

REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20 FROM 1:30-2:30 PM

Advisory Committee Members

Cora Ives
Bob Bryant, Chair
Brian Potwin
Kim Curley, Co-Vice Chair
Annie Marland
Jordan Ohlde
Dr. George Conway
Casey Bergh
Denise LaBuda, Alternate

Staff

Andrea Breault
Derek Hofbauer
Ashley Mohni
Rachel Zakem
Tammy Baney

Members of the Public

Theresa Conley, ODOT

Public comment Bob Bryant (Chair)

- Cora Ives will be moving to Portland and will resign her position on the committee.

Review and approval of 2/16/22 meeting minutes Bob Bryant

- Minutes were unanimously approved by the committee.

CET service updates

- Routes 1 and 6 in Bend have increased frequency to 30 minutes. Ridership increase of 21% on Route 1, which serves south 3rd Street. Route 6, which serves east Bend, increased 43%
 - Working on hiring and training drivers to increase the frequency of more routes
- Ms. Marland shared that the City of Sisters purchased a forest service property that will be utilized for transit.
 - Ms. Breault is working with planning staff in Sisters on this effort.
- Free rides to Mt. Bachelor from April 20-24 for the RendezVan Festival.
- Mask mandate for transit and transit facilities removed as of April 19.
- Ride the River and Lava Butte services anticipated to start on June 18.
- Route 31 (La Pine - Sunriver) is anticipated to begin on May 31. CET is working with employers to discuss transit options and promote the service.

- Collective bargaining agreement was signed, increasing driver starting wages to \$20/hr. Non-CDL driving positions were also added. The goal is to increase the recruitment and retention of employees.

2022 Virtual Oregon Public Transportation Conference takeaways Derek Hofbauer, CET

- Main conference topics were sufficient and reliable funding, modern transportation, and equity priority
- Keynotes included speakers from Transportation 4 America, Community Transportation Association of America, UC-Davis football team & Jacobs Engineering.
- Building transit ridership in a post-COVID environment was a popular topic, in addition to diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives that go beyond checking a box.
- A training session was held by ODOT to provide guidance for the STIF/STF program consolidation.
- Driver hiring strategies and initiatives were discussed, including the Returning Citizen Program
- Transit awards given to CET drivers Rondha Madrigal (Hero Award) and Courtney O'Connor (Driver of the Year Award)

CET Asset and Facility Guide update Rachel Zakem, CET

- Naming and number conventions for bus stops, routes, and fleet — create consistency for labeling internally for CET and externally for databases that inform public visibility of CET's services (for Google maps and other apps).
- Bus Stop Infrastructure Guide: Determines the standards for CET bus stops, which includes boarding pad, post and signage, pad and shelter, and benches. This guide will be helpful to share with other entities that are interested in building bus stops within their own projects.
- Ms. Ives asked if anti-homeless measures were considered for the guide.
 - Ms. Zakem shared that this was not a part of CET's discussion
- Ms. Marland asked if a shelter was installed at Ray's in Sisters.
 - Ms. Zakem shared that this shelter was installed three weeks ago. Once the Sisters bus stop is moved behind City Hall there will be a shelter installed, but this will not happen until the round-about project is completed.

RPTAC membership and meeting updates Derek Hofbauer, CET

- In 2020, the RPTAC bylaws were approved by the COIC board.
- Members serve for two years and can only serve three consecutive terms.
- Remote/virtual participation and voting is acceptable.
- Mr. Hofbauer asked if the committee would be interested in meeting in person in the future, there would still be a virtual option.
 - Ms. Curley suggested meeting in-person on a regular basis. Mr. Potwin agreed and shared that the hybrid option would work for him.
 - Mr. Ohlde would prefer to meet in-person but expressed concern with the buses not running on regular schedules, making the travel to attend difficult if the meetings are held in other cities.
 - The group decided to do a hybrid meeting at the next meeting on June 15.
 - Mr. Hofbauer asked if the committee would be interested in shortening the meeting to 1.5 hours moving forward; committee members agreed.
- Mr. Ohlde asked about what will happen when his time is up on the committee.

- Mr. Hofbauer responded that he has multiple years left on his tenure with the committee.
- After the STIF/STF consolidation process is completed for the three counties and the tribes, Mr. Hofbauer will then focus on recruitment for RPTAC to avoid any confusion between the different committee structures
- Ms. LaBuda requested to know when everyone's terms would end.
 - Most first terms end in 2023 with a few member terms ending in 2022.

FTA Triennial Review overview Andrea Breault, CET

- Every three years, the FTA examines grantee performance and adherence to current FTA requirements & policies via a thorough review across 21 areas.
- COIC updated its Equal Opportunity Employment Policy that was approved by the COIC Board in April.
- Preliminary results include a perfect score with no findings, which marks the second time in a row CET achieved this distinction.
- Due to COVID-19, this was a hybrid audit with virtual and in-person components.

Round Table

- Commute Options is hosting the Walk n Roll challenge in May honoring all trips to anywhere.
- Ms. Marland asked if there has been any forward movement on planning service from Sisters directly to medical facilities.
 - Ms. Breault responded CET's current priorities are focused on driver recruitment in order to be able to return to normal operations on all existing services.

Adjourn

- RPTAC meeting and transition to Bend Mobility Hub Feasibility Study TAC meeting #4 using same Zoom link