CORVALLIS CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT

AGENDA

Thursday; September 11, 1997; 7:50 a.m.
City Hall Conference Room D
501 S. W. Madison Avenue

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - August 14, 1997

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

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

V. CACOT MEETING DATE AND TIME

VI. INFORMATION SHARING

A. Monthly Ridership Report

B. Saturday Ridership Report

C. Senior/Youth/Disabled Ridership Count

D. Rack and Roll Tour ‘97 - September 5

E. OSU Events - Sept. 16 and 26

F. Fall Festival - September 27 and 28

G. Try Transit Week ‘97 - October 20-25

H. New Buses

I. ODOT Operating Grant - 1997-98

VII. ADJOURNMENT

CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT

MINUTES
August 14, 1997

Members Present
Bob Lowry, Chairman
Joanne Adler
Jonathan Cardozo
Bill Hoffman
Caron Johnson
Ed Barlow-Pieterick, Councilor

Absent
Craig Anderson

Staff
Steve Rogers, Public Works
Bernadette Barrett, Public Works

Visitors
Tom Adler
Tom Jones, ASOSU
Roger McDonald, Dial-A-Bus

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Informa-tion Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Bikes on Buses Program	X		
Ridership Report	X		
daVinci Days - July 19 and 20	X		
Benton Co. Fair - July 29-Aug. 2	X		
Summer Kids Pass Program	X		
Implementation of New Routes	X		
New Buses - Status	X		
Service Route - Status	X		
Intermodal Mall Funding	X		
Oregon Legislature	X		
Annual ODOT Operating Grant	X		
Measure 50 - Transit Impact	X		
CACOT Meeting Date/Time			Revision

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 10, 1997

The minutes were approved as presented.

II. CACOT/VISITOR'S COMMENTS

Roger McDonald introduced himself as the new Dial-A-Bus manager. He indicated that he was attending to gain information regarding public transportation in Corvallis. He is a recent graduate from Oregon State University in Business Administration and obtained an engineering degree 15 years ago. He has been focusing on internal Dial-A-Bus operating procedures during his first weeks. He will be working on expanding the volunteer base, site-related concerns, and other issues in the future.

Tom Jones introduced himself as ASOSU's Task Force Director for Community Affairs. He indicated that he or someone from ASOSU would be attending future CACOT meetings to provide a link between the students and CACOT.

Chairman Lowry welcomed the visitors and expressed his appreciation for their attendance.

Chairman Lowry noted an article in the morning's Gazette-Times describing a new transit service between Corvallis, Albany, and Salem. Betty's To and Fro has been operating a similar service between Eugene and Salem for years and is expanding their service to Corvallis.

III. BIKE RACKS ON BUSES PROGRAM

Staff reviewed the memorandum provided to CACOT members regarding this subject. The "bike rack on buses" program has been discussed for a number of years. The Bicycle Advisory Commission (now the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Commission) provided CACOT with survey results indicating the high level of interest. The City Council appropriated the funds for the program in 1996-97. Bike racks and a demonstration rack were purchased, and the program is scheduled to be implemented in the Fall. Implementation was delayed primarily because of the space limitation at the downtown terminal and the implications of that restriction on the overall program.

Various elements of the program were discussed, including safety, operations, liability, and administration. The demonstration bike rack was available at the meeting to allow Commission members to see it and try it. A marketing/ promotional campaign is being developed, including marketing and training materials.

IV. INFORMATION SHARING

A. Ridership Report. July's ridership was 33,016. This is approximately the same ridership as July 1996. The July and August ridership figures are influenced by the Benton County Fair shuttle and depends upon how many days the fair runs in each month.

B. daVinci Days - July 19 and 20. The ridership data for the 1997 CTS daVinci Days expanded weekend service was distributed. It also shows the history of the service for the previous three years. Ridership was 1,261 and was approximately the same as 1996 (1,308). It was noted that the *Gazette-Times* only ran the CTS ad on Friday; it was supposed to run Friday through Sunday. Unlike Fall Festival, daVinci Days does not promote the CTS expanded service in their promotional materials. Staff will continue to request their assistance in future years.

