CANBY AREA TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6:00 PM – May 25, 2023 Mt Hood Room - City Hall

COMMITTEE PRESENT: Nancy Muller, Adri Anne Carlson, Tyler Francke.

COMMITTEE ABSENT: Bryan Peterson, Randy Tessman.

STAFF PRESENT: Heidi Muller, Transit Coordinator; and Scott Hess, General Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: None

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Muller called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. Committee and staff member introductions followed.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Chair Muller noted a correction to the March 23, 2023 minutes to add Member Francke instead of Member Peterson as the second to a motion to adjourn. Member Francke moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. There was no second to the motion, all members were in favor and the Consent Agenda approved.

PUBLIC INPUT: None present.

OLD BUSINESS:

Scott Hess, General Manager of TransDev discussed current staffing of routes and services. He noted an on-call driver position vacancy and explained the recruitment processes. Member Francke asked about ridership numbers and Ms. Muller reviewed ridership and fuel usage reports.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) <u>Transit Technology Event</u>: Ms. Muller will be participating in the city's Next Thursday event to demonstrate the Transit's new Passio technology capabilities. There were questions about whether demonstration of a private vendor's system promoted the business, the costs for the technology and how information was stored or utilized.
 - Ms. Muller explained agencies typically use off the shelf systems for technology because it best serves the needs of the system and the public. She offered to ask Passio about privacy concerns and will send out the City Council approved technology project information to the committee. Ms. Muller explained benefits of the system in scheduling and offering future riders access to schedules and information via an application.
- b) 99X Schedule Updates for September: Ms. Muller reviewed the current 99X schedule and presented two options for changes to expand trip opportunities. Ms. Muller explained how driver breaks, revenue hours and gas consumption costs factored into potential schedule changes. Member Francke asked how the group would go about evaluating the public benefit of the options. Ms. Muller suggested a survey, and noted clipboard bus interviews and social media methods were used in the past. Identifying appropriate stakeholder groups for a survey were discussed. Member Carlson suggested adding businesses to the list because of the business payroll tax contribution to the Transit program.

Ms. Muller suggested an advisory committee meeting the following month in place of the regular bimonthly meeting schedule in order to return with survey results for final recommendations. She explained time will be needed to change materials, providing notifications and update the software systems. The committee consensus was to have a June meeting for this purpose.

c) <u>Canby Loop Saturday Schedule:</u> Ms. Muller explained Saturday service had been offered in the past but cut due to loss of funds. Chair Muller noted she prefers building up service slowly to avoid cutting it again should funding change. In response to questions about the cost, Ms. Mueller noted it was funded by grants for the additional twelve hours. One potential schedule option is to duplicate the current weekday hours on Saturday. She explained Saturday and possibly even Sunday expansion are often suggested by riders.

The committee discussed whether a shorter Saturday service could free up funds to add a four-hour Sunday service. Mr. Hess noted that staffing currently doesn't support Sundays and Ms. Muller noted it may conflict with specifics in the grant funding authorization. Chair Muller favored coordinating the added service with Saturday 99X's schedule to streamline rider connections regionally. She suggested adding all of these questions to the survey.

- d) Shopper Shuttle Service: Ms. Muller noted changes to the service were being considered to better serve client needs that are growing in mid-day peak hours. With rising shopping shuttle numbers, it is sometimes a challenge to meet regular Dial-A-Ride appointments without longer wait time periods for clients. Although these periods are within ADA time frame guidelines, other options are being considered to see if improvements can be made.
 - Option 1: Add a fixed route service designated for shopping purposes.
 - Option 2: Add a Dial-A-Ride home to store service for shopping purposes. Suggestion is to provide the service for free.
 - Option 3: Keep the current Shopper Shuttle.

Mr. Hess noted Option 2 would provide more dispatch flexibility to fit in trips for clients. Member Francke noted a fixed Shuttle service appeared redundant given the Canby Loop service. Member Carlson preferred eliminating the current Shopper Shuttle in favor of Option 2 and keeping the \$1 fee. Ms. Muller said it may be possible to test the two options but notification about change would be essential. After final decisions are made, there will probably be a mass mailing with changes to routes, services and policies.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

There were no committee discussion items.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the committee, Member Francke moved to adjourn the meeting and Member Carlson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Melody Thompson