

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT
MINUTES**

October 9, 2002

Members Present

Craig Anderson, Chair
Janon Rogers
Scott Carroll
Stewart Wershow, Councilor

Absent, Excused

Lita Verts

Staff

Steve Rogers, Public Works
Bernadette Barrett, Public Works

Absent, Unexcused

Bob Lowry

Visitors

Linda Elder, Dial-A-Bus

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Informa- tion Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Minutes - August 14, 2002			Accepted as written
Dial-A-Bus Improvements	X		
Map/Schedule Format		X	
Peak Route Revision			Commission approved trial revision of peak service in South Corvallis to extend south to Midvale and Rivergreen
Ridership Reports	X		
Intermodal Mall - Status Report	X		
Metropolitan Planning Organization - Update	X		
Try Transit Week 2002	X		
Holiday Trolley 2002	X		

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - August 14, 2002

The minutes were accepted as presented.

II. DIAL-A-BUS IMPROVEMENTS

Linda Elder, Dial-A-Bus Manager, informed the Commission that funding has been recommended by the Benton County Special Transportation Advisory Commission to expand Dial-A-Bus service by providing an additional driver for evening and Saturday service. Additionally, service will be extended an additional half hour to 9:30 p.m. on weekdays. Ms. Elder also informed the Commission that new dispatching and scheduling software has been purchased. The new software will provide greater scheduling efficiencies, as

well as improved reporting capacity.

III. MAP/SCHEDULE FORMAT

Transit staff is in the process of evaluating the format of the current CTS schedules and maps and is proposing consolidation. There are three schedules and maps that cover CTS service: (1) a general system map and schedules for Routes 1 through 7, (2) a separate map/schedule for Service Routes A and B, and (3) a separate map for the early morning peak service. This situation is confusing and awkward for CTS customers, who need a more user-friendly document which can provide additional information, as well as a bilingual version. Additionally, some runs could be adjusted to meet specific demands if each run time is listed.

Samples of transit maps and schedules from various transit systems throughout the United States were distributed to CACOT members. Following a brief discussion, it was noted that this item would be placed on the November CACOT agenda for further discussion. Members were asked to prepare a list of items they would like to see included and any other concerns or issues they have regarding this subject.

VI. PROPOSED PEAK SERVICE REVISION

Limited peak service is provided in South Corvallis and Northwest Corvallis in the morning to address transit demand. The South Corvallis peak service currently extends service farther east than the regular south Corvallis Route 6, along Goodnight Avenue before turning north on Goodpark. Recently the section of roadway between Midvale and Rivergreen was completed and provides an opportunity to travel farther east and south. Staff is proposing to investigate the possibility of using the peak service for a trial period of approximately three months to determine the timing of the route revision and the demand for the service. Transit staff has been contacted several times by the manager of the Mountain View at Rivergreen apartment complex requesting service to that area. There are currently 264 apartments in the complex and 209 are filled. There are also many single-family residences in the area. The proposed route would also get closer to the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) office, which is located even farther south on 99W.

CACOT members agreed that we should pursue this revision, recognizing that it will provide for service in the morning

but that customers would still need to use the Route 6 to get home in the evening. This requires a walk from Goodnight south to their residences. If the timing issue can be addressed, consideration will be given to extending Route 6 to the south. Any route changes will be communicated through the media as well as through the apartment manager to his tenants.

V. INFORMATION SHARING

A. Ridership Reports (fixed, paratransit, Philomath)

The ridership reports were presented. CTS provided 33,431 rides in September 2002. This is lower than last year's September ridership of 36,906. It was noted that the Corvallis School District has changed the start and end times at the Corvallis High School and Cheldelin Middle School. City staff was not aware of the schedule changes until the day school started and transit staff began receiving calls from concerned parents. The revised times do not coincide with the bus schedule, so many students who were using the bus last year are not using the bus this year because of the long wait until the next bus arrives. Any change in the schedule would require an adjustment of all routes to facilitate transfers between routes.

The Philomath ridership for September was 811, compared to last year's September ridership of 902. Overall ridership for 2002-03 is higher than the first three months of last year.

The Dial-A-Bus report was presented and now includes information regarding the evening and weekend service.

B. Intermodal Mall - Status Report

The intermodal mall project is proceeding according to the revised schedule, with completion expected the end of November 2002. Some adjustments have been made for a new requirement for detectable warning devices on transit platform edges and curb ramps. Other minor adjustments have been made to contain project costs.

C. Metropolitan Planning Organization

Staff reported that the Coordinating Committee for formation

of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is continuing to meet to make key decisions regarding the organization and staffing. The Coordinating Committee includes elected and staff representatives from the cities of Adair Village, Philomath, and Corvallis, and Benton County, as well as representatives from the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

Tentative agreements have been reached regarding the MPO boundary and the number of members on the MPO policy committee and number of votes per member. It is hoped that funding for the planning activities can be accomplished with available federal and state planning funds. The Coordinating Committee has agreed to accept proposals from interested parties for staffing the MPO. CACOT will be kept informed as the committee meets and makes decisions. The MPO is important to transit operations because of the need to plan for public transportation within the planning area.

D. Try Transit Week 2002

Staff reported on Try Transit Week 2002 activities. The Mayor, OSU President Risser, and ASOSU President Burns proclaimed October 7 through 12 as Try Transit Week. The Mayor read the proclamation at the October 7 noon Council meeting. President Risser attended the meeting and acknowledged the benefits of the group pass program to the University.

A display has been placed in the Footwise window advertising this year's event. The theme for this year is "A Taste of Transit". Staff has been soliciting contributions in the form of gift certificates from eating establishments along the transit routes. So far \$150.00 in certificates have been received. The amount is limited by the amount of staff time available to contact business owners.

E. Holiday Trolley 2002

Letters to previous years' sponsors of the holiday trolley will be mailed soon. Last year Rite Aid did not contribute. Staff will seek additional sponsors this year.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

Future Meetings:

Wednesday, November 13, 8:00 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

Wednesday, December 11, 8:00 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

Wednesday, January 8, 8:00 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D