

CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT

MINUTES
April 10, 1997

Members Present

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

Staff

Steve Rogers, Public Works
Bernadette Barrett, Public Works
Barbara Hughes, Public Works
Fred Towne, Community Development

Visitors

Jarrett Walker, Nelson/Nygaard
Alan Lehto, Nelson/Nygaard
Peter Idema, ODOT
35+ members of the public

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Information Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Transit Master Plan		April 17	
March Ridership	X		
OSU Earth Week - April 21-25	X		
OSU Mom's Weekend - Trolley	X		
OSU Student Orientation	X		
1997 Oregon Legislature	X		
G-T Design An Ad Contest	X		

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 13, 1997

The March meeting minutes were corrected to clarify that Commissioner Adler was concerned about discontinuance of service in certain neighborhoods, not exclusively Elmwood Drive. The minutes were accepted as corrected.

II. INFORMATION SHARING

Staff provided a written report covering those items listed on the agenda under information sharing and added one additional item (Design An Ad). A copy of the written report is attached.

III. TRANSIT MASTER PLAN

Ms. Barrett provided a brief background regarding the development of the draft Transit Master Plan. The Plan is financed through an Oregon Dept. of Transportation/Dept. of Land Conservation and Development Transportation Growth Management (TGM) Grant. Jarrett Walker and Alan Lehto of Nelson/Nygaard, the consultants hired to prepare the Plan, were introduced, along with the City's project team, Steve Rogers, Fred Towne, and Bernadette Barrett. Ms. Barrett also explained the process for the public forum.

Mr. Walker provided background regarding his firm, their experience in providing transit planning services in rural and urban communities, and his approach to the plan. He referenced that portion of the plan that compares Corvallis Transit to transit systems in similarly sized Oregon cities and with systems operated in neighboring states that are of similar size and have a strong university presence. He reported that Corvallis has a very low level of service hours per capita when compared to most systems, noting also that Oregon has no state funding for public transportation. Despite the low service level, CTS has one of the highest ridership levels per service hour.

Mr. Walker noted that the transit project was coordinated with the City's Transportation Alternatives Analysis (TAA) process, particularly in developing the long-range approach to reflect anticipated growth areas. The vision discussed in the TAA transit/land use option is for neighborhood focus areas with mixed uses, i.e. housing, shopping and jobs. He pointed to the Kings and Walnut/Timberhill development as an example of a mixed-use area. He also noted that the projected population growth could be accommodated within the existing city limits with increased densities. Compact cities can be more efficiently served with transit.

Mr. Walker then described some specifics of the plan. He described the high service level, 20-year long-range plan. The suggested service (14 buses) would have the greatest contribution to reducing vehicle miles traveled by providing sufficient frequency to motivate people not to use their cars. The short-term scenario was then described. The short-term plan was developed in response to a 3-year grant received from

the Oregon Department of Transportation to fund an east/west loop in North Corvallis. The grant provided an opportunity to review the entire route structure and begin to implement the long-term scenario. He then described each route and discussed the advantages of the changes and the trade-offs with the existing route structure.

Following the consultant's description of the plan, the public was invited to break up into three areas of the room to review the short-term plan map (2 areas) and the long-term plan map (1 area) and provide their comments to Commission members. Two Commission members were stationed at each map and the consultants were available to answer questions. Public comments were recorded by staff for consolidation and consideration by CACOT at their special April 17 meeting.

The special CACOT meeting is being held to expedite Council consideration of the plan at their May 5 meeting. Council approval of the plan in May will allow implementation of the short-term scenario by September 1, prior to resumption of school classes.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Future Meetings:

April 17, 1997; **8:00 a.m.**; City Hall Conference Room D (Special)
May 8, 1997; 7:50 a.m.; City Hall Conference Room D