

CORVALLIS CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT

AGENDA

Wednesday; May 9, 2001; 7:50 a.m.
City Hall Conference Room D
501 S.W. Madison Avenue

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 11, 2001

III. CACOT/VISITOR'S COMMENTS (Items not on Agenda)

IV. FARE INCREASE CONSIDERATION

V. INFORMATION SHARING

- A. Ridership Report (Fixed Route, Paratransit & Philomath)
- B. Senior/Youth/Disabled Ridership
- C. OSU Group Pass - Faculty/Staff
- D. Oregon Legislature
- E. Paratransit Service?
- F. Kids Summer Pass Program/Library Summer Reading Program
- G. Get There Another Way Week - Free Transit Day - May 16

VI. ADJOURNMENT

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT
MINUTES**

April 11, 2001

Members Present

Craig Anderson, Chair
Bob Lowry
Caron Johnson
Lita Verts

Staff

Bernadette Barrett, Public Works

Visitors

Linda Elder, Dial-A-Bus Manager
Stephanie Maxon (for Dan Preller)

Absent - Excused

Dan Preller
Stewart Wershow, Councilor

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Informa- tion Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Minutes - March 14, 2001			Accepted as presented
26 th and Monroe Stops			Stops will be returned to nearside and letter to Laidlaw regarding future actions.
Ridership Report	X		
Lighting at Downtown Terminal	X		
Intermodal Mall Project Status	X		
ASOSU Group Pass Program and Bus Wrap	X		
Bus Bench Advertising Proposal	X		
Earth Day - Apr. 18 Celebration	X		
Spring CTS Newsletter	X		
May CACOT Meeting			Meeting cancelled.
Budget Priority Setting Process	X		
Transportation District	X		
Good Samaritan Hospital Service	X		

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 14, 2001

The minutes were approved as presented.

II. 26th STREET/MONROE STOPS

Transit Manager Barrett indicated that she had met with the local Laidlaw manager, Brian Maxwell, at the intersection of

26th and Monroe to observe buses traveling through the intersection. It is Laidlaw's position that it is safer for the bus to pull through the intersection and stop to board and deboard passengers because of the congestion at the intersection. It was noted that there is cover for passengers only at the northeast corner of the inter-section. CACOT members felt that the far side stop created more congestion at the intersection and confusion for drivers following the bus. CACOT members had been approached by many regular bus riders who were unhappy with the change and the manner in which the change was made. Additionally, the areas are not paved or covered. Transit Manager Barrett had reviewed technical information regarding far-side, near-side, and mid-block stops and found no justification for the far-side stop at this location. The Commission unanimously voted to return the stops to the near side at the stop signs for the outbound and inbound buses. They also directed that a letter be sent to Laidlaw informing them of the decision, the reasons for the decision, and the manner in which bus operation changes should be conducted.

III. INFORMATION SHARING

A. Ridership Report (Fixed-Route and Philomath)

The March CTS ridership report was provided to the Commission (attached). March ridership was 44,088, which is the highest March ridership in CTS history. Ridership is approximately four (4) percent higher than this time in 1999-00. The Philomath ridership report was also provided, showing 1,204 rides provided in March. Staff will provide a copy of the paratransit ridership form to Commission members for their review and guidance on what specific information they would like to see on the monthly ridership report. Staff will then work with Dial-A-Bus to obtain the information.

B. Lighting at the Downtown Terminal

Staff indicated that a light is to be installed at the downtown terminal. The light will hang directly over the passenger shelters and will provide for better convenience and security.

C. Intermodal Mall Project

Staff reported that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for design and preparation of the construction specifications and bid

documents was released on April 9. Proposals are due on May 7. It is anticipated that a contract will be signed by mid-June. The contractor will be asked to prepare several designs for CACOT review prior to final design. Bidding on the construction will most likely occur in January, with actual construction to occur beginning in the spring of 2002.

D. ASOSU Group Pass Program & Bus Wrap Project

The ASOSU Student Senate has approved continuation of the group pass program for 2001-02. They did not approve the request for the bus wrap project. Staff is pursuing other possible sponsors. A letter will be sent to OSU for next year's faculty/staff group pass program.

