

**CORVALLIS CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT  
AGENDA**

**Wednesday; November 14, 2001; 7:50 a.m.  
City Hall Conference Room D  
501 S.W. Madison Avenue**

- I. INTRODUCTIONS
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 10, 2001
- III. CACOT/VISITOR'S COMMENTS (Items not on Agenda)
- IV. ADVERTISING BENCHES
- V. FARES - Review
- VI. INFORMATION SHARING
  - A. Ridership Report (Fixed Route, Paratransit & Philomath)
  - B. Route/Schedule Review - On-time Performance
  - C. Transit District Formation Study
  - D. Budget Prioritization - Status (attachment)
  - E. Intermodal Mall - Status Report
  - F. Holiday Trolley - Response to Donation Request
  - G. New Shelter - Albertsons Shopping Center
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

**Future Meetings:**

Wednesday, December 12, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D  
Wednesday, January 9, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D  
Wednesday, February 13, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT  
MINUTES**

October 10, 2001

Members Present

Craig Anderson, Chair  
Jeff Barricks  
Bob Lowry  
Janon Rogers  
Lita Verts  
Stewart Wershow, Councilor

Staff

Bernadette Barrett, Public Works  
Steve Rogers, Public Works

Visitors

Caron Johnson

Absent - Unexcused

Dan Preller

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION**

Agenda Item	Informa- tion Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Introductions	X		New CACOT member Janon Rogers was introduced
Ex-CACOT Member Recognition	X		
Minutes - September 11 and 12	X		Accepted as presented
Ridership Reports	X		
Budget Prioritization Process	X		
Fall Festival	X		
B-BoPP Week - October 1-6 <i>(formerly Try Transit Week)</i>	X		
Intermodal Mall	X		
Bus Bench Status		X	
Kids Summer Programs and Transit	X		
CIP Project - Intersections of 15 <sup>th</sup> /Jefferson and 14 <sup>th</sup> /Monroe	X		
Holiday Trolley	X		
New Shelters - 35 <sup>th</sup> (EPA) and First Alternative Co-op	X		
Linn-Benton Loop Funding	X		
Senior/Disabled Transportation	X		
Transit Pass Program - Downtown Employees	X		
Fare Increase Consideration		X	

**CONTENT OF DISCUSSION**

**I. INTRODUCTIONS**

New CACOT member Janon Rogers was introduced. Ms. Rogers is employed by Hewlett-Packard.

## **II. Ex-CACOT Member Recognition**

Caron Johnson, who had served on CACOT for over seven years, was recognized for her contribution to transit service.

## **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 11 and 12, 2001**

The minutes were approved as presented.

## **IV. INFORMATION SHARING**

### **A. Ridership Report (Fixed, Paratransit, & Philomath)**

The September ridership reports were presented. CTS provided 36,906 rides, which was the highest September ridership in the history of the system. Standing room only is still being experienced on several early-morning runs. Because of the heavy ridership, on-time performance is not being met and transfers are being missed. A system-wide review is necessary to match resources with service demand.

### **B. Budget Prioritization - Status**

Public Works Director Rogers reviewed CACOT's action at the previous meeting and noted that CACOT's recommendation and the recommendation of the City's Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee were consolidated and forwarded to the Budget Commission. He reported on the three Budget Commission meetings where the public was invited to provide input on the prioritization. Five to six of the approximately 30 people who appeared spoke supporting transit service.

The Budget Commission will review the options for prioritization and criteria at their October 16 meeting. They will then prepare a preliminary prioritization list that will be held until the revenue projections are determined next spring. In the meantime, staff will prepare 2002-03 budgets as they normally would, without consideration for the service reductions. Revised numbers will be developed once City staff has more information regarding the revenue projections and the results of the various revenue enhancements.

Mr. Rogers indicated that the formation of a transportation district may not occur next spring. The Benton County Board of Commissioners are supporting a larger, regional system.

Development of a larger system will require more time.

**C. Fall Festival - September 22 and 23**

Corvallis Transit System provided free, expanded transit service during Fall Festival weekend, as it has for many years. The service operated from the normal Saturday start time (approximately 9:30 a.m.) until the normal weekday end times (approximately 7:25 p.m.). Ridership on this service has increased steadily over the years, with a total of 2,115 rides this year. The ridership report supports the fact that frequency is a key to attracting people to the system. Route 5, with 30-minute service, had 501 weekend riders. It was also noted that Route 6, which serves South Corvallis, received the highest ridership for areas only receiving hourly service, at 314 rides.

