

**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. She welcomed everyone and had everyone introduce 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 and indicated that the minutes include 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 sheet 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 work of 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 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the biennium. Don indicated that before

2072, ACCT was scheduled to terminate on June 2010. Under that scenario we would only have 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 budget two year budget.

### **Work plan Elements**

*DDC Video*

*Linda West*

The DDC contacted Ryan to introduce a video they had produced. The video shows transportation providers providing service to people with disabilities in a respectful and helpful manner.

Linda (DDC) explained that the DDC's mission includes promoting transportation options for families and members with disabilities. Linda explained that the video is intended for a wide transportation audience. After the video was presented, 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 to present 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 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 the full cost. There would need to be contributions from other providers (transit) as well.

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 Sahm*

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 is 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 can make resources immediately available for reimbursement. However FEMA money goes directly to the state that can then choose how 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 should take on. This would involve having discussions at the federal level to support the availability of funds through FTA. Should we are move forward with it?

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

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 terms 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

Award letters have just been sent out to give RTPO 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 to identify 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.