

TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
July 19, 2018

Presiding: Chair Walt Daniels

Committee Present: Carol Luce, Don Smeback, Todd Aune, Elizabeth Burrows Chapin, Arlene Dana, and Matt Olsen (arrived late)

Committee Absent: None

Staff Present: Julie Wehling and Nancy Muller

Others Present:

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Daniels called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City of Canby Council Chambers.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The minutes from the June 28, 2018, meeting were reviewed.

Carol Luce made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Liz Chapin and passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Bi Monthly Report: Julie Wehling, Transit Director, noted that since the schedule change in April, overall ridership had been up 7.9%, Route 99 had been up 6.8%, and Dial-A-Ride was up 8.14%. The Rider of the Month for May was Rudy Martin and for June was Samantha Smith. In May they provided 199 same day rides and the average rides per hour on Dial-A-Ride were 3.39. In June the average rides per hour on Dial-A-Ride were 3.1. Both of these months met the goal as stated in the Transit Master Plan. There was one minor incident on June 6 at the fueling station. There were no passengers involved and it was only minor damage to the fuel hose, not the bus.

- B. Saturday Service or Local Canby Route: Ms. Wehling said it had been less than a year since the Transit Master Plan had been completed. Phase 0 and Phase 1 had already been done. The Plan had been written with a flat revenue forecast; therefore Phase 2, Saturday service and/or local circulator service, was not prioritized. Also called out in the Plan were capital improvements and vehicles. The recent new funding source for transit was called the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (“STIF”). The purpose of the funding was to improve

connections between communities and to improve service for low income residents. She explained how the funds would flow through Tri-Met and a rural Clackamas County committee had been formed that would approve CAT's project list. The committee would meet next week to approve the list for Clackamas County projects, which would be forwarded to Tri-Met. All eligible projects must be called out in a local plan and approved locally by the entity's advisory committee. The final project had to be approved by the Oregon Transportation Commission. She explained what the eligible projects had to provide and the eligible projects that were in the CAT Transit Master Plan. She would like direction on what to do first, Saturday service or a local circulator. There was a survey for the public to have input on this question. The results so far showed a clear consensus that Saturday service on Route 99 and Dial-A-Ride was the preferred option. She did not know exactly how much STIF funding CAT would get.

Matt Olson arrived at 6:10 p.m.

Ms. Wehling discussed how much the CAT projects would cost. To add Saturday service it would cost \$130,000 annually. The cost for a local circulator would be over \$180,000 annually and the cost to purchase two buses for the circulator would be \$300,000. The software upgrade would also be eligible for this funding. The STIF funding would have to be around \$315,000 annually to run both the Saturday service and local circulator. The projections showed that there would not be enough money from STIF at least until 2022, however there were possibly other funding sources that could fund these programs as well.

Carol Luce was concerned that since this funding was based on employment, if unemployment rose, the funds would go down. She hesitated to spend at the top and have to cut service.

There was discussion regarding the software upgrade and the possible schedule for the Saturday service.

There was discussion with the audience about their preference for buses to go from Canby to Oregon City or Canby to Woodburn.

Ms. Wehling said based on the preliminary survey results, input from the Transit Master Plan process, cost of the projects and the amount of funding they could conservatively count on to receive, and the speed with which they had to get this completed, staff proposed the first priority be limited Route 99X and Dial-A-Ride

Saturday service estimated to be about 30 additional service hours. The second priority would be a local circulator and buses for the circulator would be the first thing to be purchased and then the limited local service would be implemented as soon as there was enough revenue to sustain at least ten hours going one way. The third priority would be to fill in projects from the technology list until there was enough revenue to support at least ten hours of a loop circulator.

There was discussion regarding the costs and what would need to be done to put the local circulator in place, such as purchasing buses and adding to the contract for the operators.

Someone from the audience suggested working with Tri-Met on getting transfers from CAT to ride Tri-Met so people would not have to pay both fares.

There was further discussion regarding not charging fares for the local circulator.

CITIZEN INPUT: There was a question from the audience about when the Saturday service would begin. Ms. Wehling said it depended on when the money would come in, and that timeframe was unclear.

Many in the audience expressed support for the Saturday service and support for the buses to go from Canby to Oregon City.

There was further discussion regarding transfers to other transit systems.

Carol Luce made a motion to accept the proposed project list to be presented to the County. Motion seconded by Liz Chapin and passed 7-0.

Another person asked who to contact to tell that small communities like Canby needed this funding. Ms. Wehling explained this funding was going to happen, but in the next legislative session they needed to be cautious that just because this statewide funding was approved, legislators would not reduce the other transportation funds.

There was a question about how much input CAT had for the condition on Highway 99E. Ms. Wehling thought ODOT should be contacted directly about that.

Ms. Wehling announced there would be a public meeting on August 23rd regarding the Title VI Plan and a public meeting in November regarding the ADA and Facilities Plans.

NEW BUSINESS: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

ADJOURN:

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Assisted with Preparation of Minutes – Susan Wood