

Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes 07/23/24

Called meeting to order at 3:03 pm

Present at meeting- Annie Holsworth, Marilyn Smith, Dawn Mitchell, Ken Bronson, Trisha King, Justin Peterson, Candy Bliss, Ted Frazier, Alisha Tarr, JoAnn McQueary, Kindra Oliver, Carrie Howell, Reagan Maudlin

*Introductions: Dawn Mitchell, Linn Shuttle, Sweet Home Transportation, Senior Center; Ken Bronson, Senior/Retired, Reagan Maudlin, Linn County Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator; Annie Holsworth, Disabled Transit User; Kindra Oliver, Lebanon Senior Center Lebanon LINX; Candy Bliss, Albany Operations Manager; Justin Peterson, Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments; Ted Frazier, Albany Paratransit; Alisha Tarr, Chamberlin House; Carrie Howell, Chamberlin House; Marilyn Smith, Albany City Council; Trisha King, Sunshine Industries Unlimited, Inc.; JoAnn McQueary, East Linn County

*Adopt meeting minutes – Marilyn moves to approve the 04/18/2024 minutes as amended, Dawn Seconds, motion passes unanimously.

*Vice Chair Appointment- Kindra Oliver volunteers to serve as an interim Vice Chair until a permanent chair can be appointed. Dawn nominates Kindra Oliver as Interim Vice Chair, JoAnn seconds, motion passes unanimously.

*Public commenters- None

*Provider Updates-

Dawn reports the total number of rides for FY 23-24 services at approximately 58,000 rides, a 12% increase over last fiscal year. They are looking to rebrand the “Shopper” service to “Inner City Transit,” to reduce confusion of the service type and how to access. Dawn touches on bus repairs that have been occurring in the fleet. Two new CAT D busses and a CAT C bus are nearing delivery, the CAT C is getting wrapped. Four vehicles in the active fleet are past their useful life/miles and they are awaiting outcomes on their 5339 application for bus replacement.

Kindra reports total rides for FY 23-24 at 63,948, increasing 30% over last fiscal year. Ridership over the last three years has averaged a 30% increase per year. Miles and hours have also been increasing in the same time period. There are 7 CAT D busses and 1 Van active in service; an LOI will be submitted for a new vehicle through STIF D. New bus facility is estimated to be ready in the fall of 2024.

Some discussion was held around electric vans and charging stations; average expenses for both and what expenses were for electric vehicle and charging station in Lebanon’s program.

Candy and Ted reported increases in operation hours for ATS, 21 to 52 hours of service. A new 35 foot hybrid bus is in the works. Paratransit purchased 2 new vans using STIF funds, they have been in service for 6 months. Albany does not intend to apply for 5339 for a capital project, reporting that they are doing well fleet wise.

Justin shared with the TAC that Nick Meltzer is no longer with OCWCOG, and that he is filling in. OCWCOG are hoping to put in a similar request in 25-27 for STIF Funds to continue the Seamless Transit project. The Mobility Hub is in progress with the OSU campus having a design at 100% and anticipating the LBCC design to reach 100% by August. Construction has not yet begun at either location.

Questions about when construction is estimated to begin were raised, Justin offered to find out more and connect with Reagan to provide additional information outside of meeting.

Trisha reports being new at Sunshine and that there has been some turnover in management positions at Sunshine Industries.

Carrie expressed 5310 PM is valuable to the Chamberlin House program and that they intend to apply for funds in 25-27.

*Financial Report Reagan provides a review of the cash position of the Transportation Program at Linn County. A cumulative year end report will be presented at the next TAC meeting.

*Meeting Schedule for 25-27 Funding- Reagan presents a template tool with timeline and significant dates for the 25-27 solicitations and funding. Discussion was held around when to have the next meeting and how to proceed in developing a meeting schedule. The next two Linn County TAC meetings were scheduled: September 24th at 3:30 PM via Zoom, and October 8th at 3:30 PM location TBA.

*Other Business- Marilyn shares that she and Dawn attended the ODOT Roadshow in Albany. Some discussion was held about presentations and testimonies that were given.

Next meeting: 09/24/24 at 3:30 PM; ZOOM

Meeting adjourned at 4:26 pm.

Minutes prepared by: Reagan Maudlin, LC Special/Rural Transp. Coordinator

Approved: 09/24/24