

Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes 09/24/24

Called meeting to order at 3:35 pm

Present at meeting- Ken Bronson, Dawn Mitchell, Marilyn Smith, JoAnn McQueary, Kindra Oliver, Cody Franz, Trisha King, Ashley Brown, Justin Peterson, Ted Frazier, Kristin Preston, Jeff Babbit, Reagan Maudlin, Alicia Lucke, Charlene Pech, Lorelei Lavoie, Jaclyn Disney, Lisa Scherf, Suzanne Driver

*Introductions: Dawn Mitchell, Linn Shuttle, Sweet Home Transportation, Senior Center; Ken Bronson, Senior/Retired, Reagan Maudlin, Linn County Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator; Kindra Oliver, Lebanon Senior Center Lebanon LINX; JoAnn McQueary, East Linn County; Justin Peterson, Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments; Ted Frazier, Albany Paratransit; Marilyn Smith, Albany City Council; Trisha King, Sunshine Industries Unlimited, Inc.; Cody Franz, ODOT RTC; Kristin Preston, Albany Transit; Jeff Babbit, Albany Transit; Alicia Lucke, OCWCOG; Charlene Pech, Benton County Transportation Coordinator; Lorelei Lavoie, Oregon Mennonite Residential Services; Lisa Scherf, Transportation Director Benton County; Jaclyn Disney, OCWCOG; Suzanne Driver, Volunteer Caregivers; Ashley Brown, OCWCOG

*Adopt meeting minutes – Dawn moves to approve the 07/23/2024 minutes as amended, Marilyn Seconds, motion passes unanimously.

*Public commenters- None

*Meeting Agreements- Reagan presents the Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Agreements. Marilyn moves to adopt, Kindra seconds, motion passes unanimously.

*Financial Review- Reagan presents the fourth quarter financial report for Linn County Transportation Program. Clarifying questions about the document were answered.

*Provider Roundtable-

Trisha reports for Sunshine Industries an intent to increase their transportation funding request by \$13K for the 25-27 biennium, citing increased cost of repairs and 23-25 grants falling short of needs. She includes that the increase can be housed in either 5310 or the STIF Pop request. Sunshine Industries would be grateful for and make good use of any potential award granted in excess of the application request at time of review.

Lorelei reports that Oregon Mennonite Residential Services intends to apply for the same amount as in 23-25, citing minimal increases in cost to program.

Alicia presents an intent to submit a STIF Pop application requesting \$10K for the Senior Companion program. This program provides additional services and operates differently than services that currently exist in Linn County reaching a niche need. They currently operate with funding from Benton County and other various grants.

Justin reports that Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) intends to increase their ask from prior biennium award by \$10K for the Seamless Transit project. Citing

that they requested \$54K in 23-25, but were awarded \$50K for the biennium. The request for 25-27 is anticipated to be for \$60K. The increase is to cover standard increases in cost to maintain the program including tracking hardware, software, platform, and project management.

Ashley reports the OCWCOG will be making the same ask in 25-27 of \$36K for their program providing no cost bus passes and gas vouchers to residents of Linn County that meet program criteria.

Ken requested plans from OCWCOG on the Mobility Hub project that began in 23-25. Justin agreed to connect with Reagan outside of meeting to provide the requested information.

Kristen reports that Albany anticipates increasing their asks for all of Linn County funding applicable, with no specific range. She cites successful services and expansion outcomes of increased ridership and increased service hours for the LB Loop and ATS; the Paratransit program continues to hold steady. Questions arose about specific ridership numbers and other available funding that Albany receives to support services. Jeff Babbit provided links in the meeting chat that describe ridership numbers and anticipated funding estimates.

Kindra reports an intent to increase the Lebanon LINX ask for 25-27 with no specific range, citing a \$52K program deficit for 23-25. She offered to connect with Reagan outside of meeting to provide more specific estimates. Updates on current projects were summarized as well as efforts to seek funding from other grant opportunities that may also result in a request for STIF Payroll funds as match.

Dawn reports that Senior Citizens of Sweet Home, Inc. intends to make similar requests for funds in 25-27 as in 23-25 citing an awareness of limited Linn County resources and the benefit of keeping all existing programs operational. A small portion of funds, about \$1,600, is anticipated to carry forward in 25-27 from a bus purchase project awarded in 23-25.

*Meeting Schedule for 25-27 Funding- Reagan reviews the 25-27 Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee meeting schedule tool and conversation was held regarding scheduling the next TAC meetings. The following meetings were scheduled: October 8th, 2024 at 3:30 PM via Zoom, October 22nd, 2024 at 3:00 PM location TBA, and October 24th, 2024 at 3:00 PM location TBA.

*Other Business- none

Next meeting: 10/08/24 at 3:30 PM; ZOOM

Meeting adjourned at 5:31 pm.

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

Approved: 10/08/2024