

CORVALLIS CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT

AGENDA

Wednesday; April 7, 1999; 7:50 a.m.

City Hall Conference Room D

501 S. W. Madison Avenue

- I. INTRODUCTIONS

- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 3, 1999

- III. CACOT/VISITOR'S COMMENTS (Items not on Agenda)

- IV. PROVISION OF FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE (*Report will be mailed to you.*)

- V. REVIEW OF SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS/OBJECTIVES/ASSUMPTIONS (*Please bring your copy.*)

- VI. INFORMATION SHARING
 - A. Ridership Reports (fixed route and paratransit service)
 - B. Saturday Shoppers' Shuttle
 - C. OSU's 1999-00 Group Pass Program
 - D. Regional Transit Study
 - E. Laidlaw Labor Relations
 - F. Status of Service Route Bus

- VII. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: NO SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING.

Future Meetings:

Wednesday, May 5, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

Wednesday, June 2, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT
MINUTES**

March 3, 1999

Members Present

Craig Anderson, Chairman
Joanne Adler
Bill Hoffman
Caron Johnson
Lita Verts

Staff

Bernadette Barrett, Public Works
Steve Rogers, Public Works

Visitors

Tom Adler

Absent - Unexcused

Dan Preller
Ed Barlow-Pieterick, Councilor
Jessica Pearse, ASOSU Ex officio

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Informa- tion Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Land Use Follow Up		X	
Ridership Report	X		
OSU Ridership Survey	X		
ASOSU's 1999-00 Group Pass Program	X		
Exact Fare Policy		X	
Subcommittee Report		X	
Regional Transit Study	X		
Downtown Parking Commission	X		
Saturday Shoppers' Shuttle	X		
Oregon Legislature	X		
Laidlaw Labor Negotiations	X		

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 3, 1999

The minutes were accepted as presented.

II. VISITOR COMMENTS

Tom Adler referenced the land use item discussed at the

February CACOT meeting. He noted the mixed use designation at 53rd and Harrison as noted on a map published in the Gazette-Times. Staff will provide an up-to-date comprehensive plan map at the next meeting.

III. INFORMATION SHARING

A. Ridership Report. The monthly fixed route ridership report was provided to the Commission. February ridership was 37,813 compared to 31,206 for the same month last year. This was the highest February ridership in the history of the system, surpassing the record of 36,699 set in 1997. The paratransit ridership information was distributed.

B. OSU Ridership Survey. Staff distributed the results of the annual OSU faculty, staff, and student ridership survey, as well as the results of the annual surveys taken each year since 1993. It was noted that the survey was conducted the first two weeks in February, which is approximately the same time the survey is taken each year. The following results were noted: OSU student ridership has almost doubled since last year, going from 3,239 in 1998 to 6,096 in 1999; OSU faculty/staff ridership has decreased significantly from last year; total OSU ridership accounts for 36+ percent of the total transit ridership; and OSU students make up 89 percent of the OSU ridership. The student increase may be due to increased OSU promotional activities, including participation in the Chamber-sponsored Where It's @ event targeted at new students, increased Barometer advertising, and increased number of passenger shelters on and around campus. Staff will look for opportunities to target OSU faculty and staff.

The survey results detail the information by route and include information for all riders. The information will be particularly useful to the CACOT subcommittee looking at routes and other service issues.

C. ASOSU's 1999-00 Group Pass Program. Steve Rogers reported that he had met with the Student Fees Committee to present this year's proposal to continue the student group pass program at the same funding level as previous years. The Student Fees Committee indicated that they would recommend continuation of the program. City staff will most likely be requested to appear before the ASOSU Budget Committee.

D. Exact Fare Policy. Staff reported that the issue of allowing CTS customers to ride the bus in an emergency

was discussed with the CTS drivers. The City has a policy of requiring passengers to pay for service. The drivers indicated that they do allow customers to ride if they believe that the customer has an emergency. Commissioner Adler feels that the City should have a written policy which states that the City will allow passengers to ride in an emergency. Following discussion, Ms. Adler was requested to prepare proposed language regarding emergency transportation. The major concern with such a written policy is abuse by CTS customers.

