

**APPROVED**

February 13, 2008  
by CACOT

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT  
MINUTES  
January 9, 2008**

**Present**

Bob Lowry, Chair  
Lita Verts, Vice-Chair  
Stephan Friedt  
Brandon Trelstad  
Robert E. Wilson  
George Grosch, City Councilor

**Absent**

Rick Crawford, ASOSU  
Scott Carroll  
Joe Harrod

**Staff**

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

**Visitors**

Susan Hyne, CoHo Ecovillage, Inc.  
Jim Mitchell, Transportation Division  
Manager

**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 November 14, 2007 Minutes December 12, 2007 Minutes			Approved, with corrections. Approved.
III. CACOT/Visitor Comments	N/A		
IV. Old Business • Route Revision Update	X		
V. New Business • Discussion on Alternatives for \$180,000 Service Enhancement	X		
VI. Information Sharing • Written Report	X		
VII. Adjournment	X		Adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

## CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

### I. Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:21 a.m.

Introductions of Commission members, staff, and guests were made.

### II. Approval of November 14, 2007 Minutes

Page 3, paragraph 4, line 5 add should read “concern is that **there** are little”.

**Commissioners Wilson and Friedt, respectively, moved and seconded that the Commission approve the November 14, 2007 minutes, with corrections. The motion passed unanimously.**

- **Approval of December 12, 2007 Minutes**

**Commissioners Wilson and Friedt, respectively, moved and seconded that the Commission recommend approval of the December 12, 2007 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.**

### III. CACOT/Visitor Comments

- No comments.

### IV. Old Business

**Route Revision Update** - The subcommittee met January 8, 2008. Below is a recap of the meeting notes:

- **Route 1** - Chair Lowry reported ridership figures for Route 1 at the east end were very small. There are only three stops on NW Walnut Boulevard not served by another route. One suggestion was to shorten Route 1 by returning to the Downtown Transit Center (DTC) after Timberhill Shopping Center; this would result in a 40 minute route. A separate 20-minute route from the DTC would travel 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to the south end of Hewlett-Packard and back to the DTC on 2<sup>nd</sup> St.
- **Routes 2, 4 and 7** - The decision of the sub-committee is this area is working well except for signage. No one from the Regent has mentioned problems with the current route service. Vice-Chair Verts said safety at the Regent stop across NW Elks Drive is a concern since residents have to cross the street, which may be difficult for some of them. It was clarified that Regent residents have service on both sides of the street. Councilor Grosch questioned why there are three routes to Good Samaritan Hospital, and if ridership warrants three buses. Ms. Namba stated the buses come from different geographic areas and the hospital complex serves as a de facto transfer station. Corvallis Clinic and Good Samaritan Hospital are also participants of the Group Pass Program. Commissioner Friedt would like a survey or geographic study to show the number of riders that are alighting at

the Good Samaritan complex, where they are coming from and the percentages. Ms. Namba stated staff had done a short onboard survey in regards to the direction of travel issue and would need to perform an in-depth survey to obtain the information Commissioner Friedt requested. The long-term goal is to establish other transfer points throughout the system. This happens now by drivers using their radios to contact one another to coordinate transfer details at common stop locations. Jim Mitchell commented about the reversal of routes at the Good Samaritan complex and the associated costs and that the Commission would need to determine if changing the route direction is worth the cost.

- **Route 5** - Mr. Bates elaborated on the signage issues on Route 5 at NW Kings Boulevard and NW Monroe Avenue. Better signage at the NW Kings Boulevard shelter would be helpful. Mr. Bates presented a possible route revision to Route 5 which would alter the route on NW Rolling Green Drive due to difficulty turning left onto NW Kings Boulevard. Instead of turning left at NW Kings Boulevard, Route 5 would go from NW Rolling Green Drive and turn left on NW Forestgreen Avenue, turn right on NW 17<sup>th</sup> Street, turn right onto NW Circle Boulevard, then left onto NW Kings Boulevard at the traffic signal. Chair Lowry would like to review numbers of riders possibly affected by this change since the southbound stops on NW Kings Boulevard between NW Rolling Green Drive and NW Circle would be eliminated from Route 5. Mr. Bates said the Route 5 option would also need to be driven to verify timing issues.
- **Routes 3 and 8** - Ms. Namba would like to address the possibility of Routes 3 or 8 providing service to SW 49<sup>th</sup> Street. Routes 3, 8, and the Philomath Connection provide service to the SW area. Reconfiguration of those routes could help to better serve the SW area. Mr. Mitchell would also like to resume service to the core of Oregon State University campus. Previous issues have been on-time performance and OSU Facilities wanting to keep vehicles out of the OSU core. Currently the Philomath Connection and Beaver Bus routes use 26<sup>th</sup> Street and SW Jefferson Avenue through campus. Scarce parking, mobility/physical limitation issues, and the condition of Jefferson Avenue between 15<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> Streets need to be addressed. It may be possible to use 26<sup>th</sup> Street and SW Jefferson Avenue as a transfer point to the OSU Shuttle in addition to 15<sup>th</sup> Street and SW Jefferson Avenue. Forming an ASOSU Advisory Committee on Transit and involving the Environmental Affairs Task Force could help address this issue.

