

TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 25, 2021

Presiding: Chair Carol Luce

Committee Present: Matt Olsen, Elizabeth Chapin, Paul Waterman and Warren Holzem

Committee Absent: Alex Vice

Staff Present: Todd Wood, David Thorndike, and Heidi Muller

Others Present: Nancy Muller

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Luce called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. via Zoom.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Committee Member Olsen moved to approve the January 28, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Chapin and passed 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Operations Report: David Thorndike, MV General Manager, reported that para transit and fixed route services were picking up gradually. There had been no Covid in the division.
- B. RFP Update: Todd Wood, Transit Director, said the contract with MV would expire at the end of June and an RFP process had to be done. He had received three proposals and the interviews would take place in two weeks. They were looking at a substantial increase in operating costs in all of the proposals. The final selection would go to Council in May to have a contractor on board in June.
- C. City Circulator Survey Results: Heidi Muller, Transit Coordinator, explained the outreach that was done for the survey including reaching out to downtown businesses, social media, QR codes on the buses, and drop boxes in stores and the Canby Center. They had received 57 surveys. She reviewed the results of the survey. The majority of people who filled out the survey lived in the City, but were not currently using CAT service for reasons such as using their own cars or they had no stops near them. Most would be interested in riding a circulator. They gave suggestions for where they wanted the circulator to go and a lot of people wanted the service to be seven days per week. They also gave suggestions for the possible schedule of the circulator.

Committee Member Chapin was concerned about receiving only 57 surveys and getting an accurate sampling of the community's input.

Mr. Wood said typically surveys did not garner a lot of response. They had put it out in all the relevant places and he was happy that they received 57. He would love to see more response, which would require someone physically there to collect the surveys. They did not have the staff right now to do that.

Chair Luce thought it also had to do with the pandemic and people not going out. When more people got the vaccine and things opened up in the summer, they might get a better response.

Mr. Wood said they could do another survey in the summer.

Committee Member Chapin said for a previous survey they went to a lot of events to get more response.

Committee Member Olsen suggested doing different routes for different days of the week. Mr. Wood thought people would want a consistent route, however the shopper shuttles ran that way.

- D. City Circulator Discussion: Mr. Wood said they could afford about 12 hours per day for the circulator for five days per week. They had to decide where they wanted the buses to go. The survey had said people wanted to go to stores, high school, downtown and Wait Park, swim center, and library. One of the survey results was that some people were willing to wait up to an hour but most were only willing to wait 30-40 minutes. At the next meeting they would be looking at route options and he asked for feedback on what should be included in the options.

Chair Luce thought people could plan for the longer wait times.

Mr. Wood thought ideally it should be no longer than a 30 minute wait. He asked if the preference would be an hour service for the whole city or 30 minute service for some major parts of the city.

Chair Luce said there were committee members who were business owners and were not present at the meeting. They might want to give input at the next meeting.

Nancy Muller, Canby resident, thought they should look at 30 minute service.

CITIZEN INPUT: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Updating the Logo: Mr. Wood said the City was updating its logo. He was working on building a new CAT office and he thought the existing logo should be updated similar to what the City was doing. He showed the committee past logos and the new City logo. There was funding in the budget to do this work.

Committee Member Olsen asked about putting advertising on the buses. He suggested incorporating the CAT logo with the High School Canby Cougars. Mr. Wood said advertising was complex and the cost and profits did not line up.

B. Announcement of New Members: Chair Luce welcomed new members Nancy Muller and Richard Stanton who would be joining them for the next meeting.

C. Thanks to Matt Olsen for Service: Chair Luce thanked Mr. Olsen for his service.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

The next meeting would be held on May 27 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURN:

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Assisted with Preparation of Minutes – Susan Wood