- E. Service Subcommittee Report.** Chairman Anderson reported that the subcommittee has prepared goals, objectives, and assumptions for their task. Copies were distributed to CACOT members. He also noted that additional information would be available from a study to be conducted by an OSU civil engineering class spring term. CACOT members were asked to review the information and confirm or revise the document at the April meeting in order to provide direction to the subcommittee.
- F. Regional Transit Study.** Staff and Commissioner Verts reported on the second steering committee meeting, held February 23. The Steering Committee received a summary of information from the phone survey taken in Albany, Corvallis, and Lebanon. A final version of the information will be provided to CACOT members. The Steering Committee identified mobility issues, listed solutions, and developed a list of priorities. The consultant will prepare three transit service scenarios for presentation at public hearings on March 16. The budget for the scenarios is the estimated revenue of \$.25 per \$1,000 assessed value for Linn and Benton Counties. The first public hearing will be at 5:00 p.m. in Corvallis at the Wells Fargo Bank. A second meeting will be held in Albany at 7:30 p.m. to assure that Linn County residents also have an opportunity to hear the scenarios and participate in the discussions. A second round of public hearings will be held on May 11. CACOT members were encouraged to attend the public hearings.
- G. Downtown Parking Commission.** Transit Manager Barrett was invited to attend the February 24 Parking Commission meeting to describe the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan implementation efforts which began in January. As noted at the February CACOT meeting, the City, in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, has formed a group of employer representa-

tives to begin providing information regarding various TDM alternatives and strategies. Ms. Barrett provided the Parking Commission with information regarding the benefits of TDM to employers and employees, and particularly those benefits which relate to reduce demand for parking. She noted that four employers from the downtown area are represented. They are the City, County, U. S. Post Office, and the Downtown Corvallis Association. She was asked to meet with them as a subgroup and assist them in developing joint efforts to implement TDM for downtown employers and employees. Ms. Barrett was also asked to report back to the Commission to keep them up to date on those efforts. Lita Verts is CACOT's representative to the Parking Commission. She reported that the Parking Commission handed out a tentative schedule for issues to be addressed in the future. They also heard an appeal from Mike Sivetz regarding the 10-hour meters near his business. She explained his issues and his recollection of how the downtown parking lots were developed. She noted that this item is scheduled to be addressed in August.

- H. **Saturday Shoppers' Shuttle.** Staff distributed a copy of the Saturday Shoppers' Shuttle schedule. The shuttle is a free customer service, funded with City Economic Development Funds through the Downtown Corvallis Association and coordinated with CTS operations. The service began operating on February 27. Staff will report on shuttle ridership at the April meeting.
- I. **1999 Oregon Legislature.** Only a few bills have been introduced to date that impact public transportation, including one regarding jitneys. Most of the transportation focus has been on a gas tax increase for highways. A summary of public transit bills and their current status will be reported at the April CACOT meeting. It was noted that a Senior/Disabled Transportation Lobby Day has been scheduled for March 12 at the Capitol. CACOT members were requested to provide information they might have to City staff as they learn of pertinent transit-related bills.
- J. **Laidlaw Labor Negotiations.** Staff reported that they had met with Laidlaw representatives following the February 24 negotiations session. There was no resolution to the outstanding issues. Another session is scheduled for March 8. Staff will keep CACOT informed of this matter. Staff also noted that it will be preparing a comprehensive report regarding various alternatives for providing bus service. The report will be submitted for CACOT consideration at the April 7 meeting. It is scheduled to go to the Urban

Services Committee on April 12 and to City Council on April 29. The schedule allows for timely implementation of the selected alternative. It was noted that the Laidlaw contract expires December 31, 1999; and if a Request for Proposal is the selected alternative, it will need to be prepared and advertised no later than the middle of June.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

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

Wednesday, May 5, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D