

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 17, 2007
10 a.m. – Noon
Lane Transit District
3500 East 17th Avenue – Eugene, Oregon

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Necker, Chair, presiding	Bob Proctor
Kay Christopher	L.M. Reese, Vice Chair
Aline Goddard	Kristine Sirmans
Hugh Massengill	Evan Sloan
Kay Metzger	Scott Whetham

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

Mary Otten	Dave Kleger
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MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jan Aho	Tara Sue Salusso
Ann Angvick	Mark Phinney

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Braunschweiger	Ann Lauver
Mike Huntington	Fred Stoffer

STAFF:

Terry Parker	Rand Stamm
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INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Necker convened the meeting. Those present introduced themselves.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Ms. Goddard announced the Oakridge tree planting festival was scheduled for the first weekend in May and invited everyone to join in the activities.

Mr. Necker noted there were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES APPROVAL – DECEMBER 19, 2006, JANUARY 16, 2007, AND FEBRUARY 20, 2007

Ms. Christopher offered the following correction to the December 19, 2006 minutes:

Page 9, paragraph 6, should read: Ms. Christopher said that some of the announcements were too late and were not completed soon enough for the particular stops on the inbound route.

Mr. Reese offered the following correction to the February 20, 2007 minutes:

Page 22, paragraph 4, sentence 2 should read: Mr. Reese announced that there would be a celebration on the afternoon of that day, marking the Senior & Disabled Services Boutique Senior Nutrition Program reaching \$2500 in sales.

Mr. Massengill, seconded by Mr. Reese, moved for approval of the minutes of December 19, 2006, January 16, 2007, and February 20, 2007, as corrected. The motion passed unanimously, 10:0.

SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND BUDGET

Ms. Parker reported the ATC Executive Committee (Ed Necker, L.M. Reese, Bob Proctor, Hugh Massengill) met on April 4, 2007, to review and recommend budget allocations for Special Transportation Funds (STF) for FY08 and FY09. She offered an overview of the proposed STF budget as detailed in the staff notes included in the agenda packet. She said although the ATC was responsible for reviewing STF funds, the interrelatedness of the various funds resulted in a more complicated budget that included other resources.

Ms. Parker said within Accessible Services, LTD oversaw funding within the following program areas:

1. RideSource—Metro, Shopper, Volunteer Escort, Pearl Buck, and Head Start.
2. Metro Services—Mental Health and Homeless Transportation, and Transit Training and Hosts.
3. South Lane Services—Small City and Rural, and Medicaid Non-Medical.
4. Oakridge Services—Small City and Rural, and Medicaid Medical.
5. Florence Services—Small City and Rural, and S&DS support services.
6. Lane County Coordination—Technical Assistance, Grants Management, and Call Center Development.

Ms. Parker reviewed funding sources that LTD must be accountable for and provide administrative oversight for:

1. ODOT Discretionary Grant—Operations
2. ODOT Discretionary Grant—Capital and Vehicle Preventive Maintenance
3. Special Transportation Fund Formula—In and Out-of-District
4. Federal 5311—Small City and Rural (South Lane and Florence) and Inter-City (Oakridge)
5. Federal new Freedom and Job Access/Reverse Commute
6. Older Americans Act—S&DS
7. Department of Human Services Medicaid Medical and Non-Medical
8. Developmental Disabilities Services
9. Local—City of Eugene, Oakridge, and Florence
10. LTD General Fund

Noting the proposed budget attempted to maintain current service levels, Ms. Parker reviewed the issues that made this a difficult year for budgeting:

1. Decrease of \$62,500 in the STF formula revenue.
2. Spending STF Out-of-District carryover funds for local match on vehicle purchases without saving resources for future years puts rural based services at risk of not having money to pay for the local portion of future vehicle purchases.
3. As cigarette tax revenues stagnate, more services become reliant on discretionary grant funding.
4. Issues around ODOT's ability to program all of the funding available within the upcoming budget cycle.

Ms. Parker facilitated a discussion and responded to questions about the proposed two-year budget. She said there would be an opportunity for changes during next year's budget process for Fiscal Year 2009.

Mr. Reese, seconded by Mr. Massengill, moved that the ATC recommend approval of the Special Transportation Fund budget for FY08 and FY09 as presented to the Lane Transit District Board of Directors. The motion passes 9:0:1, with Mr. Whetham abstaining.

Mr. Reese announced that he recently testified before the Oregon State Legislature Ways and Means Committee Town Hall meeting. Mr. Necker said he had submitted written testimony in support of more funding for transportation services.

GATEWAY STATION RELOCATION

Deferred to next meeting.

FEDERAL CHARTER RULE

Ms. Parker explained federal law that prohibited public transportation districts from competing unfairly with private business. There was a process for determining appropriate chartering rates and for providing notification to private businesses. There was a recent update to these requirements.

PROGRAM UPDATES

a) Lane Transit District

Ms. Parker briefly reviewed the LTD updates included in the agenda packet. She said LTD planned to have a focus group to review accessibility issues related to EmX. She said information had been included in the first issue of the LTD Accessible Services newsletter to let people know that training was available on EmX and about the ATC. She distributed copies of the newsletter to those present adding it was available on LTD's website as well.

b) South Lane Wheels / Cottage Grove

There was no report.

c) Rhody Express / Florence

Ms. Sirmans reported Rhody Express was gearing up for Rhody Days, May 19 and May 20, 2007. A recent health fair was attended by about 1,500 people. The medical escort program coordinated through Senior Connections had only four days in April for which there were no rides.

d) Diamond Express / Oakridge

Ms. Goddard reported she had received an eviction notice from the City of Oakridge parking lot due to the construction of the library at City Hall. She was working on replacement parking with Public Works for the Diamond Express and other Oakridge vehicles.

e) RideSource/Eugene, Springfield

Mr. Braunschweiger said planning continued for the call center. He said **RideSource** volunteer Marvin Poissot had been honored at the OASIS 12th Anniversary Role Model Breakfast on April 12, 2007. Eleven new **RideSource** vehicles and one new Diamond Express vehicle had been put into service. **RideSource** customers were no longer being charged for service within the free-fare EmX corridor.

f) Other Announcements

Mr. Proctor announced that the DHS volunteer program for the State of Oregon had been in a state of flux for several years. A grant to fund a local demonstration program, tied to the call center, for recruiting volunteer drivers, had been received by the local DHS office.

Ms. Parker reviewed LTD's policy for disposition of surplus vehicles. She said LTD received many requests for lease of small vehicles, such as minivans, which were not typically the size of vehicles available. Generally, the larger **RideSource** vehicles were available, which could not be efficiently operated by smaller companies, taxi services, and small non-profit agencies. LTD previously had purchased a taxi vehicle which was leased to a taxi service a number of years ago, but the service had provided very little benefit to the disabled community.

Mr. Kleger announced that he chaired the City of Eugene Human Rights Commission subcommittee on accessibility, which was reviewing accessibility of taxi service in the City of Eugene, to determine what was going on now and what needed to happen. He asked those present to bring issues of concern to him or Mary Otten for consideration by the subcommittee.

With no further business, Mr. Necker adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

(Recorded by Linda Henry—City of Eugene)