CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT
AGENDA

Wednesday, December 8, 2010, 8:20 a.m.
City Hall Meeting Room D*
501 SW Madison Avenue

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
October 13, 2010 (there was no November meeting)

III. CACOT/VISITOR'S COMMENTS
Mayor Tomlinson

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

VI. INFORMATION SHARING

VII. COMMISSION REQUESTS AND REPORTS

VIII. PENDING ITEMS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Future Meetings:
Wednesday, January 12, 2011, 8:20 a.m., Madison Avenue Meeting Room
Wednesday, February 9, 2011, 8:20 a.m., Madison Avenue Meeting Room

Commission Members:

Bob Lowry, Chair	Robert E. Wilson
Stephan Friedt, Vice-Chair	Brandon Trelstad
Susan Hyne	Ryan Ludlow, ASOSU Representative
Tom Kincaid	Hal Brauner, Council Liaison
Ray Shimabuku	

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

*** Note that this meeting is at City Hall Meeting Room D, and not the normal venue, the Madison Avenue Meeting Room**.

DRAFT
pending approval by CACOT

CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT
MINUTES
October 13, 2010

Present
Stephan Friedt, Vice-Chair
Susan Hyne
Tom Kincaid
Ray Shimabuku
Brandon Trelstad
Robert E. Wilson
Hal Brauner, City Council Liaison
Ryan Ludlow -ASOSU Representative *Pending*

Absent
Bob Lowry, Chair

Staff
Tim Bates, Public Works
Brie Caffey, Public Works

Visitors
None

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Information Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations
I. Introductions	X		
II. Approval of September 8, 2010 Minutes			Approved
III. CACOT/Visitor Comments	NA		
IV. Old Business	NA		
V. New Business	NA		
VI. Information Sharing • Written Report	X		
VII. Commission Requests and Reports	NA		
VIII. Pending Items	NA		
IX. Adjournment			Adjourned at 9:20 am

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:24 a.m.

Mr. Bates introduced Ryan Ludlow, Director of Community Affairs at ASOSU, as the new ASOSU Representative, pending his appointment by City Council on October 18th.

II. Approval of September 8, 2010 Minutes

Commissioners Kincaid and Trelstad, respectively, moved and seconded approval of the September 8, 2010 minutes.

The motion passed unanimously.

III. CACOT/Visitor Comments

None.

IV. Old Business

None.

V. New Business

None.

VI. Information Sharing

Mr. Bates asked Councilor Brauner to update the Commission on the Sustainability Initiative Funding (SIF) fee vote at the October 4th City Council meeting. Councilor Brauner said the SIF vote on the transit item was five in favor, four opposed. An ordinance will be drafted and presented on the next Council agenda. If the first Council vote is not unanimous, there will be another vote at the next Council meeting, at which time the ordinance would need a simple majority vote. The base fee for a single-family home will be $2.75 a month, or last year's average price of gas per gallon, whichever is higher. This fee will cover the General Fund (property tax) subsidy, replace passenger fares and group pass programs, and system improvements. It is uncertain if OSU will pay for the service through utility bills or maintain its current group pass programs.

Commissioner Friedt asked about the possibility of appeal and if such an appeal would possibly affect the scheduled February 1. 2011 implementation date. Councilor Brauner explained that referral of the ordinance could be made and the effort would require about 2,000 signatures to get on the ballot. There would be a 90-day period after the passage of the ordinance to gather the needed signatures and that by January. 2011 we should have a pretty good idea of whether or not there will be a successful ballot effort. If it appears that there will be, the implementation date can be postponed.

Commissioner Hyne asked about the timing of service enhancements, noting that the City and route revision subcommittee did a lot of work and outreach before the last service enhancement. Mr. Bates indicated that staff will wait on getting a route revision subcommittee together, revising transit maps/schedules, etc. until there is a better idea of the enhancement budget. Councilor Brauner said the fee for enhancements will be accumulated throughout the year so the Commission will have time to discuss and make a recommendation on when the service enhancements should be implemented.