## V. **New Business**

- **Discussion on Alternatives for \$180,000 Service Enhancement**

Mr. Mitchell discussed the memorandum to CACOT regarding a request to the Budget Commission for increased funds for transit. Mr. Mitchell solicited input from CACOT on how the additional service hours could be used. Co-Chair Verts would like longer evening hours to specific routes serving OSU. This would allow students to use CTS for transportation to and from jobs at night. Commissioner Friedt thought increasing frequency on Routes 2 and 8 rather than 3 and 4 would offer more service to commercial areas for employees. Routes running extended hours in the evening could be configured differently from daytime routes. Commissioner Wilson thinks increasing frequency and

extending service hours address the two major areas of rider concern. Ms. Namba would like feedback on the eight-month scenario versus a yearly scenario, as presented in the memo. Mr. Mitchell suggested that people have other transportation alternatives during the summer season and believes the eight-month scenario provides the best use of the additional hours. In response to a Commissioner's question, staff stated consideration of reprinting schedules due to having different routes at different times of the year and the related staff time have not been factored into the costs. Councilor Grosch reiterated the importance of getting this proposal into the base budget. There would need to be a balance of frequency, increased service during commuter peaks and extended hours. Commissioner Trelstad expressed concern with not having enough data to demonstrate which of the three service enhancements would yield the highest increase in ridership. Ms. Namba stated the Citizen Attitude Survey is the best information currently available. Steve Rogers, Director Public Works, is scheduled to present this information January 31, 2008 to the Budget Commission. Public comment will be February 5, 2008, at 7 p.m. at the Fire Station. Councilor Grosch would like the allocation for Beaver Bus to be in the Enhancement Budget.

## **VI. Information Sharing - Written Report**

- **Beaver Bus** - Cindy Hallett spoke about the January 10<sup>th</sup> "Beaver Bus Returns" celebration to get media attention. Benny Beaver will be present and the Beaver Bus service will be free this week. New Beaver Bus posters are posted at bus shelters and the Library. Beaver Bus decals have been added to CTS signs on Monroe Avenue and Kings Boulevard along the Beaver Bus route. The service operates 8:45 p.m. to 2:45 a.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup> through March 15<sup>th</sup>, then April 3<sup>rd</sup> through June 7<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Hallett stated the breaks in service make it hard to keep the continuity of ridership going. The goal for the first week of service is to double the ridership from the first week of January, 2007.
- **Holiday Trolley** - Ms. Hallett acknowledged First Student for donating driver time and Trolley operations costs for the Community Parade. Commissioner Trelstad questioned the gap in funding. Ms Hallett is waiting for a few sponsors to pay. The actual income will be \$6,725, with a 2007 shortfall of \$725.00. This compares to the 2006 shortfall of \$1,100.00. With the ability to recruit sponsors earlier in the year, the 2008 Holiday Trolley should be self supporting. Commissioner Friedt would like to have a Holiday Lights evening run with a possible food drive. Ms. Hallett said that could be possible if there are sponsors to cover the costs.
- **Summer Youth Transit Program** - Ms. Namba stated since Allied Waste has committed to the "2008 Expanded Summer Youth Program", CTS was able to get advertising in the Corvallis Parks and Recreation summer activity guide. The Expanded Summer Youth Program will provide free rides to all youth 17 years of age and under.
- **Ridership** - In the Information Sharing report the last sentence should include "**is still on pace to set an annual ridership record**".

## **VII. Adjournment**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING: February 13, 2008, 8:15 a.m., Madison Avenue Meeting Room**

For a copy of the Information Sharing Report or Memorandum from Jim Mitchell, contact Tim Bates at Public Works, 541-766-6916.