

# CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT AGENDA

Wednesday, May 12, 2010, 8:20 a.m.  
Madison Avenue Meeting Room  
500 SW Madison Avenue

- I. INTRODUCTIONS
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
April 14, 2010
- III. CACOT/VISITOR'S COMMENTS
  - Mayor Tomlinson
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
  - Possible Park & Ride Locations (Discussion)
  - Possible Satellite Transit Centers in Corvallis (Discussion)
- V. NEW BUSINESS
- VI. INFORMATION SHARING
- VII. COMMISSION REQUESTS AND REPORTS
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

## Future Meetings:

Wednesday, June 9, 2010, 8:20 a.m., Madison Avenue Meeting Room

Wednesday, July 14, 2010, 8:20 a.m., Madison Avenue Meeting Room

## Commission Members:

Bob Lowry, Chair

Stephan Friedt, Vice-Chair

Susan Hyne

Tom Kincaid

Ray Shimabuku

Robert E. Wilson

Brandon Trelstad

Paul Aljets, ASOSU

Hal Brauner, 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.

**Approved**

May 12, 2010  
by CACOT

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT  
MINUTES  
April 14, 2010**

**Present**

Bob Lowry, Chair  
Stephan Friedt, Vice-Chair  
Susan Hyne  
Tom Kincaid  
Ray Shimabuku  
Robert E. Wilson  
Hal Brauner, Council Liaison

**Staff**

Lisa Namba, Public Works  
Tim Bates, Public Works  
Cindy Hallett, Public Works  
Steve Rogers, Public Works

**Visitors**

Dean Codo

**Absent**

Brandon Trelstad  
Paul Aljets, ASOSU

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Information Only</b>	<b>Held for Further Review</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
I. Introductions	X		
II. Approval of March 10, 2010 Minutes			Approved.
III. CACOT/Visitor Comments	N/A		
IV. Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Possible Park &amp; Ride Locations</li><li>• Possible Satellite Transit Centers</li></ul>		X X	
V. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transit Budget Outlook for Future Years</li></ul>	X		
VI. Information Sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Written Report</li></ul>	X		
VII. Commission Requests and Reports	X		
VIII. Adjournment			Adjourned at 9:58a.m.

## CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. The meeting was called to order at 8:22 a.m. Introductions of Commission members, staff and visitors were made.

### II. Approval of Minutes

**Vice-Chair Friedt and Commissioner Hyne, respectively, moved and seconded to approve the March 10, 2010, minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

### III. CACOT/Visitor Comments

Dean Codo addressed the Commission and made the following statements:

- It would be simpler if Routes 2, 4, and 7 ran in the same direction at the Good Samaritan complex. Staff said this issue has been explored multiple times previously during route revision sessions and determined the current system best serves passengers.
- Route numbers displayed on the buses arriving at the Downtown Transit Center (DTC) are often confusing since the numbers do not always change until after the bus has arrived. Mr. Codo asked if the GPS signal for the DTC could be moved to the library stop. Ms. Namba replied that has been done and has not mitigated this problem. The drivers have been instructed to announce the departing route number before leaving the DTC. Commissioner Friedt asked if drivers can override the system by changing the external sign. Ms. Namba stated the drivers can override the system but would need to log back into the system after doing so.

### IV. Old Business

**Possible Park & Ride Locations** - Mr. Bates stated that the parking lots of local churches are possible options, and staff has identified the church on Highland Drive and Walnut Boulevard as a example. Chair Lowry suggested a Park and Ride near the stop on Conifer Boulevard west of Conser Street. Mr. Bates has evaluated that location, and the current bus stop is a significant walking distance from the parking lot of the church.

**Possible Satellite Transit Centers in Corvallis** - Chair Lowry stated that satellite transit centers would be recognized as dedicated transfer points. Ms. Namba suggested enhancing stops at 9<sup>th</sup> and Madison, Timberhill Shopping Center, Samaritan Hospital/Corvallis Clinic, and various OSU locations with written information which would highlight possible transfer opportunities.

