

Committee and Others in Attendance:

Rebecca Wheat, Advocate BroMenn
Brandon Miles, Connect Transit
Jared Simons, Connect Transit
Holly Phillips, Homes of Hope

Michael Predmore, Marcfirst
Laura Dick, SHOW BUS
Jennifer Sicks, MCRPC

The session was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

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

Ms. Wheat offered a motion to approve the minutes as amended of the March 21, 2018 meeting, and was seconded by Mr. Predmore. The minutes were approved without objection.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

Recommendation of CVP Applications to the Transportation Technical Committee

The Committee members advised as to their requests:

- Ms. Dick advised that as a public provider, they are able to just complete the request and the budget. SHOW BUS is requesting two lift-equipped medium duty vehicles for expansion, as some current fleet vehicles do not meet replacement criteria. She noted that due to the condition of older vehicles, new vehicles are needed to maintain the level of service, and also noted that new vehicles with ramps will be used on the Intercity route.
- Mr. Miles advised that Connect Transit will request six replacement medium duty vehicles, replacing paratransit vehicles that have exceeded 100,000 miles in service.
- Ms. Phillips advised that Homes of Hope is reapplying for three replacement minivans, in place of existing vehicles with mileage over 100,000 miles in service, which are requiring substantial investment in repairs. The minivans are needed to maintain service levels and program delivery. Ms. Phillips and the Committee discussed the comments received on the 2017 Homes of Hope CVP application, and how they might indicate changes for the current application; other Committee members offered suggestions on ways to revise the application to make the program components more clearly defined. Specifically, she will note that she is coordinating with other TAC members on maintenance and training requirements.

- Mr. Predmore advised that Marcfirst is requesting two replacement minivans, one replacing an IDOT vehicle, and the other a non-federal vehicle. These will support transportation to the day program, work, increased involvement with the wellness program and medical transportation.

Ms. Sicks noted that the Committee's recommendations will be provided to the Technical Committee, which will conduct a public hearing in June and act on the applications; generally the Technical Committee accepts the TAC recommendations. Ms. Sicks will forward the public hearing notice and the MPO coordination confirmations to Mr. Healy.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Ms. Sicks noted that program reviews and vehicle inspections will get back underway in FY 2019, after July 1st.

URBAN AREA PROVIDER PROGRAM STATUS

YWCA

Ms. Hightower was unable to attend.

Connect Transit

Mr. Miles noted that the Transit Board approved the five outreach sessions on the no-show policy, which have taken place. There have been few objections, and generally positive reactions, noting that the problem arises from a very small numbers of riders. The Board will vote on approval at the end of May.

There is discussion of service extensions until 10 p.m. on the yellow, red, lime and green, offset by cuts in frequency on the brown and tan routes. Public engagement will get underway shortly on these changes.

Marcfirst

Mr. Predmore advised that Marcfirst has directly purchased three new vehicles, all Kias, two Fortes and one van. The cars are needed for job coaching trips, and the van for transportation for a residential house.

Advocate BroMenn Adult Day Services

Ms. Wheat advised that Advocate will not be participating in the ECIAAA transportation demonstration projects. She discussed this with Ms. Herr, and Faith in Action will not participate, both decisions due to the fee-for-services arrangement.

Ms. Wheat noted that Ms. Phillips might benefit from the training materials available from the RTAC library, and well as training coordination from SHOW BUS.

Ms. Wheat noted that assistance is available to access the income-based Benefit Access program from the Department on Aging, formerly referred to as the circuit-breaker program. Community Care and LIFE-CIL can provide assistance with this. She further noted that CUMTD refuses to go into cul-de-sacs or other areas where there might be difficulty in turning around. CT drivers are told to focus on getting as close as possible safely to the destination, and using private property such as driveways only with the owner's approval. Mr. Miles will check on any formal policy that may exist, and notes that the staff and drivers work with riders to find compromise locations. Ms. Wheat noted that working through LIFE-CIL would also be an option. Approaching a similar agency in Champaign-Urbana could assist with this issue at CUMTD.

Faith in Action

Ms. Herr was unable to attend.

Homes of Hope

Ms. Phillips noted that Homes of Hope has received a grant to deal with dental health providers, helping to alleviate this health care gap for agency clients.

LIFE-CIL

LIFE-CIL staff members were unable to attend.

SHOW BUS

Ms. Dick noted that SHOW BUS is waiting for IDOT contracts, including the intercity service. Ms. Dick will chair a new IPTA subcommittee to examine the managed care organizations due to difficulties in services for Medicaid and other insurance coverage, included an announced intent on the part of managed care agencies to use Uber and Lyft. Anyone with concerns the managed care companies should get in touch with Ms. Dick. Ms. Wheat noted that managed care invoicing requirements are very stringent.

The Committee discussed the continuing lack of transparency regarding oversight of the managed care organization by the state. Mr. Miles noted that the Medicaid provider process for Connect Transit is ongoing; the Committee discussed how contracting might work for Connect Transit as a Medicaid provider.

NEXT MEETING

The Committee is scheduled to meet on June 13, 2018, at the offices of LIFE-CIL in Bloomington, at 2:00 p.m. , should a meeting be required.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.



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