

Meeting Notes
Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation
Washington State Department of Transportation
Friday October 9, 2009
11:30 AM – 2:00 PM
Olympia, WA

In Attendance:

Marilyn Mason-Plunkett; Michael Howell; Rep. Wallace; Katy Taylor; Don Chartock; Tim Renfro (for Lynne Griffith); Allan Jones; Michele Drorbaugh; Barbara Sainitzer; Doug Porter

Council Business

Welcome and Introductions

Katy Taylor, Chair

Katy called the meeting to order at 11:37 a.m. and provided a safety briefing to all. She welcomed and started introductions...everyone introduced themselves.

Membership Update

Ryan Warner

Katy welcomed new Board Members Michael Howell, and Rep. Deb Wallace. Katy thanked Richard DeRock, Vickie Foster, and Katie Charak for their contributions to ACCT and indicated staff will send them Certificates of Appreciation.

Don explained Senator Claudia Kauffman will be joining the council. John Lee from Veterans Affairs will also be joining the council. Hopefully they can attend the next meeting.

Approve August Meeting Notes

Katy Taylor, Chair

Katy asked if all Members have reviewed the minutes, they are reflective of Marilyn's updates. Barbara motioned to approve the minutes; Marilyn seconded; no comments; vote passed.

Budget and Work Plan

Don Chartock

Don went over the budget sheets and presented both the Budget closeout from 07-09 and the proposed budget for 09-11. We may be able to leverage additional funding from Sound Transit, FTA, and others to support the Local Coordinating Coalitions. Additionally there is very little expenditure because it is early in the biennium. Katy asked if we had full funding for the 2nd year of the biennium. Before 2072 ACCT was

scheduled to terminate on June 2010. If that would have happened we would have had ½ our of biennial budget. We have been working with the legislature, OFM, and our own accounting folks to ensure that we get our full two year budget.

Under technical assistance, that money may flow to other projects as we acquire them.

Work plan Elements

DDC Video

Linda West

Ryan reported that DDC contacted him a few weeks ago to share a video that they wished to show to ACCT. The video shows transportation providers providing services to people with disabilities and what the providers can do to make rides safer for people with disabilities. The message was powerful.

Linda (DDC) came forward and explained the DDC's mission includes providing transportation to families and members with disabilities. Linda explained that the video is intended for a wide transportation audience. After the video was shown Linda discussed with members of the committee how the video could be distributed to the public transportation community. Tim indicated that every transit has a Safety Training Department and that the video should be distributed to them. Marilyn said the brokers could distribute to all of their sub-contractors to view. Barbara (GCDE) said there is a GCDE subcommittee that would welcome Linda coming and presenting the video.

Work Plan Elements

Local Coordinating Coalition

Marge Tully

Marge presented on the current work of the Pierce County Coordinated Transportation Coalition. The PCCTC has chosen to address the issue of the loss of adult day health transportation. Marge gave an overview of the issue and explained the current plans of the Pierce County Local Coordinating Coalition.

Doug reported that the state proposed budget and legislative proposal would not to eliminate adult day health benefits but who would redefine who is eligible for it. Concurrent with that proposal, the Aging and Disability Services Administration had a similar proposal to limit their transportation benefit. ADSA had proposed and the legislature accepted those reductions. Then a lawsuit was filed. The court ordered the department to resume adult day health benefits as well as transportation.

Marge went on to discuss the current project. Adult Day Health is one of the largest destinations for both Pierce Transit and Medicaid Brokers. The Adult Day Health (ADH) Pilot Transportation Project proposes to demonstrate coordinated transportation of seniors and special needs individuals to Multi-Care day health centers in Pierce County. A contractor, through an open and competitive bidding process will be awarded a six-month contract to provide transport service to seniors and special need clients to adult

day health centers. Pierce Transit would provide some of the funding, as would Sound Transit and DOT. Doug said that he willing to support a project but unable to support it financially. The six-month pilot project would demonstrate how direct contracting between a contracted transport provider and a healthcare provider can be accomplished as a seamless system with dispatching, customer service and transport provision. The PC LCC wants to have 6 months with wheels on the road before making decisions and are hoping to see is 20% efficiency and 15% decrease in cost of program.

