

MINUTES

COORDINATED TRANSIT COMMITTEE



Wednesday, May 17, 2023 | 10:30a

Boardroom - Main Level of the Metro Transit Building

Attendees

Voting Members

Amanda Parker - City of Bellevue
Natasha Wilks - Black Hills Works
Jane Bird - Black Hills Works
Tami Jenson - City of Council Bluffs
Wilson Rivas - ENCAP
Randy Stonys - ENHSA
Lois Jordan - Florence Home
Kailey Stanley - City of La Vista
Cale Broderson - City of La Vista
Rich McFall - Nebraska VR
Donna Montelegre - Papillion
Vicki Quaites-Ferris - Empowerment Network
*Mark Lander - SWITA

*Attended virtually

Non-Voting Members

Melanie Davis - UNMC Munroe Meyer Institute
Rich Surber - Lutheran Family Services
Lee Myers - AARP
*Stephanie Torres Chan - Heartland Workforce Solutions
*Carolina Padilla - Intercultural Senior Center
*Sally Rolf - Iowa Vocational Rehab

MAPA Staff

Travis Halm
Lindsey Button
Saul Lopez

Action Items

For CTC Approval

Called to order at 10:32

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the March 15, 2023 CTC Meeting
MOTION to approve the minutes was made by Natasha Wilks.
SECOND by Melanie Davis.

Motion approved unanimously.

2. Voting Membership Request: UNMC Munroe Meyer Institute
Davis has been in reliable attendance at the previous 8 CTC meetings and has requested voting membership for UNMC Munroe Meyer Institute. The requirements for voting member status include being a non-voting member, attending 3 consecutive CTC meetings, and submitting a request for voting status.

MOTION to approve the membership request of UNMC Munroe Meyer Institute was made by Wilks.

SECOND by Quaites-Ferris.

Motion approved unanimously

Recommendations to TTAC

3. Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Nomination & Election

Nominations were accepted for the position of CTC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

The role of Chairperson was previously filled by Ann Grober of Council Bluffs. Grober retired in March, and since that time, the role of Interim Chairperson has been filled by Rich McFall. The roles of both Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are based on the individual, not the entity. Both Chairperson and Vice Chair serve one year terms. Chairperson responsibilities include assisting MAPA staff with meeting agenda review and running CTC meetings.

Jane Bird nominated Rich McFall for the role of Chairperson.

MOTION by Wilks to approve the nomination of Rich McFall to the role of Chairperson.

SECOND by Parker.

Motion passed unanimously.

Melanie Davis stated that she would be willing to assume the role of Vice Chairperson. Jane Bird nominated Davis for the role of Vice Chairperson.

MOTION by Wilks to approve the nomination of Melanie Davis to the role of Vice Chairperson.

SECOND by Jordan.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. FY2024 Membership List

Halm presented the current voting and non-voting CTC membership lists. Maintenance of voting status requires attending all but three CTC meetings each fiscal year. It was noted that three voting member organizations had not met these requirements in FY23. These members included the Empowerment Network, Omaha Public Schools (OPS), and Ollie Webb Center. Halm noted that he reached out to those members who had not met attendance requirements and had only received a response from OPS. Non-voting members do not have an attendance requirement to maintain membership. Non-voting members who attend three consecutive meetings are eligible to apply for voting status immediately.

Halm recommended a motion to either approve the existing voting membership as is for FY2024, or to approve the voting membership per attendance requirements, which would remove the voting status of Empowerment Network, Omaha Public Schools, and Ollie Webb Center. These organizations would then be listed as Non-Voting members.

Quaites-Ferris was in attendance on behalf of Empowerment Network and stated that her organization would like to retain voting status. She noted that she did not receive any communication from MAPA staff regarding the attendance requirement to maintain voting status. Quaites-Ferris is very active in other MAPA efforts, and noted that it had been a very busy year for the Empowerment Network.

Davis noted that MAPA staff should distribute a reminder to all member organizations, voting and non-voting, stating the attendance requirement to maintain voting status.

CTC members discussed approving the membership list as presented based on attendance, but to allow for organizations currently in attendance (Empowerment Network) to maintain their voting status.

MOTION made by Jordan to approve the membership list as presented based on attendance requirements, but to allow for the Empowerment Network to maintain their voting status.

SECOND by Davis.

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Wilks to recommend this membership list to TTAC for approval.

SECOND by Parker.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. 5310 Program Update & TIP Amendment

Button provided an update on the 5310 program. Last year, CTC, TTAC, and MAPA's Board approved approximately \$10,000 award increase to some vehicle purchase projects to account for cost increases. Costs are increasing again and some vehicles we hoped would be purchased under the previous contract were not purchased due to vehicle shortages. MAPA staff proposed an increase in vehicle awards in accordance with the table shown below. These increases are based on forecasted values provided by NDOT

Item	Total	Federal	Local
Previous small bus estimate	\$87,500	\$70,000	\$17,500
New small bus estimate	\$103,750	\$83,000	\$20,750
Previous minivan estimate	\$62,500	\$50,000	\$12,500
New minivan estimate	\$93,750	\$75,000	\$18,750

Lander noted that the cost for small buses is now up around \$150,000 and that this increase would be insufficient. Lander will provide MAPA staff with Iowa DOT's vehicle cost estimates. The presented minivan estimates are consistent with what Lander is seeing pertaining to those vehicle costs.

The Committee discussed reasons for the vehicle shortage and possible ways forward. Used vehicles are unlikely to be eligible for purchase. Manufacturers are dictating vehicle pricing while in negotiations with the DOTs. Vehicle share between agencies was discussed, but is likely infeasible due to liability insurance limitations and potential restrictions imposed by FTA. Vehicles currently need to be purchased through NDOT in Nebraska. Metro transit used to purchase vehicles, but when the 5310 program was transferred to MAPA, Metro transferred vehicle purchase to NDOT. The Buy America Act also limits which manufacturers federal dollars can be spent with for vehicle purchases. If vehicle purchases remain an issue in the future,

organizations may be able to switch capital to operational, however, there are much more restrictions on operational spending, and the local match may be higher.

The Committee decided to invite NDOT to attend the July CTC meeting in order to answer questions about vehicle supply issues. The Committee will submit questions ahead of time, and workshop a list of questions at the June meeting, for submission to NDOT well in advance of the July meeting to allow for them to prepare their answers and provide recommendations on how to move forward.

MOTION by Jordan to approve the proposed changes to the 5310 program.

SECOND by Wilks.

Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Items

6. Additional Business & Public Comment

Surber requested an update from Metro transit on their fixed transit route study. Metro Transit was not in attendance at this meeting. Surber's primary concern with the current fixed route service is the lack of first/last mile access to these routes. He mentioned other studies, including a large report released in 2022 that included multiple cities, showing that micro transit options are the most promising options to fill in the gaps and complement fixed routes.

Halm noted he would reach out to Metro Transit and report back.

Wilks noted that there is currently lack of transit options in Sarpy County. The Committee briefly discussed Metro Transit as Regional Transit Authority and some steps that would be needed before Metro would be able to provide additional service in Sarpy County.

MOTION to Adjourn was made by Parker at 11:45am.

Motion passed unanimously

Future Meetings & Events

TTAC: Friday, May 19, 2023

MAPA Board of Directors: Thursday, May 25, 2023

CTC: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 and July 19, 2023

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