

Approved

By CACOT
April 10, 2013

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT
MINUTES
March 13, 2013**

Present

Brandon Trelstad, Vice Chair
Kriste York
Robert E. Wilson
Terry Wright
Bruce Sorte, Council Liaison

Staff

Tim Bates, Public Works
Brie Caffey, Public Works

Visitors

Sgt. Daniel Duncan, Corvallis Police Dept.

Absent

Stephan Friedt, Chair
Jacob Kollen

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Information Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations
I. Introductions	X		
II. Approval of December 12, 2012 and February 13, 2013 Minutes			
III. CACOT/Visitor Comments			N/A
IV. Old Business			N/A
V. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Corvallis Transit System's Future System Levels• DTC's Current Environment	X	X	
VI. Information Sharing	X		
VII. Commission Requests and Reports	X		
VIII. Pending Items			N/A
IX. Adjournment			Adjourned at 9:37 am

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:22 am by Vice Chair Trelstad. Introductions were made of Commission members, staff and visitors.

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioners Wilson and York, respectively, moved and seconded to approve the December 12, 2012 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners York and Wright, respectively, moved and seconded to approve the February 13, 2013 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no January, 2013 meeting. Therefore, there are no January, 2013 minutes.

III. CACOT/Visitor Comments

None.

IV. Old Business

None.

V. New Business

Corvallis Transit System's Future System Levels - Mr. Bates postponed the discussion on future system levels until Chair Friedt is present, since Chair Friedt asked that it be placed on the agenda.

Downtown Transit Center's Current Environment - Mr. Bates said CTS has had ongoing issues with and complaints of non-riders congregating at the Downtown Transit Center (DTC) and disturbing passengers. He invited Sgt. Duncan of the Corvallis Police Department (CPD) to attend the CACOT meeting to discuss the issue. Sgt. Duncan said the DTC and the area between the DTC and City Hall is on CPD's radar for directed patrols. The "no smoking in parks" policy had a positive impact on keeping people from loitering in Central Park. Since there is no general sign in the DTC saying that smoking is not allowed, CPD is unclear they can cite someone for smoking. Mr. Bates reported that staff is preparing an expansion of the current "No Smoking" ordinance that will be presented to the Urban Services Committee in April. The expansion which would include all of the DTC and within 10 feet of any transit shelter. Sgt. Duncan said he has noticed more calls for assistance to the DTC since the system went fareless in February, 2011 and Mr. Bates acknowledged that there have been more exclusions since then.

Mr. Bates asked if individuals can be cited for loitering. Sgt. Duncan said he would have to check into that as he has not written a citation specifically for that offense. CPD can issue citations for open containers and violence but citations may not have a lot of teeth to people who don't have the money to pay them. He suggested that removing park benches, especially benches located closely together, tends to cut down on the number of people congregating in one area. Councilor Sorte said he thought additional downtown restrooms, or having the Riverfront Park restrooms open longer hours, might also help disperse the groups of non-riders who congregate at the DTC.

Mr. Bates mentioned that CTS drivers found it helpful when uniformed CPD bicycle officers rode on the bus recently; their presence made a difference. Sgt. Duncan also felt that was a positive influence but said unfortunately, CPD doesn't currently have the staffing for a regular bicycle patrol. Mrs. Caffey requested that officers actually pull into the DTC rather than drive by and Sgt. Duncan said officers could begin doing that.

Mr. Bates mentioned the possibility of hiring a local security firm as a part-time presence in the area. Sgt. Duncan said that the police would welcome that.

Although Chair Freidt did not attend the meeting, Mr. Bates read an email from him which included the ideas of having a full-time security presence on-site and utilizing the First Student Field Supervisor/Driver Trainer to a greater extent. Mr. Bates shared that a private security guard would cost approximately \$17/hr, with a 4-hour minimum. That equates to 240 hours of bus service, which equals one hour of bus service a day (Monday-Friday) which would need to be cut, if a service cut becomes the funding source. The guard would not have police powers and would not be armed, but would observe and report and enforce CTS exclusions. Commissioner Wright suggested cutting the new supplemental Route 6 runs in order to find funding for security. Councilor Sorte suggested the Council might be open to allotting 0.3 or 0.5 FTE of the proposed new CPD positions to Transit. Vice Chair Trelsted said he would prefer removing the benches and putting the smoking ban in place before cutting service to fund a security guard.

Mr. Bates reported that a rider requested a shelter for Route 1 inbound on 9th Street west of Walnut Blvd. The same rider listed several drivers by name, saying they are helpful, personable, and courteous.

VI. Information Sharing

Mr. Bates reviewed the written Information Sharing Report. Comments provided in addition to the report included:

CTS staff conducted its first appeal hearing of an exclusion. A permanently-excluded female appealed and was granted a reduction of her exclusion to one year. She will be eligible to begin riding again in July 1, 2013.

Staff is working on a new ADA handbook and Dial-A-Bus brochure for Corvallis and Philomath paratransit customers.

Commissioners Wright, Monasky and Weaver de Balan have submitted their resignations from the Commission. Mr. Bates thanked them for their contributions and wished them the best.

VII. Commission Requests and Reports

Councilor Sorte suggested regressing the ridership data against gas prices, student enrollment and average age.

VIII. Pending Items

None.

IX. Adjournment

Commissioners Wright and York, respectively, moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 am.

NEXT MEETING: April 10, 2013, 8:20 am, City Hall, Meeting Room D

CTS Ridership (Beaver Bus and Philomath Connection not included in figures)

	FY 12/13	FY 11/12	FY 10/11	FY 09/10	FY 08/09
July	78,758	80,650	54,310	54,381	55,774
Aug	79,369	72,375	49,560	45,734	48,693
Sept	83,874	80,518	58,342	48,383	50,053
Oct	120,079	104,343	79,562	67,573	71,342
Nov	104,768	96,884	73,961	59,602	57,426
Dec	73,365	79,456	58,193	50,300	49,952
Jan	110,539	103,182	78,754	66,194	62,904
Feb	106,526	106,526	80,794	65,306	59,098
Mar		102,672	91,060	63,665	55,252
Apr		107,491	92,842	66,781	60,223
May		107,509	89,078	59,090	53,376
Jun		90,236	78,421	53,782	49,625
Total	757,278	1,131,842	884,877	700,791	673,718

