

CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT AGENDA

**Tuesday, November 12, 2013, 8:20 a.m.
Madison Avenue Meeting Room
500 SW Madison Avenue**

- I. INTRODUCTIONS
 - Welcome to Commissioners Huber and Trelstad
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - October 15, 2013
- III. CACOT/VISITORS COMMENTS
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
- V. NEW BUSINESS
- VI. INFORMATION SHARING
- VII. COMMISSION REQUESTS AND REPORTS
- VIII. PENDING ITEMS
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, December 10, 2013, Madison Avenue Meeting Room

Commission Members:

Stephan Friedt, Chair

Steve Harder, Vice Chair

Kriste York

Eric Cornelius

Brandon Trelstad

Cassie Huber, ASOSU

Steven Black

John Oliver

Bruce Sorte, Council Liaison

Madison Avenue Meeting Room is accessible to the public.
Please contact Tim Bates at (541) 766-6916
if you need special accommodations to attend the meeting.

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT
MINUTES
October 15, 2013**

Present

Stephan Friedt, Chair
John Oliver
Eric Cornelius
Bruce Sorte, Council Liaison

Staff

Tim Bates, Public Works
Brie Caffey, Public Works

Visitors

Absent

Steven Black
Steve Harder, Vice Chair
Kriste York

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Information Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations
I. Introductions	X		
II. Approval of Sept 10, 2013 Minutes	X		
III. CACOT/Visitor Comments			N/A
IV. Old Business			N/A
V. New Business			N/A
VI. Information Sharing	X		
VII. Commission Requests and Reports			N/A
VIII. Pending Items			N/A
IX. Adjournment			Adjourned at 9:08 am

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:21 am by Chair Friedt. Introductions of Commission members and staff were made.

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioners Cornelius and Oliver, respectively, moved and seconded to approve the September 10, 2013 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

III. CACOT/Visitor Comments

None.

IV. Old Business

None.

V. New Business

None.

VI. Information Sharing

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

Riders can now access real time bus location information. The desktop version allows users to see the route map and click on a stop for arrival information. Staff will be placing QR codes at each bus stop and shelter to allow riders to scan the code, enter their stop number and obtain the same information. Soon the program will allow riders to see an icon indicating exactly where the bus is on the route. Commissioner Oliver noted that several of the new bus stop numbers are loose or have fallen from their stop posts. Mr. Bates said staff is aware of the issue and is having City Buildings and Grounds staff repair them.

Mr. Bates said that the Vehicle Information System equipment for passenger counting, bus stop announcements, etc. is scheduled for delivery this week. Chair Friedt asked if the stop announcements can be adjusted so that they are not too near the stop, possibly causing passengers to miss their stop. Mr. Bates said the system's detection zones can be adjusted to any distance staff wants. Mr. Bates also mentioned that route header signs for flow-through routes will be set to change after the bus passes the Library stop on Monroe Avenue, allowing the bus to arrive at the Downtown Transit Center (DTC) indicating the next route that will operate. Commissioner Oliver noted that change would be positive for riders since many don't realize that some buses change route numbers after arriving at the DTC.

Mr. Bates noted that CTS acquired two additional trash cans that will be placed at Circle Blvd and 9th Street and on South 3rd Street.

Mr. Bates reported that CTS and First Student have agreed to a two-year extension of the current contract; the new contract will expire June 30, 2015. He said the contract includes an increase but not one so large that service will need to be cut or suspended. The cancellation of service for Sunday Fall Festival will somewhat cushion this fiscal year's increase. Chair Friedt said he would like to see clarification of the Field Supervisor position in relation to the new contract. He noted that an active Field Supervisor position in other agencies really benefits the system, making sure it is running smoothly, checking on drivers, and assessing and handling situations where CTS drivers would be asked to call the police.

Commissioner Oliver noted that there seems to be an increase in the number of bike users that don't know how to use the bus bike rack, especially students. Chair Friedt suggested that staff take a demo rack to the Beaver Fair next year. He also noted that some rack

instruction stickers have worn away. Mr. Bates said staff will look into replacing the stickers.

Councilor Sorte suggested running a regression analysis of ridership against other variables like rainfall. He said that sort of information may be useful to justifying ridership fluctuations to Council.