E. Bus Bench Advertising Proposal

Staff was approached by AD Bench, Inc. regarding a proposal to provide the City with benches at bus stops. The company would provide and maintain the benches at locations authorized by City staff. They would sell commercial advertising on its benches, and the City would get 25 percent of the fee. The City would have some control over the message content. To explore this proposal further, the City has agreed to allow AD Bench to place one bench at the downtown terminal. The sample bench will display CTS information and have a small reference to AD Bench. CACOT will be asked to provide a recommendation to the City Council regarding this proposal.

F. Earth Day Celebration - April 18

CTS is adding its support again this year to celebrate Earth Day. Although this year's event will be held nationally on Sunday, April 22, CTS will provide free rides on Wednesday, April 18. On the same day, the City, in conjunction with the Downtown Employee Transportation Coordinator (ETC), will be holding a transportation fair in front of City Hall for all downtown employees to stop by and pick up information about transportation alternatives. Snacks will be provided and attendees will be able to register for prizes.

G. Spring CTS Newsletter

Staff distributed the Spring CTS Newsletter (copy attached). Ideas about future articles should be directed to Bernadette Barrett. The summer issue will be distributed in July.

H. May CACOT Meeting

Due to several CACOT members being unavailable for the May meeting, it is cancelled. Staff will prepare an "information sharing" report to be mailed to CACOT members and interested others in mid-May.

I. Budget Commission Priority Setting Process

Staff recalled the presentation by Jon Nelson and Nancy Brewer at the February CACOT meeting regarding the City's budget beyond 2001-02. The Budget Commission is developing a process for prioritizing how the City's general funds (property taxes) are spent. The prioritization will involve all activities supported by the General Fund, i.e. internal services (City Manager's office and Finance Dept.), Police, Fire, land use planning, Parks and Recreation, Library, Transit and Streets. It will cover strategies for savings, economic development and social service allocations, council reserves, capital investments, community services (i.e., neighborhood dispute), and debt financing vs. pay-as-you-go. Staff is to work with the City's boards and commissions to develop priorities for their service area. Staff is to develop a service description and provide other information about the service, i.e. cost of service, whether or not the service is leveraged, impact of not having the service, etc. It is expected that the Corvallis Citizens Advisory Commission on Transit will begin their work in June and complete its work by the Fall. CACOT will hold a public hearing either in July or August to receive input on transit services. It is anticipated that the Budget Commission will then receive the comments from the various boards and commissions in the Fall and deliberate and develop a prioritized list of projects. The Budget Commission will use the prioritization list as they set funding priorities for fiscal year July 2002 - June 2003. Commission members asked that information be provided to them prior to the June meeting. They also asked about the impact of a transportation district on the information. Staff will obtain a clarification.

The Commission had no comments for the Budget Commission regarding the prioritization process. The Budget Commission will discuss the above process in May.

J. Transportation District Formation

Commission Verts asked that in advance of the vote on the district measure that Commission members be provided with the pros and cons of forming a transportation district. Staff

will provide the information in the next few months.

K. Transit Service at Good Samaritan Hospital/Corvallis Clinic

Commission Lowry asked for information from Stephanie Maxon regarding transit service to Good Samaritan Hospital and adjacent Clinic facilities. CTS buses serve the buildings in clockwise and counter clockwise directions. It was noted that there is confusion about where to stand for a particular route. Staff will work with hospital facilities staff to investigate installing bus route signs. In response to a question, Ms. Maxon indicated that the 30-minute service is sufficient. She also reported that she has worked with City staff to encourage employees to use transit and other alternatives, with limited success. This is partially due to over-lapping shift hours. She noted that the parking supply is becoming more limited and may have an impact. She also stated that transit service is used a great deal by patients and visitors to the medical facilities.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 a.m.

Future Meetings:

Wednesday, June 13, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

Wednesday, July 11, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

Future Meetings:

Wednesday, May 9, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

Wednesday, June 13, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

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