

TRANSIT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Summary
Thursday January 10, 2013.

PRESENT:

Michael Warner, Charlotte
D. Evans, Charlotte
Rick Sanderson, Charlotte
Jean Veatch, Cornelius
Rob Cornwell, Davidson
Anthony Wesley, Charlotte
Terry Lansdell, Charlotte
Christine Bryant, Huntersville
Marvis Holliday, Van Pool
George Schaeffer, Charlotte
Walter Horstman, Matthews

STAFF: Kirk Scott, Duretta Weicken, Paulus Ford, John FitzGibbon, Theron Barrino, David McDonald, Chad Howell, Marvin Bohon, Allen Smith, John Trunk, Larry Kopf

Meeting Time 4:00-5:30 PM

I. Call to Order and Approval of the December Meeting Summary

Chairman Rick Sanderson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., the December meeting summary was approved as written.

II. Public Comment on Agenda Items:

There were no comments from the public

III. Information Item

A. Mobility Management

Angela Schlottman of Centralina Council of Governments explained for the last year Centralina has been working on a Mobility Management grant stating the goal of the project is to develop a volunteer transportation network to serve the population with transit needs in the nine county regions. Angela stated funding for

the project comes from FTA Section 5310 funds, foundation grants and private donations. The budget for the first year is \$150,000 - \$200,000. Angela continued explaining the technical need for multicounty scheduling optimization for cross county trips.

D. Evans asked if the rides from other counties were going to take people to bus stops in Charlotte. Angela stated rides from other counties will take people to their destination and back.

Terry asked where the funding for transportation comes from. Angela stated the FTA grant 5310, other grant funds and contributions. As far as the scheduling piece there has been five Title V (the older Americans act) people who cannot otherwise get jobs, have been hired and hopefully volunteers who will go through job training opportunity. Terry commended CATS and the Centralina for the interagency cooperation.

Christine Bryant asked if there would be an age limit on volunteers. Angela stated the process for volunteers will adhere to the volunteer insurance agency's standard recommendations.

B. 2013 Grant Update

Chad Howell CATS Capital Budget Supervisor gave a presentation of the CATS' budget draft numbers, grants and MAP-21 which covers changes coming down from SAFETEA-LU to MAP-21.

Terry asked if CATS has gotten any guidance for BRT integrated into roadway. David McDonald stated the definition of BRT has changed to: exclusive guideway cannot be a shared lane to qualify as fixed guideway. Terry asked if that significantly affects the long range plan. David stated yes, a new study will need to be done to redefine the Independence corridor.

Rick asked if CATS knows when they will do the new study. David answered 2014.

Rick asked with JARC going away what's the dollar amount CATS is losing. Chad answered \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Terry asked how many buses CATS can get out of the 5337 grant of \$1.1 million. Chad it depends on what type of bus we buy but somewhere around two to three but this is just one source for replacing buses in 2014.

George Schaeffer asked if grant dollars come in a lump sum. Chad stated they are awarded in chunks, as CATS spends money on a project related to the grant guidelines CATS then gets reimbursed by the Federal Government.

C. Mecklenburg Union Metropolitan Planning Organization (MUMPO)

David McDonald Transit Planning Manager within CATS and the TCC representative of Mecklenburg Union Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). David explained that MPO is a decision making body required by federal regulations. The policy board is made up of chief elected officials from the entire member jurisdiction. The primary responsibilities of MPO are to allocate Federal funds, ensure funds are spent in accordance with federal policy and that they represent an urbanized area. The board is required to approve all federal transportation dollars within our area. David continued to explain why the MPO is changing, the area that is affected and what it means to CATS.

Christine wondered if there was a web site where one could see who is on the board of MPO. David replied mumpo.org

Terry asked that transit has a representative during the transit bus stops roll and TIP process to be sure the pedestrian interface is integrated into the roadways. David stated the MPO is currently developing new methodology to ranking pedestrian and bicycle projects to define the tiers and ranking for bus stops. CATS' works with the MPO to be sure we are integrating everything together.

Walter Horstman asked who does the work for MPO. David stated the board is a policy board like MTC and the work is carried out by staff.

IV. Service Issues

Walter Horstman asked if the park and ride on Independence at the old BJ's store was eliminated. Larry Kopf stated yes but CATS was hopeful the park and ride would be accessible through June but there have been reports of some parked cars being towed.

Marvis Holliday stated the Bob Cats have a package deal on Wednesday nights that allow a purchased ticket to the game can be used for a train ride as well and wondered if CATS approached Bob Cats for this deal. Larry stated CATS did discuss with Bob Cats about the ticket to ride deal and CATS does get some money from the Bob Cats for this. Larry stated he would get the program information for the TSAC committee.

Anthony Wesley stated on New Year's Eve he called 311 to ask when the last train would be and said the person that he talked to did not know if it was 1 or 1:30am. Larry state it is usually 1:30am and that he would make sure the information line staff knows that.

V. Chairman's Report

Rick stated since there was no MTC meeting last month that he had no report but reminded the committee the next MTC meeting would be January 23.

VI. Manager of Operations Report

Larry Kopf CATS Manger of Operations reported sales tax for 2012 was up and that ridership was down a bit due to the way the holidays fell, making the YTD down a little. Larry continued saying the First Night even went pretty well. Kirk Scott stated the event was pretty quiet. Larry stated CATS will have a service change on February 24.

NEXT TSAC MEETING: THURSDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2013 4:00 PM