Mr. Bates reported that CTS is scheduled to receive two new buses in February, 2014. One bus will replace bus 743 which is sixteen years old. Staff is determining whether to retain the other replaced bus as a spare. Philomath gave up its backup bus and now uses a CTS bus as its backup; factoring in the CTS spare ratio, which by FTA standards is not allowed to exceed 25% without FTA approval. He noted that backup buses would need to have the VIS equipment, which would add to the cost. Chair Friedt recommended CTS maintain the maximum backup ratio.

Chair Friedt said he has received at least 30 requests for more frequent service on 9th Street. He also suggested starting the Beaver Bus in September, rather than the first week of classes, because many students return to town well ahead of the first day of class. Mr. Bates cautioned that OSU would have to agree to that extra expense, but said he would email Cassie Huber of ASOSU to see if she could champion the cause with the university.

Chair Friedt also said it would be a great service to have the Beaver Bus run during summer festivals so that citizens could attend the late-night music venues.

Chair Friedt said he would like staff and CACOT to address the issues of cars parked at bus stops and address reducing the number of stops on some routes in order to improve on-time performance. He noted that the route times were set 10-15 years ago, making it time to review the routes for efficiency in light of increases in population, traffic and riders.

VII. Commission Requests and Reports

None.

VIII. Pending Items

None.

IX. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 am.

NEXT MEETING: November 12, 2013, 8:20 am, Madison Avenue Meeting Room

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 8, 2013
TO: CACOT Members
FROM: Tim Bates, Transit Coordinator
SUBJECT: Information Sharing Report

VIS Project Update - The desktop version of the real time “Where’s My Bus?” feature is now functional, as well as the mobile version. Next week staff will place stickers containing QR Codes at each CTS stop and shelter (as seen below). The Codes can be used by passengers with smart phones to take them directly to the City’s mobile version of the website for access to real time bus location information. For those passengers without a QR Code reader on their smart phone, the web address is also printed on the sticker.



CorvallisTransit.com/MyBus

Philomath Connection - On October 4, 2013, due to a long-term street project on Jefferson Avenue between 15th Street and 26th Street, the Philomath Connection (PC) bus stop on Jefferson, in front of the former Book Store, was eliminated. Staff received only two days advance notice. The route for the PC was changed to the following: westbound on Jefferson, south on 15th Street, west on Western, resume regular route. This is the same outbound route as CTS Routes 3 and 8. Because of the route change, the PC will now service four current outbound CTS Routes 3 and 8 stops/shelters: 15th Street & Jefferson, 15th Street & Washington, Western & 17th St., and Western & 26th St.

With the publication of the new PC map/schedule, some of the time points withing the system were amended to more accurately reflect run times. Also, the 5:15pm and 6:15pm departure times from the DTC were changed to 5:25pm and 6:25pm, respectively, to provide better transfer opportunities to passengers.

Ridership - Percentage changes are based on rides per service hour.

- **CTS provided 114,000 rides in October, an average of 46.1 rides/service hour, a 5.1% decrease from October 2012.** Ridership for October 2012 was 120,079, an average of 48.5 rides/service hour.
- **Philomath Connection provided 3,293 rides in October, an average of 22.0 rides/service hour, a 1.2% decrease or decrease from October 2012.** Ridership for October 2012 was 3,334, an average of 22.3 rides/service hour.
- **ADA Paratransit - October ridership was 622.** Ridership for October 2012 was 646.
- **99 Express Adair Village** - October ridership was 535, an average of 4.8 rides per service hour. October 2012 ridership was 639, an average of 4.7 rides per service hour.

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

	FY 13/14	FY 12/13	FY 11/12	FY 10/11	FY 09/10	FY 08/09
July	78,457	78,758	80,650	54,310	54,381	55,774
Aug	75,624	79,369	72,375	49,560	45,734	48,693
Sept	71,418	83,874	80,518	58,342	48,383	50,053
Oct	114,000	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		99,157	102,672	91,060	63,665	55,252
Apr		109,801	107,491	92,842	66,781	60,223
May		104,327	107,509	89,078	59,090	53,376
Jun		82,102	90,236	78,421	53,782	49,625
Total	339,499	1,152,665	1,131,842	884,877	700,791	673,718

Fareless rides began 2/1/11

