

Human Services Transportation Plan Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 2, 2018 – 12:00 PM

TCRPC Conference Room, 456 Fulton Street, Suite 420, Peoria, IL

Meeting Minutes

Welcome, Introductions & Roll Call

Hannah Martin called the meeting to order at 12:01 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	
Susan Lindsey	KCCDD	Knox	x	
Kraig McCluskie	Galesburg Transit	Knox	x	
Diana Bradstatter	Marshall-Stark PCOM	Marshall		x
Debbie Daykin	Marshall County Board	Marshall	x	
Mary Patton	AARP	Peoria	x	
Andrew Dwyer	GPMTD - CountyLink	Peoria		x
Traci Dowell	MSW Projects	Stark	x	
Robert Mueller	Stark County Board	Stark		x
Mary Jo Holford	Tazewell County Board	Tazewell		x
Michael Godar	Tazewell County Board	Tazewell		x
Tyler Rogers	ADDWC	Woodford		x
Mike Hutchinson	We Care	Woodford	x	
URBAN AREA SUBCOMMITTEE				
Dawn Harper	EPIC	Agency	x	
Jeannine McAllister	Advocates for Access	CIL	x	
Doug Roelfs	CityLink	Provider	x	
Renee Razo*	Central Illinois Agency on Aging	Agency	x	
James Barrett*			x	
Connie Schiele	Paratransit user	User		x
Don Rulis	CWTC	Agency		x
Greg Cassidy	TCRC	Agency	x	

*Shared seat **Proxy Vote

Also in attendance:

Hannah Martin, TCRPC
Reema Abi-Akar, TCRPC
Julie Main, City of Galesburg
Audrey Barrett, Snyder Village

Julie Briner, MSW Projects
Ellen Larsen, VNA Services

Public Comment

None

Approval of the June 6, 2018 Minutes

Hannah noted that since there is no quorum, the group cannot move to approve the minutes. However, she opened the floor for any questions or comments about them. Greg Cassidy noted that he is listed as absent, but later is shown to have seconded a motion. This inconsistency will be fixed for next time.

Provider and Agency Updates

EP!C

Dawn Harper reported that EP!C recently passed in an IDOT inspection.

Tazewell County Resource Center

Greg Cassidy said that they received a notice that the 2017 CIBP grant is due for pickup, so he is planning to pick it up in the next couple weeks.

MSW Projects

Julie Briner reported that they received a new van the previous Friday from the CIAOA grant.

KCCDD

Susan Lindsey said that there had been an accident about a month ago, and one of their vehicles was totaled as a result. She said that they are currently working with an insurance company. The vehicle was a 2014 model van from 5310 funds. Debbie Daykin mentioned that this had happened to them in the past, and that it took about two years to finalize the insurance process.

Susan asked if there have been any updates from May applications, and Hannah said she had not heard anything about it yet.

Susan also mentioned that they are happy that the Springfield Regional Maintenance Center was able to repair a van for them. She said that some drivers had put the wrong fuel in some of the vehicles, which has required maintenance on them.

Fulton County PCOM

Audra Miles reported that with the FCRC, CVP 16 still has no title for two buses and a minivan. For FCRT, CVP 16 also still has no title. She also mentioned that they are picking up a van next week. Debbie Daykin and Greg Cassidy agreed that they also have had a problem with not receiving titles for vehicles.

We Care

Mike Hutchinson reported that Woodford County has one vehicle, and two are being picked up later this month for Tazewell County.

CityLink

Doug Roelfs reported that CityLink will begin contract negotiations next week. He also said that they were not successful in receiving LoNo funds.

Additionally, he mentioned that CityLink has been working to allocate \$80,000 of FTA Section 5310 grants to making bus stops more accessible and ADA compliant. Construction is likely to begin next spring.

CountyLink

Doug Roelfs also reported that they are getting closer to finalizing an intergovernmental agreement with the county. When this is finalized, he said, all funding will come straight to them instead of a passthrough. Further, he said that they received two new buses last week from a previous grant, meaning that they will have two buses for sale sometime in the near future.

Galesburg Transit

Kraig McCluskie reported that they are currently contracting with Carl Sandburg Community College and they are excited to do so without funding issues. Kraig also said that they have been contacting community school districts to provide alternative transportation for schoolchildren to begin a program with school districts. This alternative transportation could refer to summer vacations, missed classes, or other issues. Kraig said that it costs the school district \$80 per student per day for missed transportation such as missed school buses. This program would allow students to use their school ID to take alternative transportation when they need it.

City of Galesburg

Julie Main reported that they had a transit fair recently. She said that there are still no grant agreements for 5311 yet. She also said that the City has received two buses.

Additionally, Julie mentioned that Keith Spencer will be taking a new job. Julie herself will also be retiring in mid-January of this year.

Central Illinois Agency on Aging

Renee Razo reported that while she has no new updates regarding transportation, she mentioned that their nutrition program is looking for a new driver.

Snyder Village

Audrey Garrett said that Snyder Village is also in need of new drivers.

HSTP Coordinator Report

Referring to Doug Roelfs' report, Hannah mentioned that she has been busy with the \$80 allocated to updating bus stops. This work includes addressing new bus stop shelters, a City of Peoria intersection improvement, money from the transportation enhancement program for more lighting near Charter Oak and Allen roads. These changes would likely start next spring.

Discussion: Autonomous Mobility

Hannah then gave a presentation about the work she and Tri-County have been doing regarding autonomous mobility in the region in partnership with the Greater Peoria Economic Development Council, Peoria Next Innovation Center, and Bradley University. She asked if anyone had any questions.

One of the questions posed in Hannah's presentation was, "What kind of services do we still need?" Debbie Daykin, responding to this question, said that they need someone to be able to physically help a person in a wheelchair onto the vehicle and fasten them in. Even if the vehicles were autonomous, there would still need to be a person on board to do this. Debbie said that probably one quarter of the riders use wheelchairs or are disabled who would need someone to assist them to board the vehicle.

Debbie also commented that she could see autonomous vehicles helping employed people in a large carpool, although if someone needed to leave in the middle of the day for something unplanned (ex. a medical issue or needing to pick up a child from school), there may need to be more planning. Hannah responded that these services could be closer to Uber or Lyft. Greg Cassidy said that there are Zipcars on college campuses that allow students to check them out. Julie Main agreed, saying that there is a Zipcar available through HyVee, and users pay using the Venmo app.

Hannah asked if the group thought if rural transportation should be included in the autonomous pool sometime in the future. Debbie Daykin said that this may be the last thing that would turn to autonomous since there would still need to be helpers in the vehicle to assist the riders. Greg Cassidy said that it's true that autonomous vehicles would not fully solve these problems, but it may alleviate some problems, which would still be beneficial in the long run.

Mary Patton asked Hannah if she is meeting frequently about this issue, and Hannah responded that she is. Hannah said that if anyone is interested in attending these meetings or learning more about this issue, they can contact her.

Hannah also said that perhaps autonomous vehicles could help currently underserved areas such as Germantown Hills or Creve Coeur.

Other

Julie Main said that her office is taking applicants to replace her once she retires. She said that these applications are due in October, and they ideally would like a candidate with a background in transportation. Julie mentioned that this job notice is posted through RTAC.

Adjournment

Debbie Daykin moved to adjourn the meeting, and Susan Lindsey seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

—Submitted by Reema Abi-Akar & Hannah Martin