

**DATE:** October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
**TO:** Coordinated Transit Committee (CTC)  
**FROM:** Megan Walker, Assistant Planner  
**RE:** October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 CTC Meeting

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The Coordinated Transit Committee will meet **Wednesday, October 19th, 2016 at 10:30 am** at the MAPA Offices – Downstairs Training Room. Please enter the building through Metro's front door and follow the signs to the Training Room in the lower level. The agenda item materials are available at the MAPA offices and online at <http://www.mapacog.org/boards-a-committees/58-agendas>.

**AGENDA**

**For CTC Approval**

1. Introductions
2. Meeting Minutes  
The committee will consider approval of the September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 CTC meeting minutes. (Action Item) (Attachment)

**For CTC Discussion**

3. Agency Spotlight  
The Empowerment Network will present on their agency and the transportation and transportation related activities that they perform
4. Public Activity  
CTC members will break into groups and complete a short public activity on the roads their agencies use most often to transport clients
5. 5310 Application Update  
MAPA staff review the suggested updates to the 5310 scoring rubric and voting process that were brought up at the last two meetings
6. Additional Business
7. Next Meeting  
The next CTC meeting will be at 10:30 on October 19. This meeting will be located at the MAPA Downstairs Training Room.
8. Adjourn

Auxiliary aids, language assistance, and services are available when requested in advance, please call the office.  
Si necesita ayuda con traduccion, por favor llame la oficina.

Coordinated Transit Committee Minutes

**Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 10:30 a.m.**

**Location: MAPA Offices, Omaha, NE – Downstairs Training Room**

**In Attendance:**

Chair:

Lisa Picker, Heartland Family Services

Vice-Chair:

Ann Grober, City of Council Bluffs

Kristin Fearnow, Refugee Empowerment Center

Dan Freshman, City of Ralston & La Vista

Lori Hansen, City of Papillion

Karen Jackson, City of Bellevue

Scott Larsen, Refugee Empowerment Center

Stephanie Little, Crossroads of Western Iowa

Bob Matthews, Black Hills Works

Ric Miller, Outlook Nebraska

Lee Myers, AARP

Daurine Petersen, SWITA

Cindy Petrich, New Cassel

Vicki Quaites-Ferris, Empowerment Network

Jenina Stewart, Refugee Empowerment Center

Rich Surber, Lutheran Family Services

Randy Stonys, ENHSA

Carrie Zachariahs, Nebraska Families Collaborative

**MAPA Staff**

Court Barber

Christina Brownell

Megan Walker

**For CTC Approval**

**1. Introductions**

Ms. Picker called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. She welcomed the committee and introductions were made.

**2. Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Picker introduced the September 21, 2016 minutes and asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections.

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Ms. Grober noted that Mark Bulgar's last name was misspelled throughout the Agency Spotlight paragraph and a correction under Item 4, the seventh sentence in the second paragraph should read: Ms. Grober stated that the rubric should consider the numbers that are served. Final correction is under Agency Spotlight, "OBA" should read "OAB".

Mr. Rich Surber MOTIONED to approve the September 21, 2016 minutes with the corrections noted above.

Ms. Ann Grober SECONDED.

Motion passed.

## Discussion Items

### 3. Agency Spotlight

Ms. Vicki Quaites-Ferris, Empowerment Network, presented to the committee. The Empowerment Network's mission is to transform the City of Omaha into a great city that is thriving in every zip code. The Empowerment Network was started in 2006 by Willie Barney, who saw a tale of two cities, a prosperous part of Omaha and then saw disparities in education, unemployment and community development etc. in other areas of the city. In 2006, a meeting was hosted at Salem Baptist Church in North Omaha to rally the community and gather with elected officials and leaders to discuss how to improve the current conditions. An Empower Omaha kick-off luncheon was hosted and in 2007 Empower Omaha became an organization. There were seven key issues the organization wanted to focus on: Employment and Entrepreneurship; Education and Youth Development; Housing, Neighborhood and Transportation; Faith and Hope; Violence Intervention and Prevention; Health and Family; Arts, Culture, Media and Communication.

One of the programs that the Empowerment Network offers is the "Step Up Omaha" program. This program started in 2008 as the "Great Summer Program" and specifically targeted individuals that were in gangs or at risk for joining a gang. The program turned into the "Step Up" and the Empowerment Network partnered with the City of Omaha to gain additional funding to expand the program. In 2008 there were 150 individuals in the program and has grown to 500 in 2016. The program has now expanded to provide growth and employment year round. Many employers have hired the participants and brought them on full-time. The program serves ages 14-21:

- 14-15: Career Exploration
- 16-18: On the Job Training (20 hrs/week, minimum wage+)
- 16-18: Career Intern
- 19-21: Connect

The program reserves school buses to transport the kids. The organization uses both funds from the City of Omaha and also raises funds. The organization had over 1,400 applications for the program but could only accept 500. The group held a mock City Council meeting. The Omaha 360 Collaboration meets every Wednesday and discusses strategies to reduce gun and gang violence. The Empowerment Network facilitated meetings for the North Omaha Village Zone Revitalization Plan to create a master plan for development in

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North Omaha. They coordinated meetings with developers and the community to have open dialogue with the groups to allow them to share what services/facilities they would like to see in their community.

