

MINUTES

COORDINATED TRANSIT COMMITTEE



Wednesday, March 15, 2023 | 10:30a

Boardroom - Main Level of the Metro Transit Building

Attendees

Voting Members

Amanda Parker - City of Bellevue
Natasha Wilks/Jane Bird - Black Hills Works
Wilson Rivas - ENCAP
Randy Stonys - ENHSA
Tammy Bradley-Larson - Florence Home
Kailey Stanley - LaVista
Dan Freshman - Ralston
Rich McFall - Nebraska VR
Nicole Ebat - Metro Transit
Traci Shobe - Omaha Public Schools
Donna Monteleagre - Papillion

Non-Voting Members

Melanie Davis - UNMC Munroe Meyer Institute

MAPA Staff

Travis Halm
Court Barber
Carlos Morales
Lindsey Button

Action Items

For CTC Approval

1. Approval of Minutes from the January 18, 2023 Meeting
Minutes from the January 18, 2023 CTC Meeting

MOTION to approve the minutes by Donna Monteleagre

SECOND by Natasha Wilks

Motion approved unanimously.

Discussion Items

2. 5310 Program Update

Court Barber presented an update of the 5310 Program.

Barber stated there may be a moment in the spring or summer when increases in awards can be made, given the increasing cost of vehicles.

Barber noted that the process of acquiring vehicles is still going very slowly. There is no estimate of when deliveries will begin, and that Nebraska and Iowa Departments of

Transportation are monitoring the situation. Barber also noted that if vehicles are available to sell, to please let him know to potentially fill gaps in the service.

Randy Stonys inquired if an award can sunset due to no purchase being made. Barber noted that a sunset only exists if no purchase takes place after 10-years of award date.

Barber also noted that most contracts have been capital contracts, and that amending contracts to operations funding could be an option if vehicles are not available yet, however that no awards were in danger of sunsets.

Barber also updated the committee on the 5310 Relinquishment back to the Nebraska Dept of Transportation. Barber noted that there would be a shifting of responsibilities of managing the 5310 program, however MAPA would still conduct vehicle selection annually. Barber noted there were still some concerns who would manage the responsibilities for Iowa.

Barber noted that updates in future months would occur related to this relinquishment of 5310 administration, including a request from CTC members how they feel the transition should take place.

3. Attendance and Membership

Travis Halm informed the committee that in May there would be one application for voting membership by Munroe Meyer Institute for Melanie Davis.

Halm also noted that he had reached out to all members from previous years on whether they would like to remain members. Halm noted that Omaha Public Schools had not participated but was intending on participating again.

Halm went over the existing rules for membership, that a non-voting member can apply for voting membership after three-straight meetings of attendance. Halm noted that every May an entity can apply for non-voting membership.

Halm noted that adding a transit rider as a voting member was also a priority of the last Coordinated Transit Plan.

Melanie Davis, UNMC, suggested reaching out to members who have been present in the past. These members included representatives from the Nebraska Dept of Transportation, Dept of Human Services, and the Statewide Mobility Manager.

4. FY2024 CTP Strategies Discussion

Halm presented a list of strategies from the latest update to the Coordinated Transit Plan for goal-setting in FY2024.

Halm noted that the strategies already underway included streamlining the 5310 process, including a rider or client at every CTC meeting, regularly updating the transportation resource guide, and increasing CTC involvement in TTAC, Project Selection and Heartland 2050 Events.

Halm added that that strategies MAPA currently and regularly undertakes includes finding grant and funding opportunities, and updating the resource guide. Strategies in which the committee undertakes includes the utilization of 211 and driver training. Halm noted that communication with 211 had not taken place in the last several years, but that many CTC members utilized their services often. Driver training has been undertaken by the Autism Action Partnership with great success.

Nicole Ebat of Metro Transit added that they were the entity which sponsored bus training for the Autism Action Partnership and that there were many opportunities for expanding that function and the success of that program. Nicole noted that any CTC members or community entities can reach out to her for bus training.

Halm noted that a Mobility Resource Guide was available on the mapacog.org website at mapacog.org/data-maps/mobility-resource-guide.

Traci Shobe noted that she has found success using “text blast” technology to get information out on ride times and appointments.

Melanie Davis noted that changes to service often take place and existing riders are often not informed of changes.

Rich McFall noted that a future agenda item on enhancing communication related to service changes could be beneficial.

5. Additional Business & Public Comment

Wilson Rivas noted that ENCAP is partnering with OPS for transportation for various students, including students who are diabetic, and taking them to class. 402-213-6231 is his contact information for this service.

Future Meetings & Events

TTAC: Friday, January 20, 2023

MAPA Board of Directors: Thursday, January 26, 2023

Meeting Quorum: The presence of seven (7) members of the CTC at an officially called meeting shall constitute a quorum.