### V. New Business

#### Transit Budget Outlook for Future Years

Steve Rogers, Public Works Director, explained that the City will experience a budget shortfall for FY 10-11. The shortfall is not expected to impact transit services in FY 10-11. However, starting in FY 11-12 and continuing for the next several years, budget shortfalls may require service reductions. He provided an overview of how we got to where we are today, what the future looks like, and what staff will be proposing relative to

transit funding. He asked for comments and suggestions from the Commission.

Commissioner Wilson asked if the total property level tax is flat. Mr. Rogers stated that Hewlett-Packard's (HP) assessed value has dropped over last several years. HP appealed its recent tax assessment to State of Oregon and was granted a reassessment. Benton County is permitted to raise assessments by 3% each year. However, with HP's reduced reassessment and a decreased amount of new construction, revenue has not risen the historical 3 percent.

Councilor Brauner explained that the "historic norming adjustment" is low this year and will be raised next year because the City has already taken most of the norming adjustment in the calendar year. One of the reasons why the City is not able to adjust the budget and adopt the budget based on the historic norming is that state law requires budgeting for vacant and existing positions.

Mr. Rogers said that the key in FY 2010-11 is the amount of dollars available for local matching funds of federal and state grants. Council has approved reducing the 09-10 Transit Fund allocation by \$210,000, but there will still be enough funds remaining to not lose any federal funding.

Councilor Brauner recapped that the City is expected to keep the present level of service for FY 09-10 and 10-11. In order to maintain current service levels in 10-11, the Transit Fund will need approximately \$400,000 from either the General Fund or the proposed Sustainability Initiatives Funding (SIF). If the SIF is not enacted, future cuts in service beyond FY 10-11 are a near certainty. Commissioner Wilson asked for clarification on how future transit funding is related to the proposed SIF fee. Fees received from the SIF would replace funds currently received from the General Fund, revenue from transit group pass programs, cash fares, coupons, and passes, and fares from paratransit riders. The direct contribution from OSU will remain intact. If the SIF passes, the enactment date would be determined by City Council. The earliest date would be July 1, 2010 but it is more likely to be January 1, 2011 or July 1, 2011.

Councilor Brauner encouraged Commissioners to forward their comments to the Administrative Services Committee before the April 23rd meeting at the Madison Avenue Meeting Room (MAMR). Councilor Brauner will be proposing the SIF as five separate initiatives and not as one package. Comments or suggestions can be emailed to [sif@ci.corvallis.or.us](mailto:sif@ci.corvallis.or.us). Budget documents can be found on line at the City of Corvallis website at [www.ci.corvallis.or.us](http://www.ci.corvallis.or.us).

Commissioner Hyne asked if the City's budget woes will improve when the national economy improves. Mr. Rogers said the City's budget woes are expected to last for at least several years even if the national economy improves immediately. When asked about a sales tax, he stated that sales taxes are a state issue, not a local issue.

## **VI. Information Sharing**

Mr. Bates reviewed the Information Sharing Report. Additional information to the report:

- A pre-proposal meeting to review the existing Request for Proposal is scheduled for Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm - 4:00pm at the Madison Avenue Meeting Room. The City has received permission from the FTA to extend the current contract with First Student for several months in the event that First Student is not awarded the proposed contract.
- Luminator will install the VIS units the week of April 26<sup>th</sup> in the three new buses. The three old buses will be sold, most probably via e-bay. The Luminator mechanic will also do repairs on any buses that are experiencing technical problems.
- The Monroe-Corvallis-Adair Village service provided by Benton County is tentatively scheduled to start August, 2010.

## **VII. Commission Requests and Reports**

- Councilor Brauner asked if First Student will be moving to the old Keith Brown site at Philomath Blvd and Technology Loop. Mr. Bates confirmed that he has heard from First Student's management that this is their intention. The latest expected move date is September, 2010.

## **VII. Adjournment**

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.**

**NEXT MEETING: May 12, 2010, 8:20 a.m., Madison Avenue Meeting Room**