

CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT AGENDA

**Wednesday, February 8, 2012, 8:20 a.m.
Madison Avenue Meeting Room
500 SW Madison Avenue**

- I. INTRODUCTIONS
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
January 11, 2012
- III. CACOT/VISITOR'S COMMENTS
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
- V. NEW BUSINESS
 - Possible OSU Funding of Additional Peak Hour Routes - Discussion
- VI. INFORMATION SHARING
- VII. COMMISSION REQUESTS AND REPORTS
- VIII. PENDING ITEMS
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

Future Meetings:

Wednesday, March 14, 2012, 8:20 a.m., Madison Avenue Meeting Room

Wednesday, April 11, 2012, 8:20 a.m., Madison Avenue Meeting Room

Commission Members:

Stephan Friedt, Chair	Robert E. Wilson
Susan Hyne, Vice-Chair	Kriste York
Ray Shimabuku	Robert Monasky
Brandon Trelstad	Evan Sorce, ASOSU Representative
Mike Beilstein, Council Liaison	

The Madison Avenue Meeting Room is accessible to the public.
Please contact Tim Bates at (541) 766-6916
if you need special accommodations to attend the meeting.

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT
MINUTES
January 11, 2012**

Present

Stephan Friedt, Chair
Susan Hyne, Vice Chair
Robert Monasky
Robert E. Wilson
Kriste York
Mike Beilstein, Council Liaison

Staff

Tim Bates, Public Works
Brie Caffey, Public Works

Visitors

Absent

Ray Shimabuku
Evan Sorce
Brandon Trelstad

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Information Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations
I. Introductions	X		
II. Approval of December 14, 2011 Minutes			Approved.
III. CACOT/Visitor Comments	N/A		N/A
IV. Old Business			N/A
V. New Business			N/A
VI. Information Sharing	X		
VII. Commission Requests and Reports			N/A
VIII. Pending Items			N/A
IX. Adjournment			Adjourned at 9:21 am

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 am by Chair Friedt. Introductions were made of Commission members and staff.

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Wilson and Vice Chair Hyne, respectively, moved and seconded to approve the December 14, 2011 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

III. CACOT/Visitor Comments

None.

IV. Old Business

None.

V. New Business

None.

VI. Information Sharing

Before reviewing the Information Sharing report, Mr. Bates mentioned that several fires have been set recently inside the public restroom at the Downtown Transit Center. Because the floor is concrete, there has been no damage to the building but staff wants to discourage this crime. Mr. Bates said Public Works will be soon be installing video cameras outside of the public restroom along with signs posted near the door, indicating that video surveillance is monitoring the area outside of the door. Hopefully this will curtail the behavior and help police catch the arsonist(s).

Chair Friedt asked staff to see if the restroom door is weatherstripped to help to cut down on heating costs. Mr. Bates said he would investigate.

Mr. Bates reviewed the Information Sharing Report. Comments in addition to the report included:

Mr. Bates said the City secured one partner for the entire amount of the '08-'09 Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC) transit project. For the '09-'10 project, one individual took \$50,000 worth, leaving CTS eighteen months to secure partners for the rest of that project, a total of \$540,000 in credits. Mr. Bates confirmed that Jim Mitchell and Lisa Namba still plan on doing an informational presentation about the Transit Operations Fee (TOF) to a number of area service clubs and organizations, and will discuss BETC as well in the hopes of securing additional partners for the '09-'10 project. Mr. Bates said 21% of the CTS budget is BETC funding and BETC is important in maintaining a positive cash flow for CTS.

Mrs. Caffey reported that while ridership in December was down, it was to be expected given past trends and the City's high proportion of OSU students leaving town for the holiday break. She noted that December's "low" ridership is still larger than any month in all of FY 09-10 or 08-09. Mr. Bates noted that December's ridership is very close in number to the ridership number of October 2011; October is generally considered to be a high ridership month because OSU students are back in school.

Mr. Bates noted that in last month's meeting, Vice Chair Hyne requested information on second year ridership statistics for fareless systems. He reported those statistics were not

available from the webinar he attended and the transit systems he spoke with had not set an increase goal for the second year of fareless operations.

