

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT
MINUTES**

January 15, 2003

Members Present

Craig Anderson, Chair
Scott Carroll
Bob Lowry
Janon Rogers
Lita Verts
Justin Roach, Councilor

Staff

Jim Mitchell, Public Works
Bernadette Barrett, Public Works

Visitors

Robert E. Wilson

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Informa- tion Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Introductions	X		
Minutes - December 11, 2002			Accepted as written
City Council Orientation Meeting - Report	X		
Schedule/Map Redesign Project		X	
2003 Legislature - Proposed Mass Transit Assessment Amend.			Recommended support for legislation
Ridership Report	X		
Intermodal Mall	X		
Metropolitan Planning Organization - Update	X		
Holiday Trolley		X	
Peak Route Service Revision	X		
Annual OSU Survey	X		
ASOSU Group Pass Program	X		
Linn-Benton Loop Commission	X		
Annual City Survey Results	X		
Americans With Disabilities Act - Corvallis Paratransit Service Recertification Project	X		

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. INTRODUCTIONS

City Councilor Justin Roach was introduced as the new City Council liaison to the Commission.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 11, 2002

The minutes were accepted as presented.

III. CITY COUNCIL ORIENTATION MEETING - Report

Chairman Anderson reported on the meeting of the City Councilors with the chairs of the various City boards and commissions. He indicated that this is an opportunity for him to learn about the activities of the other commissions as well as discuss the issues and activities of CACOT with the Mayor and City Council.

IV. SCHEDULE/MAP REDESIGN PROJECT

A draft copy of the proposed subjects and content to be covered in the revised schedule/map format was distributed. Staff will continue work on this project as time permits. CACOT members were asked to review the material for subject matter, understanding that the material would be revised to reflect the Corvallis Transit System's operation. Discussion will continue at future CACOT meetings.

In response to a Commission question, it was noted that the Opticom devices for allowing buses to move through intersections more timely are getting closer to implementation. The traffic signal controller upgrades are being installed to allow communication with the devices on the buses. The devices will only be used when a route is behind schedule and are designed to only extend the "green" time.

V. 2003 LEGISLATURE - PROPOSED MASS TRANSIT ASSESSMENT

Currently only mass transit districts such as Salem Area Transit, Tri-Met, and Lane Transit, and transportation districts, such as Basin Transit (Klamath Falls), Rogue Valley Transit (Medford area), Hood River Transit, and others, receive funds from state agencies that are located within their service areas to compensate the transit agencies for transit service. The compensation is based upon the state payroll within the service area.

Staff has drafted legislation that would amend the wording of ORS 291.405 and 291.407 to include municipal corporations providing general public transit service.

The Legislation is supported by the Oregon Transit Association and other municipal cities providing general

public transit service. CACOT members recommend support for the legislation which would provide equity for all agencies providing general public transit services.

VI. INFORMATION SHARING

A. Ridership Reports (fixed, paratransit, Philomath)

The ridership reports were presented. CTS provided 36,799 rides in December 2002. This is higher than last year's December monthly ridership of 34,586.

The Philomath ridership for December was 1,157, compared to last year's December ridership of 740.

The Dial-A-Bus report was presented. Two new columns have been added to show ADA hours and ADA rides per hour.

B. Intermodal Mall - Project Report

The intermodal mall opened for service January 6. Transit staff is working on the details relating to the commercial section of the building and some final construction details. Transit staff has also provided tours to two visually impaired persons to facilitate their use of the facility and get their feedback, which has been positive.

Staff reported that a "Grand Opening" has tentatively been planned for **Monday, February 24**. The date coincides with a visit to Oregon by Federal Transit Administrator Jennifer Dorn. Staff is working with the FTA Region X office to coordinate this event with her schedule.

C. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

Governor Kitzhaber approved the designation of the Corvallis Area MPO. The various agencies are in the process of appointing their representatives to the MPO policy board, and meetings will be held in the near future. Staff will keep CACOT advised of future MPO activities.

D. Holiday Trolley 2002

The 2002 holiday trolley ran from December 14 through December 26 (no service December 25) and provided 1,846 rides. This represents approximately 20 rides per hour.

Chairman Anderson and Vice Chairman Lowry agreed to evaluate the service for consideration by CACOT.

E. Peak Route Service Revision

The Peak Route service revision, which extends service south to Rivergreen, was effective January 2. The revised service was promoted in the *Gazette-Times*, radio media, and posted in various locations. The new map/schedule was widely distributed, including by the Mountain View at Rivergreen apartment managers. Ridership data will be available at the February CACOT meeting.

F. ASOSU Group Pass Program

Staff will soon be preparing information to take before the ASOSU Student Fees Committee. The process has been expanded to include a public process and more than one presentation.

G. Linn-Benton Loop Commission - Dec. Meeting Report

The primary issue discussed at the December 13 Loop Commission meeting was the request by Linn County Commissioner Nyquist that the Loop Commission look into extending service to Lebanon and Sweet Home. He suggested that Linn County Special Transportation Funds might be available for this service but that no General Fund dollars were available. The Loop Commission requested that the Linn County Commissioners inform Linn Shuttle staff of the request and that the Shuttle staff be requested to work with the Loop staff and subcommittee to address this issue.

H. Annual City Survey Results

Portions of the 2002 City Survey results, including the first 10 pages and answers to Question 10 regarding partnerships, were distributed to CACOT members. Staff directed the Commission's attention to the two items specifically relating to transit service on Pages 4 and 9. The Comments Section was not available at the time of the meeting. Comments relating to transit service will be distributed at the February meeting.

I. Americans With Disabilities Act - Corvallis Paratransit Service Recertification Project

The City began operating its paratransit service in 1994 as required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. The service is available to persons with disabilities who cannot use the regular, fixed-route bus service for all or a portion of their trips. The service is contracted to the Senior Citizens Council of Benton County, Inc., operator of the local Dial-A-Bus. City transit staff reviews the applications filed by disabled persons to determine eligibility in accordance with ADA regulations. The certifications are generally valid for three years.

No ongoing process had been implemented to update the eligibility files, and the original certifications are still recognized by Dial-A-Bus. Staff has sent letters to all persons whose eligibility has expired or will soon expire and requested that they contact Public Works to receive a new application form. The updated information, including current addresses and emergency contacts, will be helpful to the City as well as Dial-A-Bus as Dial-A-Bus implements its new scheduling and dispatching software.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Future Meetings:

Wednesday, February 12, 8:00 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D
Wednesday, March 12, 8:00 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D
Wednesday, April 9, 8:00 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D
Wednesday, May 14, 8:00 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D