

**TRANSIT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**Thursday June 13, 2013.**

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**PRESENT:**

Rick Sanderson, Charlotte  
Rob Cornwell, Davidson  
Anthony Wesley, Charlotte  
Walter Horstman, Matthews  
Jean Veatch, Cornelius  
Scott Jernigan Mecklenburg Co.  
Michael Warner Charlotte  
D. Evans Charlotte  
George Schaeffer Charlotte  
Terry Lansdell Charlotte

**STAFF:**

Duretta Weicken, Paulus Ford, Theron Barrino, Larry Kopf, Pamela White, Judy Dellert-OKeef, Debra Franklin, Brian Horton, Krystel Green

*Meeting Time 4:00-5:30 PM*

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**I. Call to Order and Approval of the May Meeting Summary**

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

**II. Public Comment on Agenda Items:**

There was no one from the public to speak.

**III. Information Item**

**A. Mobility Management Update**

Bjorn Hansen of Centralina Council of Governess explained the CCOG is working to develop a mobility management program for the nine-county region, objective are to increase the coordination between systems and to establish the one-call/one-click center. Bjorn stated the funding for the program comes from the NCDOT FTA section 5310 grant in the amount of \$198,000. The plan for the nine county regions

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will be completed in September of 2013 at that time the plan will be handed to the stakeholders around the region.

Larry Kopf asked what is going to be the responsibility to the various agencies to live up to the plan and what body will be responsible to monitor the agencies. Bjorn stated there are no details of the plan but the State will roll out the plan and adoption requirements. Larry asked what the incentives for agencies to perform the plan are. Bjorn stated the State will be providing incentives as well.

Terry Lansdell wondered with the North Mecklenburg trips from Iredell county picking up rides in North Mecklenburg can it also run the other way. Bjorn stated it could happen but probably won't because most trip are coming to Mecklenburg for medical not going North for medical. Terry stated estimates for the first year are 15,000 trips. Bjorn stated after 18 months we want to be carrying 10,000 to 15,000 on an annualized basis and should ramp up quickly from there.

D. Evans asked if the volunteer program will remain as a no fee program. Bjorn stated the program will remain a no fee program. D asked what happens when grants run out. Bjorn stated alternative funds from foundations and sponsorship opportunities are now being explored to have an endowment during funding gaps.

## **B. Air Quality Programs**

Krystal Green of CATS marketing presented the committee with information on CATS Air Quality programs stating Bus, Train, Van Pool and car-pooling services all contribute to good air quality as well as bicycling, telecommuting and walking. CATS' wants to spread the word about how CATS helps improve air quality by doing activities such as "Clear the Air" and "Race to the Beach" and other various activities around the city to engage the public with options of transportation and mobility that do that.

Terry asked if bikes on the system are increasing or decreasing during bike week. Krystal stated she would have to check the stats from beginning to now.

Walter Horstman asked on a typical week how many bikes are transported on CATS vehicles. Krystal stated a typical month is about 7000.

D. Evans asked if there would ever be technical support on hybrid buses for the paratransit service. Larry stated CATS has been exploring cleaner fuel options for STS buses but there are some obstacles with smaller buses, hybrids and fuel options.

Jean Veatch stated if CATS would reach out to the larger corporations with information about the "Race to the Beach" program, she believed there may be more participation. Krystal assured that CATS is working with larger corporations and she will check to be sure Duke Power is solicited.

### **C. UNCC Update**

Pamela White CATS Service Planning Manager informing the committee CATS was bringing the UNCC service change to TSAC to approve going into a contract with UNCC. Pamela reminded the committee the service is 100% funded by UNCC and they have requested a smaller shuttle service with the yellow line Rt.47, the green line Rt.49 and time changes to the red line Rt. 50 with The services running on campus during the academic year.

Rob Cornwell asked if all three UNCC routes are paid 100% by UNCC. Pamela stated yes. Rob wondered if the reputation of CATS could be hindered if UNCC directs the service in ways CATS would not direct service. Larry stated because UNCC funds the service 100% they do have some control but according to the FTA, CATS has some control as well. Also CATS does have a regular service Route 11 that does run in the area.

Scott Jernigan asked if CATS could work to get the route 11 on the campus because the bus stop on North Tryon is very dangerous.

Rick asked if the service change to UNCC takes into consideration football games on Saturdays. Pamela explained Saturday service Rt.11 goes onto UNCC campus and riders would have to walk from the bus stop to the stadium.

George Schaeffer asked if real time was a phone app. Pamela stated it will be an app for phones. George asked when the real time app will be system wide. Larry stated CATS is working on the development of the app.

Terry stated there could be safety concerns for the 2 greenways that will be on campus also for Rt. 11 Saturday service during games may want to increase frequencies. Pamela stated CATS is proposing some changes to the route 11 but those changes do not increase frequency. Larry stated CATS can look at frequency after determining it is needed during game days.

### **IV. Service Issues**

Scott Jernigan stated on May 14<sup>th</sup> the Gold Rush #12 the sound system is not working but the operator did a very good job announcing the stops. Scott continued

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when bus drivers were exchanging at the Davidson Street facility on May 30<sup>th</sup> it took 17 minutes. Larry state he will look into that.

Jean stated during Speedstreet that bus route 77 was not listed on the temporary signage. Larry stated CATS will look at signage and decide whether to have signage during Speedstreet or not as it is confusing to riders.

D stated STS bus number 246 on Monday at 11:35 on Johnston road was speeding at about 60 miles per hour in a 35 mile per hour zone. It was reported to STS but I have not heard back from STS yet. Larry stated he would look into it.

Scott stated the inbound bus stop sign at Davidson & 36<sup>th</sup> street has been torn off the pole and tacked onto a telephone poll and the sign has so many stickers on it one cannot see the information on the sign. Larry stated will take care of that.

Walter stated the Kiosk in the CTC in the middle island is not working also the original bus Rt.20 sign in the middle island at the CTC needs to be covered up during the construction so people will know the correct bay to catch the Rt. 20. Also the annual bus pass does not slide or dip in the farebox and feel like there must be a system issue. Larry stated CATS is working to get a new system but bus operators should report farebox issues.

## **V. Chairman's Report**

Rick stated at the last MTC meeting it was decided that CTAG will now meet quarterly instead of monthly. MTC approved the Gold Rush service change and approve the name change of the trolley to City Lynx gold line.

## **VI. Manager of Operation Report**

Larry stated Speedstreet went well; there were a lot of people in uptown. Also Larry reported he did an interview with WSOC about service to the VA hospital explaining CATS took a bus out to the VA and found they cannot access the property with buses with the current infrastructure. There will need to be changes to accommodate the buses. CATS will return to VA to determine if there are other options for service there

Anthony Wesley asked if ridership was up during Speedstreet. Larry stated ridership was up during May.

***NEXT TSAC MEETING: THURSDAY AUGUST 8, 2013***