Commissioner Hyne asked if February 1, 2011 is the date the transit system is currently scheduled to become fareless if the SIF passes, and Councilor Brauner confirmed that it is. The City will have two implementation dates, one for fareless service and one for

implementation of service enhancements. Mr. Bates suggested the Commission put together a subcommittee to clarify priorities for enhancements; for example, if the Commission wants to extend evening service, or add supplemental runs to routes 2/3 and 4/8 during the week to keep the runs on time. These routes have a history of running late in the afternoon so adding supplemental runs for those routes might be something to consider.

Commissioner Hyne was concerned about the public's expectation of increased ridership. She noted one Councilor's recommendation that a review be put into place one year after the launch of fareless rides to determine if ridership had increased by 50%. Councilor Brauner said there was a motion to review the fee in one year and do away with the fareless option if ridership had not increased by 50%, but that motion failed. He amended the motion to remove the 50% threshold and simply review ridership after one year, and that amended motion passed.

Commissioner Hyne asked if we will know that an individual or group is gathering signatures for a referendum. Councilor Brauner said we would have some notice because an individual or group must file a "prospective petition" with the City Recorder before attempting to gather the needed signatures to force a referendum.

Commissioner Wilson asked about the upcoming First Student relocation. Staff reported that First Student is reviewing the draft lease to move into the former United Rental building at 9th Street and Reiman Avenue. Commissioner Wilson asked if they will need a traffic signal on 9th Street to accommodate buses entering and exiting the facility and Mr. Bates believes they will use Buchanan Avenue. He noted the relocation will save fuel and time.

Mr. Bates reviewed the Information Sharing Report. When discussing ridership numbers, Commissioner Hyne noted the large increase in ridership on Route 6, with standing room only on some days.

Mr. Bates reported on progress of construction of the Downtown Transit Center's (DTC) public restroom. Mr. Bates said the restroom will be open Monday - Saturday, 6 am to 2 am; it will not be open on Sundays. Councilor Brauner reported that some City Councilors wanted it open without interruption, so the finalized hours were a compromise.

Commissioner Shimabuku asked about priority in ridership. Specifically, if individuals who are developmentally disabled might be left at the curb if a bus was full. Mr. Bates reported that wheelchair passengers are entitled to the spaces designated for wheelchairs but seats are not specifically reserved for riders who are elderly or whose disability does not require a wheelchair. Commissioner Hyne asked if riders have been left behind due to buses at capacity and staff said it is very rare but it has happened. Commissioner Hyne noted that a fareless system may change that situation and Mr. Bates suggested that may be where the subcommittee needs to concentrate the enhancement dollars.

VII. Commission Requests and Reports

Since staff will be attending the OTA conference, Commissioner Friedt requested staff find out what other bus systems are doing to find ways to accommodate more bicycles on buses. He said some cities allow for three bikes in the front, and three in the back. He

believes the use of backup cameras has helped lessen security concerns about bikes on the back of a bus.

Commissioner Friedt also asked staff to look into on-time performance issues. He noted that the City's 30-minute routes are more than 10 years old and traffic patterns have changed since then. He'd like to see the City be proactive on this matter through time studies. He suggested we might need a subcommittee for this issue and noted that OSU has a statistical department which may be able to provide statistics.

Commissioner Trelstad asked if the City has received many complaints about riders having to wait for buses. Mr. Bates noted that there have been previous issues with specific drivers; currently route/driver assignments are based on seniority. Commissioner Trelstad asked if the route/driver assignments are addressed in contract and Mr. Bates said the topic is indirectly addressed via the on-time requirements.

Commissioner Trelstad requested that staff survey other small systems to see if they offer express routes. Mr. Bates said that Route 1 would be a good candidate for an express route because in the morning a large number of passengers ride from Witham Hill to OSU.

VIII. Pending Items

None.

IX. Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: December 8, 2010, 8:20 a.m., City Hall Meeting Room D*

***The November 10th meeting was cancelled.**