

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT
MINUTES**

September 13, 2000

Members Present

Craig Anderson, Chairman
Dan Preller
Lita Verts
Ed Barlow-Pieterick, Councilor

Staff

Steve Rogers, Public Works
Bernadette Barrett, Public Works

Visitors

Linda Elder, Dial-A-Bus
Lisa Seter

Absent - Excused

Caron Johnson

Absent - Unexcused

Bob Lowry

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Informa- tion Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Minutes - August 9, 2000			Approved
Parking Study	X		
Corvallis Clinic Bus Stop & Related Subjects		X	
Intermodal Mall Project - Status	X		
Try Transit Week 2000 - October 2-7	X		
20-Year Celebration		X	
Ridership Report	X		
Linn-Benton Loop Commission - Aug. Mtg.	X		
Fall Festival - Sept. 23 and 24	X		
OSU Promotional Activities	X		
Fall CTS Newsletter	X		
ODOT Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Grant	X		
Area Commission on Transportation (ACT)	X		
November 2000 Election	X		

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - August 9, 2000

The minutes were approved as presented.

II. PARKING STUDY

Commissioner Verts is CACOT's representative to the City's Parking Commission. She reported on the results of the consultant's study on parking in the downtown area. She felt that the consultant presented a good report. In particular she relayed information regarding comments made during a survey about the use of transit by travelers to the downtown area, noting that four percent(4%) indicated that they used the bus to reach downtown. The reasons given by people not using the bus were that the bus needed to run longer hours and/or the buses need to run more frequently. Steve Rogers provided additional information regarding the study, including information about the percentage of privately and publicly owned space available in the downtown and utilization of the space.

The Commission discussed the need to expand service and the probability of a City levy election in November 2002 for all City services.

III. CORVALLIS CLINIC BUS STOP AND RELATED SUBJECTS

Commissioner Preller noted that he had talked with transit staff about the possibility of adding a bus stop near the Corvallis Clinic's Asbury Building. He noted that there were other pedestrian and shelter issues around the Hospital and Clinic facilities. Staff will meet with Dan Preller to take a comprehensive look at transit facilities at the medical complex and report back at a future meeting.

IV. INTERMODAL MALL PROJECT

Staff reported that all grant documents had been filed with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the intermodal mall project at the corner of S.W. Monroe Avenue and 5th Street. The grant process has been time consuming and more complex than previous grants. We are awaiting FTA approval of the grant award. Copies of the results of the public outreach effort, including the survey and open house, were distributed to CACOT members and others present at the meeting.

V. TRY TRANSIT WEEK - October 2-7

Try Transit Week is scheduled for October 2-7 this year. This is the eighth year this event has been held in Corvallis. The event has now expanded to include the Albany Transit System, Linn-Benton Loop, and the Philomath Connection. Joint promotion of the service will occur with the participating agencies.

VI. 20-YEAR CELEBRATION

Planning has begun for the 20-year celebration of the Corvallis Transit System as we know it today. A list of prior CACOT members is being developed. Additionally, regular pass purchasers can be identified. A public celebration is planned in February. Commission members suggested the possibility that a PowerPoint presentation be developed and a bus wrap be considered to mark the occasion. Staff will pursue those suggestions and asked members to relay any additional ideas.

VII. INFORMATION SHARING

A. Ridership Report (Fixed Route and Philomath)

The August fixed-route ridership report was provided to the Commission. It indicated that 36,181 rides were provided in August. The combined July and August ridership shows another increase in ridership. Philomath had the highest monthly ridership since their service began in April, providing 1,155 rides. Paratransit ridership numbers were provided to City staff and will be reported at the next Commission meeting.

B. Linn-Benton Loop Commission - August 10

Staff did not attend the meeting but provided information from the meeting minutes. The minutes indicate that ridership on the Loop during 1999-00 exceeded the previous fiscal year. No percentage figures were available. Hewlett-Packard total rides also appear to be up from the previous year. The Loop is continuing to seek support from Oregon State University. The Loop provided Saturday service during daVinci Days and will also run on Saturday during Fall Festival weekend. A ridership survey will be conducted by LBCC staff in the near future. Loop staff is looking at redesigning the Loop logo. Loop representatives will also share the CTS booth at the OSU new-student orientation event, Where It's @, September 22 in the Memorial Union Quad.

C. Fall Festival - September 23 and 24

Corvallis Transit System will provide expanded transit service during Fall Festival weekend, as it has for many years. The emphasis in this year's promotional materials will be to encourage Corvallis citizens to use the bus all weekend for their transportation needs and not just to get to the Festival site.

D. OSU Promotional Activities - University Day/Where It's @

City transit and transportation alternatives staff will be participating in two OSU events during the week of September 18 to promote transit and other transportation alternatives to OSU faculty, staff and students. The first event is University Day, which focuses on OSU faculty and staff. The second is Where It's @, a Chamber of Commerce and OSU sponsored event focused on new and returning OSU students. It will be held in the MU quad on Friday, September 22.

E. Fall CTS Newsletter

Copies of the fall CTS newsletter were distributed. The newsletter is distributed to customers on the bus. The Fall newsletter provides information about various special events in the next few months and the employers that are participating in the City's Employee Transportation Coordinators networking group to support the use of alternative transportation modes. Commission members were invited to provide ideas for future articles.

F. ODOT Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Grant

Commission members were informed of a grant offered to the City of Corvallis to assist the City in implementing its Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan. The Plan details specific actions the City should pursue to encourage the use of alternative modes, including transit. The grant will be presented to the City Council for acceptance at their September 18 meeting. Grant funds will be used to support 50 percent of a half-time position dedicated to these efforts.

G. Area Commission on Transportation (ACT)

Steve Rogers presented CACOT members with an overview of the Area Commission on Transportation (ACT) and provided a copy of an excerpt from the by-laws. The concept for the ACTs came from ex-Corvallis Mayor Charles Vars. The Oregon Transportation Commission embraced the concept of ACTs as a way of communicating with groups representing multi-county regions instead of each city, county, port, and transportation district throughout the state. The local ACT includes jurisdictions in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties and is staffed by Cascades West Council of Governments. The local ACT replaced a previous group that performed basically the same function--to discuss

regional transportation issues and prioritize projects for submission to the Oregon Department of Transportation. The ACT's responsibilities in some areas such as TDM and transit are yet to be worked out. The City's representative to the Steering Committee is Councilor Tom Wogaman, and Steve Rogers represents the City on the technical advisory committee.

H. November 2000 Election

Staff provided two documents which relate to the November 2000 election. One was prepared by the State Legislative Fiscal office and the other was prepared by Tri-Met staff. They both show the potential impacts of several of the measures on transit and on many of the customers we serve, such as the elderly and disabled.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

Wednesday, October 11, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D
Wednesday, November 8, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D
Wednesday, December 13, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D