Adult Day Health

Bob Sahn

When the budget was changed, the impacts were significant for King County Metro. For folks that qualify for these services, the ADH service providers began individually getting individuals certificated for trips on Metro. In July Metro provided about 8,000 ADH trips; if we continue to provide that service for a year it would cost \$3.4M. When \$15 dollars was given to providers it was assumed that that would be passed onto the transportation provider. That assumption has not necessarily been the case...currently Metro receives \$1 (cost of a one way fare) or \$27 dollars (cost of a monthly pass). Metro has had conversations with the Governor and her office to discuss the impact on transit. It has not occurred without some bright spots, we have one ADH program that we have provided the vehicles to and they provide the drivers.

Emergency Management
Howard Hanson Dam

Ryan Warner &
Katy Taylor

The Howard Hanson Dam is not structurally sound enough to hold a significant amount of water in the case we get heavy rains. The Army Core of Engineers are working on a five 5 year repair plan but at this time there is a 1/3 chance the dam will be compromised and causing significant flooding. The Corp will cause the flood as a controlled release, versus an unanticipated breach. There is a significant effort underway to prepare for this event and it has been a very good exercise in coordination. Our engagement has been coordinating with state EOC, advising on special needs response, and CTR staff working with King County Metro folks and employers in the area.

Reimbursement for costs still remains an issue. Under The Stafford Act, FEMA has of resources immediately available for reimbursement however FEMA makes the money available to the state who can then choose to allocate it among numerous priorities. In the event of an emergency, and KCM needs buses and Pierce Transit has them available, people come to the rescue because it is the right thing to do. The challenge is that transportation providers are running out of reserves. Katy proposed that reimbursement for transportation costs is something the ACCT Council engagement in as an issue in line with the Special Needs and Emergency Planning Mandate. This would involve having discussions at the federal level (congressional level) to support the availability of funds through FTA to provide for emergency response to transportation. Should we are move forward with it?

After some discussion Rep. Wallace motioned that a letter written be written and “cc” d to advocates. The motion was seconded by Tim. The motion unanimously passed.

Federal Opportunities Workgroup

Don Chartock

We will be releasing our RFP soon to find a consultant to work on this issue. Tribal planners are working on a representative as well. In turns of the scope, is that looking at opportunities? Do you have a DSHS representative on this committee? Don assures there will be one.

Human Services Transportation Plans

Review the management of the Human Services Plans; rural, special needs and state transportation plans. Award letters have just been sent out to give them funds to complete their requirements and updates. Contracts will be ready soon. Contact your local RTPO if you wish to work on the plans. We will be adding San Juan County as a new plan.

Southwest Washington

LCC’s were identified in both in Pierce County and Southwest Washington however only Pierce County received funding. Even though Southwest Washington did not receive funding, the LCC stepped up anyway.

The Southwest Washington LCC consulted with C-TRAN, WSDOT, and providers in Lewis and Cowlitz County and identified Veterans Transportation as the issue to focus their activities. Future meeting participation was gathered from RTPOs, transits, and WSDOT Grantees in Clark County and Cowlitz County, along with Veterans representatives. At this point the goal was to better understand the transportation needs and coordinate services. The LCC has scheduled meetings with several groups over the next few weeks to help determine what the pertinent issues are for the region.

Member and Audience Comments:

Marilyn commented the direction we are taking in moving forward is exciting to see.

Rep Wallace commented thanks for running a great meeting and the topics were fabulous.

Don commented the major work we are getting done over the next few months is the legislative reporting.

Tim commented it was an honor to be here to represent Lynne today.

Michele commented it was interesting to see what the other areas are in transportation.