

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT  
MINUTES**

January 5, 2000

Members Present

Craig Anderson, Chairman  
Joanne Adler  
Bob Lowry  
Ed Barlow-Pieterick, Councilor

Staff

Steve Rogers, Public Works  
Bernadette Barrett, Public Works

Visitors

Tom Adler

Absent - Excused

Caron Johnson  
Lita Verts

Absent - Unexcused

Dan Preller

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Informa- tion Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Meeting Date/Time Review			Monthly CACOT meetings moved to second Wed. of each month at the same time and place, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D
Consideration of Recommendation to OSU - Linn-Benton Loop Route		X	Staff to view proposed route alternatives
Follow-Up - Ridership Survey Results		X	CACOT members to review materials provided by staff and discuss in Feb. Staff is to develop further analysis of one route.
Ridership Report	X		
Holiday Trolley	X		
State and Federal Funding of Corvallis Capital Projects	X		
Transit Initiative Implementation	X		
Linn-Benton Loop Comm. Meeting - Dec. 9	X		
1999 City Survey Results	X		

## **CONTENT OF DISCUSSION**

### **I. MEETING DATE/TIME REVIEW.**

Staff proposed that the meeting date be moved back to the second Wednesday of each month. The time and place would remain the same. Commission members agreed with the change, which will be effective with the February meeting.

### **II. CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATION TO OSU - Linn-Benton Loop.**

At last month's meeting, Bob Lowry, the City's appointed representative to the Linn-Benton Loop Commission, requested that CACOT consider making a recommendation to Oregon State University regarding access to the OSU parking lot on the northeast corner of Jefferson and 15<sup>th</sup> Street. The goal is to reduce the travel time between the downtown terminal and OSU campus to allow better connections between the two systems. Mr. Lowry also indicated that the Loop drivers have safety concerns about left-turn lanes now needed to make this route.

Several possible solutions were discussed. Glenda Radvansky, Albany's Transportation Services Supervisor, is to contact OSU regarding their plans for 15<sup>th</sup> Street and the intersection of 15<sup>th</sup> and Jefferson. Corvallis staff will view the site and provide additional information to CACOT at February's meeting.

### **III. FOLLOW-UP - RIDERSHIP SURVEY**

Staff presented a memorandum outlining the objectives and one assumption of the CTS Service Subcommittee, summarizing various possible uses of the survey data, and a list of analyses needed to answer the suggested questions. Commissioner Lowry suggested that Route 6 be analyzed since it does not have overlapping service and has remained relatively stable since 1996. CACOT members are to review the information and provide direction at the next CACOT meeting. Staff will prepare the analysis of Route 6.

Commission members discussed the east-west loop service, which is funded by a special ODOT grant. This service is in the last year of a 3-year demonstration project. Any route changes will take into account all information regarding the

appropriate use of available resources. The Commission also reiterated the desirability of extending N. E. Lancaster through to the Walnut Blvd. extension.

#### IV. INFORMATION SHARING

- A. Ridership Report.** Staff noted that November and December monthly ridership were both new, all-time monthly highs. November ridership was 39,216, compared to 1998's November figure of 32,773; and December's ridership was 37,829, compared to 1998's December ridership of 34,113. Ridership for the year to date is up over 15 percent. Chairman Anderson reported that he has experienced "standing room only" on his route. The annual OSU ridership survey, conducted each year the last week in January and first week in February, should provide valuable information about who is riding and what routes OSU riders are using.
- B. Holiday Trolley.** Ridership on this year's trolley was 3,299, which is slightly higher than last year. The trolley operated slightly fewer hours this year. Staff analyzes ridership each year to assure that available resources are directed toward the greatest demand days.
- C. State and Federal Funding of Corvallis Capital Projects.** Staff reported that federal funds have been earmarked under the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA's) discretionary program (Section 5309) to fund one replacement bus and an auto-announce system for the buses. The State previously committed funds for one replacement bus. This funding will allow for the concurrent replacement of the two 1990 buses. The auto-announce system will provide for the automatic verbal announcement of stops for visually impaired persons, as well as a visual display for persons with hearing impairments. All riders should benefit from the system because of the difficulty of seeing out of the buses when it is dark and the windows are foggy.
- D. Transit Initiative Implementation.** Staff reported that the City Council had approved an interim salary increase for drivers effective January 1, 2000. The cost of that increase is being negotiated with Laidlaw. Commission members discussed the implementation of the ordinance which implements the measure and noted that the definition of "prevailing wage" should not require

a salary adjustment on a frequent basis, i.e. whenever another transit agency increased its wages. Staff indicated that Council may be considering revisions to the ordinance which will address this issue.

Council also directed staff to develop a request for proposals (RFP) for the next 3-year contract. The RFP will be reviewed by Council prior to its issuance. Staff is also to pursue development of a transit facility. Staff has requested that funding for the purchase of land and development of plans and specifications for a facility be included in next year's state-wide request for FTA discretionary funds (Section 5309). The City will be required to provide a 20-percent match for this project. Additional funds would be requested the following year for the actual construction project.

- E. Linn-Benton Loop Commission - December 9.** Commissioner Lowry reported on the meeting. He noted that Loop ridership is up for the year. The Loop Commission has authorized an increase in service to add two additional runs per day. The Albany multi-modal station will be considered by the Albany City Council soon.
- F. 1999 City Survey Results.** The results of the 1999 City Survey that pertain the transit were distributed for CACOT's information. Several comments were directed toward the initiative measure and the size of the City's buses.

## **V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

## **FUTURE MEETINGS:**

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

Wednesday, March 8, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D