREE** event.

- Date: **Tuesday, July 26, 2022**
- Time: **5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**
- Location: **Peoria Civic Center (Exhibit Room C)**
- Admission: **FREE**
- Additional Info:
  - Light hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be available to attendees
  - Opportunity for attendees to enter for raffle prizes

The pandemic prevented a proper celebration of the ADA anniversary the past two years, and it is with great enthusiasm that the GPMTD ADA Committee and staff planned for this inaugural event. It is **FREE** to the public and all are welcome. The committee encourages individuals with a disability and/or their loved ones to attend. The full list of planned resources/vendors and more information on this event is available by visiting [www.ridecitylink.org/mobility/adaevent](http://www.ridecitylink.org/mobility/adaevent).



## CityLink Hosts Groundbreaking Event for Construction Project

CityLink hosted a groundbreaking event on May 26, 2022 to celebrate the construction of its new three-story maintenance/operations/administration building (Phase B). This phase of the project included the demolition of its 1978 bus maintenance garage facility and the construction of the new employee and visitor parking. Remarks were made by representatives from CityLink, IDOT Transportation Secretary Omer Osman, representatives from Muller & Muller, Ltd. and River City Construction, LLC. Those in attendance were invited to tour the new paint/body shop (Phase A).



Design and updated technology features of the new building include:

- Ten pull-through maintenance bays – one with overhead crane and eight with lifts
- State-of-the-art maintenance operations, ensuring better reliability
- New training center with a dedicated classroom and separate simulation training room
- New administration center with board room
- Photovoltaic panels to generate solar energy

Demolition of the 1978 facility has been completed and construction of the new building and parking is underway. Phase B is expected to be completed in summer 2023.

Additional photos from the event are available to view on the CityLink Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/citylinkpeoria](https://www.facebook.com/citylinkpeoria)

## CityLink Transit Center Solar Panel Project Update



Photos provided are courtesy of Kevin Hall with Roy Keith Electric.

Since it began in April, the CityLink Transit Center solar installation project has moved right along with finalization of the optimizer installation, DC conduit runs to the junction box, and module installation! The cabling and roof piping are getting dressed now, and then Roy Keith Electric (RKE) will be prepping for the equipment rack that will be assembled under the canopy. There will be much coordination work with Ameren & Hoerr Construction with some slowing of traffic and lane closures. The team is boring underground and setting a new transformer near the current bike rack location along Kumpf. The project is estimated for completion in August.

Visit the previous blog post update to learn more about this project at [www.ridecitylink.org/blog](https://www.ridecitylink.org/blog). More updates and photos of this project will be shared as it progresses this summer!

## New Full Bus Wrap

CityLink was invited to participate in the official unveiling of the Center for Prevention of Abuse and Peoria County Government full bus wrap on July 14. The wrap is installed on bus 2230 and it will help spread the word about the Ombudsman Program. Thank you to Director of Operations Ken Boddie & bus operator Matt for representing CityLink at this event!

**[www.ridecitylink.org](https://www.ridecitylink.org)**  
**676-4040**

**Thank you for being our passenger!**

