

Committee and Others in Attendance:

Martin Glaze, Connect Transit
Holly Phillips, Homes of Hope
Shannon Tarkowski, LIFE-CIL
Anne Taylor, Marcfirst

Laura Dick, SHOW BUS
John Corey, Advocate
Jennifer Sicks, MCRPC

The session was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

Ms. Sicks advised that no requests for public comment were received.

Ms. Sicks will have minutes for October and today's meeting in March.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

None.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Urban HST Plan

Ms. Sicks noted that an update of

URBAN AREA PROVIDER PROGRAM STATUS

YWCA

Ms. Hightower was unable to attend.

Connect Transit

Mr. Glaze noted that there is no word on approval of the requested state vehicles. Last year's NTB report is largely complete. The triennial review was submitted, along with supporting documentation, although more is being requested. The on-site review will be in June.

The budget will be approved in February or March, at the same level as the current year. The Board will also review proposed route changes. Ten vehicles will be replaced, but ten will still be needed. Funding is needed to add electric vehicles. The Medicaid qualification process is moving forward. Connect Transit continues to search for a new planner.

Connect Transit will be doing surveys regarding rider attitudes and satisfaction, and fare analysis data. The rider satisfaction survey will begin in the first year of the project, and the fare analysis over three years to capture as broad a sample as possible. Surveys will be conducted on transit vehicles.

Mr. Glaze noted that CT has been working with CTAC regarding bus stop and shelter installation locations to improve accessibility, noting that there may not be data on use or potential use by riders needed enhanced accessibility. There are locations that are on private property, so accommodation must be reached with owners. There are discussions regarding placement at both Walmart locations. CT is also looking at benches with integral overhead lighting. Work continues on finding the right partner and location for the downtown Bloomington transfer center. Farnsworth Group is assisting in determining the land and access requirements based on the needs of Connect and riders.

Marcfirst

Ms. Taylor advised that Marcfirst can assist Connect Transit with the survey, if needed. Mr. Predmore wanted to report that Marcfirst has purchased three vehicles, which will shortly be in service.

Ms. Sicks noted that she has not heard from IDOT OIPI regarding a 2018 CVP grant round.

Advocate BroMenn Adult Day Services

Ms. Wheat was unable to attend.

Faith in Action

Ms. Herr was unable to attend.

Homes of Hope

Ms. Phillips noted that one van recently experienced two flat tires; a replacement for this van was requested in the 2017 round. HofH hopes to use replacement vehicles to transport resident to other facilities for participation in exercise and nutrition programs as part of the "healthy hero" program. They are also partnered with Heartland Community College and the YWCA. There have been 100 trips to the YWCA in this program. The HofH homes are fully occupied.

LIFE-CIL

Ms. Tarkowski noted that there will be a newsletter released early in March, and reminded everyone that the Illinois primary is on March 20th. The group discussed forums for the gubernatorial and attorney general regarding disability issue, for which LIFE-CIL held a watch party. Ms. Tarkowski suggesting communicating with state representatives and registering opposition to HR 620, the ADA Education and Reform bill, which would eviscerate requirements for access and place the compliance burden on the consumer.

SHOW BUS

Ms. Dick noted that SHOW BUS has agreed to provide service in Logan and Mason counties, with a soft start in late February. The formal request was not made until late November. There will be needs to assess and connections to develop with the rest of the system.

SHOW BUS has been approved for two intercity bus grants, including one that will add trips up and down I-55 three times a day between Pontiac and Uptown Station, beginning on July 1st. SHOW BUS received a vehicle approval at the end of December 2017, for a medium duty to be delivered in fall of 2018.

IDOT has not yet sent out the FY 2019 application, despite the reminders to IDOT that the process of approval requires time to complete. There will no grace period for submission of resolutions or other documentation.

The statewide roll-out of managed care organizations will take place over the next four years, beginning with the collar counties on January 1st of this year. Ms. Dick noted that the loss of the YWCA Medivan service has created increased demand. She further noted that the stability of the MCOs is a concern given the current deficits posted by current providers. Mr. Glaze noted that Connect Transit will not consider the MCOs until the state and the Board approve the effort. Ms. Dick, Mr. Glaze and Ms. Tarkowski discussed various aspects of Medicaid management, including examples from elsewhere in the country.

OTHER TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Ms. Sicks noted that MCRPC has revised its MPO participation agreement and by-laws. The changes in the by-laws will carry through to our advisory committees. We will be establishing some specific statements on the purpose, mission and goals of the committees. With respect to TAC, we will be solidifying the participants and work of the Transportation Advisory Committee. Please consider what you would like to incorporate into our efforts, and who you want to see joining us at the table.

NEXT MEETING

The Committee is scheduled to meet in March, on a date to be determined, at the offices of LIFE-CIL in Bloomington, at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.



Jennifer Sicks
Land Use/Transportation Planner
McLean County Regional Planning Commission