

**Human Services Transportation Plan Steering Committee
Tuesday, April 11, 2023 – 12:00 PM**

Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC)
Suite 401, 456 Fulton St., Peoria, IL 61602

Hybrid Meeting: Both Virtual and In-Person Options

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome, Introductions, & Roll Call

Reema Abi-Akar called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

RURAL AREA SUBCOMMITTEE				
Name	Organization	Representing	Present	Absent
Shelly Entrekin*	FCRC/FCRT	Fulton	X	
Barb Long*				X
Doug Manock*	Fulton County Board	Fulton		X
Audra Miles*	Fulton County PCOM		X	
Joe Coffin	KCCDD	Knox	X	
Kraig Boynton	City of Galesburg	Knox	X	
Hannah Fuchs	Marshall-Stark PCOM	Marshall		X
David Lueders	Marshall County Board	Marshall		X
Mary Patton	AARP	Peoria	X	
ShamRA Robinson	GPMTD - CityLink	Peoria	X	
Traci Dowell	MSW Projects	Stark		X
J. Thomas Howes	Stark County Board	Stark		X
Vivian Hagaman	Tazewell County Board	Tazewell		X
Max Schnieder	Tazewell County Board	Tazewell		X
Tyler Rogers	ADDWC	Woodford		X
Sean Griffin	We Care	Woodford		X
URBAN AREA SUBCOMMITTEE				
Dawn Harper	EPIC	Agency	X	
Jodi Scott	Advocates for Access	CIL	X	
Angel Marinich	TransDev (CityLift/CountyLink)	Provider		X
Renee Razo	Central Illinois Agency on Aging	Agency	X	
Chris Mitchell	Paratransit User	User	X	
Don Rulis	CWTC	Agency		X
Greg Cassidy	TCRC	Agency		X

* = Shared seat

** = Proxy Vote

stricken = no longer in their position

Also in attendance:

Reema Abi-Akar, TCRPC
Gabriel Guevara, TCRPC
Debbi La Rue, TCRPC
Audrey Barrett, Snyder Village

Jim Bremner, Washington Township
Marie Argubright, IVCIL
Melissa Ohrwall, IDOT

2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3. Approval of February 7, 2023 minutes

The committee did not have a quorum to approve the previous meeting's minutes.

4. Provider and Agency Updates

Advocates for Access

Jodi Scott had no updates.

EPIC

Dawn Harper had no updates.

Paratransit User

Chris Mitchell mentioned that GPMTD's WOW ADA Event was very successful. The event discussed the new updated passenger rules.

GPMTD

ShamRA Robinson reported the if you have a bus pass, you can attend the Peoria Riverfront Museum for free entry for the month of April. There have been some route updates due to the Bob Michel Bridge closure. They have been working on a marketing plan for the Washington paratransit project. The ADA WOW event took place at the library last month, and GPMTD also updated the rider's guide has been updated and there is a rider's guide video available on the GPMTD website.

City of Galesburg

Fixed-route buses are down, and they had to use their paratransit buses in the meantime. They we able to install cameras using grant dollars. Working to complete their online app project.

KCCDD

Joe Coffin had no updates.

Fulton County

Audra Miles submitted the county's FY 24 applications for DOAP and 5311.

Fulton County Rural Transit (FCRT)

Shelly Entrekin reported that they hired one driver, though they need a couple more.

AARP

Mary Patton reported that AARP is looking to increase the adult day services rates. She said that hourly rates and unit transportation are the ways AARP is looking to increase the rate of the day services. This is related to House Bill 32-23, and Representative Lindsey LaPointe is the chief sponsor.

Snyder Village

Audrey Barret had no updates.

IVCIL

Marie Argubright noted that IVCIL has moved from the LaSalle office; they are now in Spring Valley. Their new address is 1 Lesbuzz Way, Spring Valley, IL 61362.

Washington Township

Jim Bremner reported that the Washington project has been extended to February 2024. Monthly tracking showed that 165 rides were provided in March, and they are working on advertising to increase this number. He is looking to do direct mail for people with disabilities who live in the 61571 (Washington Township) area to increase ridership.

Central Illinois Agency on Aging

Renee Razo had no updates.

IDOT

Melissa Ohrwall had no updates.

5. Discussion: Future In-Person Meetings

Reema gave an update on the status of hybrid meetings. The governor of Illinois has decided not to extend his executive order which overrides the Open Meetings Act. This means that the HSTP committee must now conduct in-person meetings. Reema then opened a discussion with the committee to see how to best accommodate committee members to reduce their burden of travel. One possible idea was to alternating meeting locations between Peoria and Galesburg. Some committee members noted that Galesburg is even further away from Peoria, making meeting attendance more difficult. Some Galesburg members noted that they are willing to carpool to get to meetings. Since there was no consensus on a new location structure, the group will move forward with the current structure of holding bimonthly meetings in Peoria.

6. Report from Recent Conferences

Reema reported on the conferences that she attended. She talked about attending both the Rural Transit Assistance Center (RTAC) and the American Planning Association National Conference in Philadelphia. She also shared the different methods and ideas that she learned at each conference.

7. HSTP Coordinator Report

Reema conducted three Section 5310 reviews. She has more reviews to conduct and will be in touch with organizations that need to be reviewed. She also made a call to get guest speakers for future HSTP meetings.

8. Other

None.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

No Quorum