

**CANBY CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
April 9, 2008**

Presiding: Mayor Melody Thompson

Council Present: Paul Carlson, Teresa Blackwell, Walt Daniels, Randy Carson, and Tony Helbling. Councilor Wayne Oliver was absent.

Staff Present: Mark Adcock, City Administrator; Beth Saul, General Services Director; Cynthia Thompson, Interim Transit Director; Tracy Harris, Office Specialist; and Nancy Muller, Office Specialist.

Others Present: Richard Ball, Brian Olson, Sandra Cranston, Judy Patterson, and Clair Kuppenbender.

Mayor Thompson called the Work Session to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The Council wanted to meet with the Transit Advisory Committee to talk about demographics, recognition of funding sources, receive an update on federal funding, and be updated on how the transit system started.

Cynthia Thompson, Interim Transit Director, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Transit system showing the growth in ridership, staffing, facilities, types of service, funding, expenditures, and benefits of Canby Area Transit. She compared the CAT to Tri-Met services and rates. She had been working on redesigning service to save money through the Transit Master Plan. She thought more money should be put in reserves. She told them where they were with the Transit Master Plan. They should have a draft plan finished by the end of the fiscal year and then the Council could adopt it.

Councilor Carson said there was no direct route between Oregon City and Wilsonville. He thought grants should be looked at.

Mark Adcock, City Administrator, talked about the federal and state priorities changes regarding grants. The City Council considered Canby Area Transit as an enterprise operation. The challenge he saw in the years ahead was to wean off the uncertain grant money. There should not be the assumption that the general fund would subsidize the bus system if grants fell through.

Councilor Helbling asked if the Advisory Committee had considered a public relations campaign with the business community.

Ms. Thompson said the Chamber told them businesses wanted to have recognition on the buses.

Nancy Muller, Office Specialist, said that the cost was \$650 for existing buses to have a sign saying, "Funded by Canby Businesses" added on to the rear of the buses.

Ms. Thompson said they were not going to open it up to full-on advertising.

Councilor Carlson asked if the analysis of using a fare box had been looked at.

Ms. Thompson said it would be included in the master plan.

Mayor Thompson said there were enough comments being made that they needed to show more support for the businesses who felt they were paying for the bus service. Also as part of their master plan, they should try to establish a framework of financial policies and statements to get ahead and plan for a downturn in the economy. They should have alternatives, such as adding advertising, in case of those times. They discussed different options of getting more revenue if needed.

They discussed the Dial-a-Ride program and its costs. They then discussed the pros and cons of fares. There was also discussion regarding kids riding CAT instead of the school bus and others that only used the bus because it was free. They talked about other events around town that brought people on the buses and to the City's downtown.

Mayor Thompson adjourned the Work Session at 7:45 p.m.



Kimberly Scheafer, CMC
City Recorder Pro Tem



Melody Thompson
Mayor

Assisted with Preparation of Minutes – Susan Wood