



OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION
A METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD FOR TRANSIT MEETING MINUTES

August 12, 2021

3:00 p.m.

This meeting took place via electronic means.

ATTENDEES

Bill Achor	Tammy Branam
Jeff Robinson	Brandie Fisher
Eva Steinman	Zeke Hall

STAFF PRESENT

Andy Thomason	Sara Fields
Nicole Stokes	

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Thomason brought the meeting to order at 3:04 pm. Introductions were made.

II. APPROVAL OF 05-17-2021 MINUTES

Approval of the May 17, 2021, minutes will be moved to the November meeting.

III. VEHICLE STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Thomason reported on the procurement process. The team at MoDOT Transit was reviewing previous awards, discussing vehicle options with awardees, and drafting new agreements. Some vehicle types may be rebid due to some flooring issues.

IV. TRANSIT COORDINATION PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Thomason shared the survey results. This included the user survey and the surveys shared with human service agencies and public transportation providers.

Ms. Fisher reported survey respondents may be meaning the frequency and number of routes in the survey. She reported CU Transit has extended hours on nights and weekends until 11:00 p.m. with reduced buses. Also, regarding sidewalks, MoDOT, in partnership with CU, is planning on fixing sidewalks near the Primrose Shopping Center.

Mr. Achor stated one concern over where agencies were going to get the capital for resources. His agency has seen a need for caregivers to accompany the rider because the senior center can't help riders into their homes or to medical appointments. There is also a need for more wheelchair accessible vehicles. A possible solution to provide more rides is to have multiple agencies coordinate drop-off/pick-up of riders so their transport vehicles will not sit as long.

Mr. Robinson shared they have staffing issues and agreed, partnerships would help. Also, they are planning feeder routes into Springfield once their staff numbers have increased.

Mr. Anchor suggested a central dispatch system. It could start out small and only be used for medical requests initially. The cost to have the central dispatch system could be shared between the agencies.

Ms. Steinman shared that FTA occasionally has grants for mobility management.

Mr. Robinson suggested it might be possible to involve RPCs for the mobility management.

Ms. Fisher shared that Access Express is not allowed to prioritize rides.

V. AMERICAN RECOVERY PLAN SECTION 5310

Mr. Thomason shared the \$50,000 in CRRSA Section 5310 Funds have been awarded to OATS for operations. There will be another \$50,000 in Section 5310 funds included in the American Recovery Plan. He asked for the board's input on awarding these funds to OATS. Mr. Robinson stated OATS is able to expend the funds. Ms. Fisher and Mr. Achor supported giving to the OATS program again.

VI. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE IN NOVEMBER

Mr. Thomason will be held in November with the specific date to be announced.

Mr. Thomason finished by asking for updates from members. Mr. Achor said it was nice to see people back at the Senior Centers. Mr. Robinson shared procurements should be out in the next couple of weeks. Ms. Fisher stated CU will have buses for public auction coming up within the next 6 months, if any agency is interested.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 pm.

Approved on 11/16/2021.

Attested By: _____


Jeff Robinson, LCBT Chair