

CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT

MINUTES - As corrected
 February 8, 1996

Members Present

Robert Lowry, Chair
 Joanne Adler
 Bill Hoffman
 Craig Anderson

Members Excused

Caron Johnson
 Tom Meehan

Staff

Bernadette Barrett, Public Works

Members Absent

Mary Christian, Council Liaison
 Paul Amato, ASOSU Rep.

Visitors

Art Koebel, Home Life

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Informa- tion Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Proposed Bus Exterior Painting Project		March Meeting	
Special Transportation Overview		March Meeting	
Passenger Conduct		March Meeting	
Ridership Report - Jan.	X		
OSU Survey		March Meeting	
Linn-Benton Loop Commission	X		

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 11 and 18, 1996

The minutes of the January 11 meeting were approved as corrected and the minutes of the January 18 meeting were approved as submitted.

II. PROPOSED BUS EXTERIOR PAINTING PROJECT

Staff have been contacted by the Director of the Corvallis Arts Center, Corby Stonebreaker, regarding a proposed joint project between the Arts Center and the City's Parks and Recreation Department for this summer's Youth Corps. The Arts Center would like the Advisory Commission to consider

the concept of permitting the painting of one of the City's buses. An artist would be engaged by the Art's Center to prepare the design and the students would do the actual painting under the direction of the artist. The City would be under no obligation to maintain the design once the paint had begun to deteriorate and the bus needed repainting. Several Commission members expressed concern about the actual design. Information regarding creative bus designs in one Florida transit system was reviewed by the Commission. This item had been discussed at a prior CACOT meeting as a result of a presentation at the October 1995 Oregon Transit Conference. Following additional discussion, the Commission indicated that it was interested in exploring the proposal. It was agreed that staff would invite the Art's Center Director and involved Park and Recreation staff to the next CACOT meeting to explore the Commission's concerns.

Staff also noted that the City occasionally receives inquiries about advertising on the exterior and interior of the buses. The issue has been discussed over the years by the Commission and not pursued. One reason is that it has not been shown to be economically viable. The Corvallis market area is too small to generate sufficient revenue to cover the costs of such a commercial program. The Arts Center proposal would not be an advertisement.

III. SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION OVERVIEW

In view of the number of Commission members who were unable to attend the February meeting and the importance of this item to future Commission deliberations, this item was continued to the next Commission meeting. A copy of a 1992-93 Benton County study reviewing special transportation in Benton County was distributed and briefly described.

Staff also noted that additional information about the City's Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit provider, Dial-A-Bus, should be available by the next CACOT meeting. The Benton County Senior Council, which operates Dial-A-Bus, is currently considering an expansion of their role as the primary special transportation provider in Benton County.

IV. PASSENGER CONDUCT

Commission members briefly discussed the specific behaviors which were prompting the possible development of formal rules of passenger conduct, including the process for suspending or terminating someone's access to bus service. Staff noted that rules are posted in the buses, such as no eating or drinking, no smoking, etc. Those rules have been discussed with drivers and need to be applied consistently. It was noted that the Library had recently adopted rules for its patrons. The legal requirements for the bus system may be different because the bus service charges a fee. The City Attorney's office will be involved in the consideration of any formal rules and processes. This item was continued to the next meeting.

V. CACOT MEETING PLACE/TIME

The March CACOT meeting will be held in the Senior Center Conference Room. The April meeting has been scheduled in City Hall Engineering Conference Room. The exact meeting room may change as a result of City Hall remodeling activities. If and when future CACOT meetings are held in the downtown area, the meeting's start time will change to 7:50 a.m. to adjust to the 7:45 a.m. bus arrival time at the downtown terminal.

V. INFORMATION SHARING

- A. Ridership Report - January. Staff distributed the ridership report showing that 36,106 rides had been provided in January. This is the second highest ridership month in the system's history and continues the record-setting pace. It was noted that the OSU faculty and staff group pass program was reinstated in January 1995 and that a leveling off of ridership was anticipated in January, but that has not occurred. The January 1995 ridership was 29,043.

- B. Linn-Benton Loop Commission. The Linn-Benton Loop Commission met in January. Chairman Lowry reported that Linn County had withdrawn its support of the Loop. He had two concerns. One was that Benton County might consider withdrawing its support. It was reported that the Benton County Special Transportation Committee had voted to recommend continued support of the Special Transportation Fund's contribution to the Loop in 1996-97. It was noted that Oregon State University has not contributed for a number of years even though OSU

benefits from the Loop. OSU students are able to take classes at Linn-Benton Community College, such as remedial math classes, that have been eliminated at OSU. Chairman Lowry's second concern relates to the operation of the Loop. The City of Albany operates the Loop bus for the benefit of Linn and Benton communities in conjunction with its transit system. Albany currently funds its transit operations from its general fund. The Loop benefits from the operation of the Albany transit system since it provides additional connections between Linn-Benton Community College and the Albany downtown area.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 14, 1996, at 7:45 a.m. in the Senior Center Conference Room.

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

April 11, 1996; 7:50 a.m.; City Hall Engineering Conf. Rm.

May 9, 1996; 7:45 or 7:50 a.m.; To be announced

June 13, 1996; 7:45 a.m. or 7:50 a.m.; To be announced