### **4. Public Activity**

This agenda item was skipped due to time constraints.

### **5. 5310 Application Update**

Mr. Barber provided an update on the status of the 5310 application. MAPA has met with Florence Home. The contracts for Florence Home and the City of Council Bluffs are pending approval from the Finance Committee and Board of Directors.

Mr. Barber and the committee discussed the 5310 application and scoring rubric. Mr. Barber presented to the committee additional options for the rubric. The first option, to return the 3 points that were removed from the maintenance categories back in. Mr. Barber stated that he removed the points because when the operations and capital rubrics were combined there was an overlap between some categories. In some cases the maintenance points were exceeded some of the standard points for capital purchases, such as the enhancements category, so the maintenance points were reduced to be just under the enhancement points. Previously, there were no points for maintaining in the capital rubric (only in the ops rubric) and so combining the two rubrics knocked out three points maintain points from the overall total. The first option would be to add the three points back into the rubric and it could be discussed where these points should be added in. Another option is to return to the previous two separate rubrics that were used in the previous year. Ms. Picker asked if the rubrics were required to be approved by any other committees. Ms. Walker stated that it would go to the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) for approval. Mr. Barber then went through three options for the committee. The first, to return to the same point total that the two rubrics provided but still leave the rubric combine. The goal of combining the two rubrics make it easier to score the projects. Ms. Picker asked if the distribution of funds (55% Capital, Operations 45%) had change. Mr. Barber stated that the distribution has not change. The second option, conduct a cost/benefit analysis and this would essentially replace the ridership category. Ms. Grober requested that presentation materials be provided in advance so the committee can review it prior to the meeting. The third option, is to create funding silos for new projects (for example, if you're adding a bus to gain new ridership) and another for existing projects. This could go along with cost/benefit analysis and would necessitate MAPA closely tracking progress and who is performing the best. Ms. Picker stated the last option would be to keep the rubrics separate as they were in the previous year. If a project is not designed to increase ridership, it would fall under the maintenance silo. The idea behind the maintenance silo is to eliminate the categories on the rubric that allow for increased ridership points. Ms. Walker clarified that "maintenance" is in reference to maintenance of the program not the buses. For example, maintain current ridership, current bounds etc. If an agency is buying a new bus to replace a dying bus that would fall under the maintain category because it is not increasing the fleet. Ms. Walker stated that the silo is meant to assist the geographic issue that the cities run into and not being allowed

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to expand their boundaries. Mr. Barber stated that the silo would take the cities out of competition with the non-profits that are looking to expand their service but this would also make it more challenging for the non-profits in maintenance funds. Mr. Freshman asked if the silo could even the playing field for a land-locked city that cannot expand geographically. Mr. Barber stated that it would and even injecting a cost-benefit analysis would assist with that. Mr. Barber stated that a cost-benefit analysis would also encourage coordination between agencies to increase their ridership. Ms. Grober stated that the first option does not solve the geographic issue for the cities. It was also mentioned that the cities are limited in their ability to coordinate with other agencies. The committee asked if it would be possible to do a mock analysis of the options using a previous application to see how the points would be assessed. Ms. Picker stated that MAPA is looking for feedback so they can provide further detail. Ms. Picker asked the committee to e-mail their thoughts and opinions on the options. Ms. Walker stated that the workshop is scheduled for December to go over the applications. The application is released in December and agencies can then come to MAPA with questions and to get assistance filling out their application. Ms. Picker stated that the committee only has one meeting remaining before they need to make a decision on the scoring rubric. Ms. Picker stated that they should think about postponing the application and stated that the thing she hears consistently is non-profit vs city and to consider if the rubrics need to be separated. Ms. Grober reinforced that she doesn't feel that the committee is going to be prepared to make a decision at the next meeting without more knowledge on how each option would affect the cities/organizations. Ms. Picker stated that it was important to keep in mind that the group will need to come to a majority not a consensus and asked the committee to please send their thoughts and concerns to Mr. Barber and Ms. Walker.

### **6. Additional Business**

Ms. Walker shared with the committee the flyer for the LRTP Survey for Road Prioritization.

### **7. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. on November 16, 2016.

### **8. Adjourn**

Ms. Picker adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.