Commissioner Monasky asked what percent of the December ridership is OSU riders. Mrs. Caffey responded that staff can only estimate based on past ridership data. She said determining which riders were associated with OSU was previously determined by counting those individuals who displayed OSU identification cards. Vice Chair Hyne suggested that staff consider using previous VIS data for OSU stops and compare it to new VIS data for those same stops. Chair Friedt noted that the increase in OSU student enrollment and increases in transit ridership correlate well enough to infer that OSU ridership has increased over the past few years.

Mr. Bates reported that the Interim Public Works Director is close to finalizing the 2012 TOF rate and will present the change to City Council at the January 17th meeting. Chair Friedt said that given the TOF is based on the average cost of regular grade gasoline in the previous calendar year and that gas costs were high in 2011, the Commission should prepare for some public backlash from individuals who originally opposed the TOF or from persons on a fixed income. Vice Chair Hyne said it is important for Commissioners to convey to folks that only a small percentage of the TOF is dedicated to fareless service. Chair Friedt mentioned that if the City had not implemented the fee, we would not have the transit system we have today because transit would have most likely lost some of the general funding that the fee replaced.

Mr. Bates reported that staff visited the Rogue Valley Transit District (RVTD) to learn about their recent experience procuring a new VIS. He said RVTD's strongest suggestion to staff was to find out the company's response time and method prior to signing a contract. Mr. Bates said based on RVTD's experience, CTS should not be surprised if the implementation process is a slow one. He reported that RVTD began their process in April, 2010 and is still working to obtain accurate data from their system. Mr. Bates said CTS's next step is to write a Request For Proposal.

VII. Commission Requests and Reports

None.

VIII. Pending Items

None.

IX. Adjournment

Commissioner Wilson and Vice Chair Hyne, respectively, moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: February 8, 2012, 8:20 am, Madison Avenue Meeting Room

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 2, 2012
TO: CACOT Members
FROM: Tim Bates, Transit Coordinator
SUBJECT: Information Sharing Report

NW Transportation Conference - Tim Bates and Lisa Namba will present at this Wednesday, February 8th event. The theme of the presentation is the Transit Operations Fee.

Transit Operations Fee (TOF) - Beginning February 1, 2012, the fee for homeowners will rise to \$3.73 per month from the previous \$2.75 total, while other customer types will see a similar 36% increase. Limited service expansion, one of the components of the TOF, is scheduled to begin September, 2012.

One-Year Anniversary Celebration of Fareless Rides - OSU's Student Sustainability Initiative will host a one-year anniversary event to celebrate one year of fareless CTS rides. The event is scheduled for Thursday, February 9th. Staff will be on hand to distribute schedules and speak with attendees.

"North by Northwest Connector" Transit Service - This service begins February 4, 2012 and will travel between the Willamette Valley and the Coast, linking the communities of Newport, Toledo, Eddyville, Philomath, Corvallis, Albany, and the Albany Amtrak Station. The service days will be Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Dial A Bus is Benton County's contractor for this service.

DTC Public Bathroom - Security cameras and warning signs have been installed outside both the public and driver bathrooms at the DTC. The public restroom door is confirmed aweather stripped.

Simme-Seats - Simme-Seats are schedule to be installed this week on the south side of Harrison, east of 35th Street, and on the north side of Circle, east of Janssen St. Additional sites are being considered and researched for the remaining three seats.

Ridership - Percentage changes are based on rides per service hour due to the differences in days of service and revised routes effective September 22, 2008.

- **CTS provided 103,192 rides in January, an average of 46.7 rides/service hour, a 26.6% increase from January, 2011.** Ridership for January 2011 was 78,754, an average of 36.9 rides/service hour.
- **Philomath Connection provided 2,846 rides in January, an average of 19.9 rides/service hour, a 5.8% increase from January, 2011.** Ridership for January 2011 was 2,570, an average of 18.8 rides/service hour.
- **Beaver Bus provided 1,453 rides in January, an average of 13.5 rides/service hour, a 37.8% increase from January, 2011.** Ridership for January 2011 was 1,410, an average of 9.8 rides/service hour.
- **ADA Paratransit** - January ridership was 389. Ridership for January, 2011 was 555.

- **99 Express Adair Village** - December, 2011 ridership 507, an average of 5.76 rides/service hour. January ridership was unavailable from Benton County at the time of publication.

Follow-up to ongoing issues:

- DTC Behavioral Issues - First Student staff reports no increase in disruptive behavior at the DTC or aboard CTS buses.