

Approved

By CACOT
April 11, 2012

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT
MINUTES
March 14, 2012**

Present

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

Staff

Tim Bates, Public Works
Brie Caffey, Public Works

Visitors

Sharon Fipps, Benton County Special
Transportation Coordinator

Absent

Evan Sorce
Brandon Trelstad

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Information Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations
I. Introductions	X		
II. Approval of February 8, 2012 Minutes			Approved, as amended
III. CACOT/Visitor Comments			N/A
IV. Old Business			N/A
V. New Business			N/A
VI. Information Sharing	X		
VII. Commission Requests and Reports	X		
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, staff and visitor. Chair Friedt welcomed the Commission's newest member, Terry Wright, who replaces Commissioner Ray Shimabuku. Commissioner Shimabuku resigned after the February meeting due to increasing work

demands at Home Life.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Caffey noted a change to the minutes, stating that the visitor's name should have been listed as Bob Greenwade, not Bob Greenleaf. **With that change, Commissioners Hyne and Monasky, respectively, moved and seconded to approve the February 8, 2012 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, Sharon Fipps, Benton County Special Transportation Coordinator, reviewed the expansion of the Coast-to-Valley Express into the North-By-Northwest Connector service. She also distributed the new Coast-to-Valley Express schedule for the service, which runs five days a week, having added Saturday and Sunday. Ms. Fipps noted the service now provides service between the coast, Corvallis, and the Amtrak station in Albany.

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

Mr. Bates reported the OSU Student Sustainability Initiative, on behalf of CTS, presented per student per term figures to the Student Incidental Fee Committee for the 2012-13 Philomath Connection group pass program and the Beaver Bus service. The Beaver Bus service was presented because OSU students pay 70% of that service. The Philomath Connection is a traditional group pass program which requires students to present a photo ID at the time of boarding. Mr. Bates reported that the increase in student enrollment has reduced the per student, per term cost of the programs. It is anticipated that the Committee will accept the fee recommendations, as will the OSU Student Senate.

Mr. Bates said the staff recommendation for a \$90,000 system expansion will be forwarded by the City Manager to the Budget Commission in April. He said CTS uses an average cost of \$70 an hour for service, so \$90,000 translates into approximately 1,285 additional hours of service. Commissioner Wright asked about adding Sunday service and Mr. Bates said that could be an expansion option, if done on a limited basis, similar to the Beaver Bus schedule. Mr. Bates said a CACOT subcommittee will convene to develop and present recommendations. He reported that Commissioner Hyne has already volunteered for the subcommittee and requested that other interested Commissioners email him.

Commissioner Hyne discussed the graph she created using previous on-time performance data, compared to current on-time data. The Commission assumed the on-time performance issues were due to increased ridership, causing greater frequency of stops. Commissioner Wright asked about the possibility of adding five minutes to each run. Mr. Bates noted that unless you lengthen the service day, adding time to each run will lessen the number of daily runs. Mr. Bates added that with our current capacity issues, cutting runs could worsen the situation. Commissioner Wilson noted this is the on-going argument of frequency vs. on-time performance; a decision must be made about which is the priority. Commissioner Monasky noted that before time is added to runs, we should keep in mind that having buses arrive at the same time each hour or 30 minutes makes it very easy for riders to remember the schedule.

Mr. Bates reported that two community members submitted suggestions for changes to the CTS bus service. These suggestions will be forwarded to each CACOT member and will be studied by the subcommittee for further consideration during the service expansion meetings.

VII. Commission Requests and Reports

Councilor Beilstein reported that in a City Council work session, City Councilor Mark O'Brien requested a staff report on the City's Transit budget showing the effect of the phase-out of future BETC funding. He said Councilor O'Brien is proposing reinstating a nominal bus fare to boost transit finances. Councilor Beilstein said the cost per ride came up, which they calculated to be about \$3.00 a ride, similar to larger systems. Mr. Bates said the \$3.00 figure that was cited was actually calculated by a citizen in a newspaper editorial; the actual figure puts CTS cost per ride closer to \$2.00.

VIII. Pending Items

None.

IX. Adjournment

Commissioners Wilson and Monasky, respectively, moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 am.

NEXT MEETING: April 11, 2012, 8:20 am, Madison Avenue Meeting Room