**D. B-BoPP (Bus, Bike, Pedestrian and car Pool/van Pool) Week - October 1 - 6 (formerly Try Transit Week)**

B-BoPP 2001 is the new name for the annual Try Transit Week. Free transit rides were provide by CTS, the Philomath Connection, Linn-Benton Loop, and Albany Transit System during the week. Riders on the CTS system were invited to complete a raffle ticket each time they rode to enter a drawing for prizes. Donations were also accepted on all systems to support the New York firefighters, police officers, and their families impacted by the September 11 terrorist attack. Over \$612.00 was collected on the CTS and Philomath systems.

**E. Intermodal Mall Project Status**

The consultant conducted a preliminary cost estimate of the project, which resulted in the elimination of several elements that were presented in earlier conceptual designs. The consultant will meet with the City's Design Review Committee on October 12 to review the revised designs and get direction from the Committee to proceed with the Conditional Use Permit process.

**F. Bus Bench Status**

Staff requested feedback from CACOT members regarding the demonstration ad bus bench that had been placed at the downtown terminal some months ago. CACOT members recognized the value of providing seating. It was noted that the benches, if placed throughout the community, would generate minimal revenue. CACOT requested additional information regarding potential revenue, responsibility for installing

the concrete pad, staff time involved in identifying appropriate locations, and limitations on advertising content. A report will be presented at a future CACOT meeting.

#### **G. Kids Summer Programs and Transit**

Staff reported on two partnerships with the Library and the Parks and Recreation Department for incorporating transit use in their summer youth programs. The Library created a special transit pass for children involved in the summer reading program. Transit also donated several youth coupon books as part of available prizes for weekly drawings. Two Parks and Recreation youth programs use the bus to transport youth groups involved in their programs around the community. Both departments reimburse transit for their transit usage at the coupon book rate. Additionally, CTS provides a kids summer pass at a reduced rate to encourage children to ride during the summer months.

#### **H. CIP Project - Intersection of 15<sup>th</sup>/Jefferson and 14<sup>th</sup>/Monroe**

As recommended by CACOT, staff prepared a proposed CIP project for consideration by the City's CIP Commission. The project would improve the above-described intersections to assist the Linn-Benton Loop service, which currently makes a large, time-consuming loop near campus. The project has been estimated at \$226,674 and has no identified funding source. The project is located on OSU-controlled property.

#### **I. Holiday Trolley**

Staff will be contacting holiday trolley sponsors in the near future to determine available resources for this year's trolley service. It was noted that Fred Meyer does not contribute to the service and Rice's Pharmacy and the French Door no longer support the service, so there is no stop at that location. Staff will pursue potential new sponsors along the existing route.

#### **J. New Shelters**

Transit staff has been working with two developments in Corvallis for bus shelter placement. One shelter has been installed as part of the First Alternative Co-op expansion, and the other will be located on 35<sup>th</sup> across from the EPA Laboratory as a result of an OSU project.

### **K. Loop Funding**

Staff presented a report, as requested by CACOT, regarding the LBCC ridership and payments to the Loop. LBCC Loop ridership was 29,961 rides in 2000-01. The cost to provide each ride is \$2.71. The actual value of the rides provided is \$81,195. The fare to ride the Loop is 85 cents. If each LBCC ride paid the 85 cents, they would have paid \$25,467. LBCC paid \$11,200 for the group pass program in 2000-01. They also contributed \$12,200 to support the operating costs of the Loop. As a Loop partner, they would have paid the \$12,200 without the group pass program.

Following discussion, CACOT members felt that LBCC should be paying their fair share for the group pass program. City transit staff and CACOT member Lowry, as members of the Loop Commission, will forward the concern to the Commission at their October 11 meeting.

### **L. Senior/Disabled Transportation**

Staff distributed a copy of information received from the Oregon Department of Transportation, Public Transit Division, regarding the October 16 Oregon Transportation Commission meeting. The OTC will be looking at budget issues, including the expenditure of federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) dollars. It was noted that during the last two legislative sessions, \$10M of STP dollars have been flexed to purchase vehicles for senior and disabled transportation. The concern is that the OTC may not continue to flex these funds for senior and disabled capital purchases. The funds are distributed through a statewide, discretionary grant process.

### **M. Transit Pass Program**

Staff described a recent program that was implemented through the City's Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program to encourage the use of transit by downtown employees. The City, along with the Downtown Corvallis Association's TDM program, is funding half the cost of a 3-month transit pass for downtown employees. The expectation is that the employer will pay for the remaining half as a way of supporting their employee's transit use. The program is expected to continue during the term of the riverfront project.

### **V. Fare Increase**

In response to a question, Transit Manager Barrett noted that staff will be developing an analysis of transit fares and

will present a report at a future CACOT meeting. It is anticipated that a fare policy and fare increase will be recommended. It was reported that the Loop, Albany Transit System, and the Philomath Connection are also considering fare revisions.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 a.m.

### Future Meetings:

Wednesday, November 14, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

Wednesday, December 12, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

Wednesday, January 9, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D