C. Benton County Fair Shuttle - July 29 through August 2. Ridership data for this year's shuttle, along with the previous five years was distributed. This year's ridership was approximately the same as last year, with 3,566 free rides provided this year and 3,580 provided last year. Shuttle drivers indicated that this year's operation went very well. They suggested adding a couple additional stops next year. The costs of the shuttle are shared equally by Benton County and Corvallis Transit.

D. Summer Kids Pass Program. This program has been in place for a number of years, and its popularity has grown each year. Fifty-one (51) summer passes were sold this year, compared to 20+ last year. Commission member Adler indicated several issues relating to youth on the bus, including incidents involving her daughter and an incident involving a Park and Recreation summer program. These complaints had not been received by staff. Staff requested that information (date, time, route, etc.) be provided to staff as soon as possible so that any incident may be addressed in a timely manner. The incidents will be discussed with Laidlaw management.

E. Implementation of New Routes (5-bus system). Implementation of the Fall schedule is underway. The new map is being developed by the City's graphics staff utilizing a new software package which will enable a smoother transition to a print shop. Staff has been working with the CTS drivers to determine time points along the routes for use on the map's schedule, as well as other information. Designated stops are also being identified with the assistance of the CTS drivers. Commission member Cardozo inquired about CACOT reviewing the proposed map. Following discussion, it was agreed that the proposed map would be provided to CACOT members for their review and comment. If conflicting comments are submitted, a special CACOT meeting will be held to resolve the conflict(s). It was also noted that the first printing of the new map will be limited so that if time points need to be adjusted or additional information is needed, revisions can be made in a timely manner. Several suggestions were provided regarding the reprinting to ensure that customers have the optimum opportunity to be assured that they have the most recent printing.

F. New Buses - Status. The two new buses--one replacement for bus No. 731 and one for the east/west service--should be delivered in the next couple weeks. A post inspection audit will be conducted by Lane Transit District.

G. Service Route - Status. The City Council authorized the grant application for the sixth bus to establish a service route. The grant application was filed with the Federal Transit Administration. Staff is continuing to work with federal and state transit staff regarding this project.

H. Intermodal Mall Funding. Representative Darlene Hooley has been instrumental in seeking federal funding of the City's downtown intermodal mall project. Senator Wyden has supported the request in the Senate. The funding is included in the House and Senate transportation funding bills. A joint committee is to meet to resolve differences between the transportation packages. CACOT will be kept informed of this item.

I. **Oregon Legislature**. Governor Kitzhaber is attempting to gain support of Senate and House leaders for a special session to consider the transportation funding package. The package contains dedicated funding for senior and disabled transportation. Corvallis legislators have historically supported public transportation.

J. **1997-98 ODOT Operating Grant**. Staff recently received the application for this year's operating grant. The grant application is due by August 30, 1997. The grant amount has remained the same for the last eight years ($60,350). ODOT has begun a process of evaluating the distribution of the Small City funds, which are federal funds which pass through ODOT. Corvallis staff will participate in ODOT's process. When the Corvallis area is declared an "urbanized area" as a result of the 2000 census, we will move from the FTA "small city" program to the "urban under 200,000" program and make direct application for funding from FTA's Region 10 office in Seattle. It was noted that Congress and the Administration have pushed for years to eliminate the operating portion of FTA funding, and each year the operating portion has been reduced. By the year 2000, it is expected to be eliminated.

K. **Measure 50 Impacts**. Staff reported that the City's Finance Department has provided information to Mayor and Council regarding the impact of Measure 50. The full impact on the transit levy is still unknown; therefore, no transit levy will appear on the November ballot. A future date for an election is not known at this time; however, it was noted that the 50-percent requirement will be applicable to any election held between now and May 1998. If Oregon's voters eliminate the 50-percent requirement, it will only affect elections held beginning with the May 1998 primary.

V. **CACOT MEETING DATE/TIME**. Staff provided a meeting date and time preference sheet to Commission members to determine if a change in meeting time would better meet the needs of the Commission. Commission members are to complete the sheet and return to staff.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 a.m.