



Special Joint Meeting Minutes VRT Management Committee/ Ways and Means Committee

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

3:00 p.m.

**Ada County Courthouse - West Conference Room #3134
200 W. Front Street
Boise, Idaho**

Management Committee MEMBERS ATTENDING	Ways and Means Committee MEMBERS ATTENDING	MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Dave Bieter, Boise	Dave Bieter, Boise	Phil Bandy, Eagle (MC & W/M)	Kelli Fairless, VRT
Rick Yzaguirre, Ada County	Rick Yzaguirre, Ada County	John Bechtel, Wilder (W/M)	Rick Thompson, VRT
Tom Dale, Nampa	Kathy Alder, Canyon County	David Ferdinand, Canyon County (MC)	Linda Ihli, VRT
Ralph Gant, CCHD	John Evans, Garden City (by phone)	Dave Jones, ITD (ex-officio) (W/M)	Mary Barker, VRT
Charlie Rountree, Meridian		Garret Nancolas, Caldwell (W/M)	Bobby Schneider, VR/Boise
			Ken Pidjeon, Citizen
			Robert O'Keefe, ATU 398
			Toni Buck, ATU 398
			Jack Davis, ATU 398
			Steve Rumpp, Witticataber Corp.
			Nathaniel Hoffman, Boise Weekly

Chair-elect Charlie Rountree called the meeting to order with a quorum of the Management Committee in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Rick Yzaguirre moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Ralph Gant. The motion was approved unanimously. (The Consent Agenda consisted of minutes of the 02/02/05 Management Committee Meeting; Financial Reports as of 12/31/08 and 01/31/09; confirm Sara Baker as the Community Relations Committee Chair; Resolution VMC09-002-Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) plan for FY 2009; Resolution VMC09-002-contract programming services for ACCESS based software programs.)

ACTION ITEMS

Review Board Agenda Items for 03/18/09

The members reviewed the proposed board agenda items for the VRT Board meeting to be held 03/18/09 noting that the Multi-modal Center and Boise Services-Pilot Holiday Schedule will be Action Items. The State Street Corridor Study TTOP will be an update. Charlie Rountree requested a news release to clarify misconceptions regarding the Multi-modal Center.

Rick Yzaguirre moved to approve the Board Agenda Items for 03/18/09 as discussed; seconded by Tom Dale. The motion was approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

FY2010 Budget

Rick Thompson reviewed the memo included in the meeting packet regarding scenario development and assumptions being used to develop the FY2010 budget. Staff is using the base scenario of the current level of operations and reviewing each line item to be sure only necessary expenses are included. Rick

noted that the budget is being re-evaluated due to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of which the Boise Urbanized Area (BUZA) would receive approximately 3.5 million formula dollars and the Nampa Urbanized Area (NUZA) approximately 1.5 million formula dollars. Kelli reported that Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds will be available for ADA bus stop enhancements in Boise and Nampa. Mary Barker is working closely with ACHD on this project.

Members discussed how to best use the stimulus dollars whether in maintaining existing operations or purchasing replacement buses. Following discussion, the general consensus was to pursue one time capital purchases in purchasing replacement buses which would save on maintenance costs.

Kelli pointed out that staff had been asked that where there are direct expenses in the budget such as in the marketing program that staff work to stretch this year's budget into a two year budget. Kelli also reported that VRT will not be giving pay increases this year.

Downtown Boise Multi-modal Center Briefing

Kelli Fairless reviewed the downtown Boise Multi-modal Center project briefing paper and March 4th public open house comments as included in the meeting packet. Kelli reported that the Technical Committee (DTAC) determined to go forward with site H with the environment review. The Policy Committee (DPAC) didn't feel comfortable in making a decision and felt it was important to have the Boise City Council input. On March 10th, the Boise City Council agreed to support site H in moving forward with an environmental analysis, conditional on finding three alternative sites on street in the next 45 days.

Dave Bieter proposed the possibility of Boise City Hall being considered as one of the three alternative sites with the existing City Hall structure and Capitol Boulevard as the on street location. Mayor Bieter pointed out the City Hall site would have the benefits of the existing building, public facilities, police presence, and be on the streetcar line. Kelli responded that staff is making a good faith effort in moving a reasonable proposal forward to FTA. The request of Boise City Council allows a Plan B. Members were reminded that Sites A-G were previously reviewed and dismissed.

Kelli pointed out that VRT is the recipient of the federal dollars for this project and would make the final decision. The item will be on the VRT Board agenda for March 18th at which time the VRT Board can take the Boise City Council decision under advisement with the request to look at other sites over the next 45 days.

At 4:12 p.m. Tom Dale moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to I.C. 67-2345 (b) (1) Personnel Issues; seconded by Ralph Gant. The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to go out of Executive Session. The motion was approved unanimously.

No action was taken by the Management Committee following the Executive Session.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

NEXT Management Committee MEETING:

Monday, April 6, 2009

11:00 a.m.

Valley Regional Transit

830 N. Main Street Suite 230

Meridian, Idaho



**Management Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 6, 2009
11:00 a.m.
Valley Regional Transit
830 N. Main Street Suite 230
Meridian, Idaho**

MEMBERS ATTENDING	MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Phil Bandy, Eagle		Kelli Fairless, VRT
Dave Bieter, Boise		Rick Thompson, VRT
Tom Dale, Nampa		Linda Ihli, VRT
David Ferdinand, Canyon County		Mark Carnopis, VRT
Ralph Gant, CCHD		Mary Barker, VRT
Charlie Rountree, Meridian		Gloria Chigbrow, VRT
Rick Yzaguirre, Ada County		Ken Pidjeon, Citizen

Chair David Ferdinand called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m. with a quorum present.

CONSENT AGENDA

Rick Yzaguirre moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Phil Bandy. The motion was approved unanimously. (The Consent Agenda consisted of minutes of the 03/11/09 Special Joint Meeting with Management Committee & Ways and Means Committee and the 02/28/09 Financial Report.)

ACTION ITEMS

ADA Accessible Bus Stop Policy

Gloria Chigbrow reported that she and Kelli Fairless met with representatives from SILC who expressed some concerns regarding the fixed bus stops. In an effort to work with the target population, an ADA Accessible Bus Stop Policy was drafted to be in place until the bus stops can be made ADA accessible. Public comments were received through emails, the VRT website, and two informal public hearings.

Charlie Rountree moved to adopt Resolution VMC09-003 - ADA Accessible Bus Stop Policy; seconded by Tom Dale. The motion was approved unanimously.

ADA Bus Stop Enhancement Engineering Analysis

Mary Barker reported that VRT had received stimulus funding to construct enhancements at the bus stops which are currently not ADA accessible to make as many of the bus stops as possible ADA accessible. Parametrix was the topped ranked firm responding to a Request for Proposal for Engineering Analysis.

Ralph Gant moved to adopt the Resolution VMC09-005 - ADA Bus Stop Enhancement Engineering Analysis; seconded by Charlie Rountree. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professional Marketing Services Contract

Mark Carnopis requested the members approve a Professional Marketing Services Contract with Drake Cooper to do website work and promote customer programs. Mark will ask Drake Cooper to attend a future Community Relations Committee. The CRC will review the deliverables. This is a three year contract with the option for two – one year renewals. Kelli noted the \$150,000 marketing budget would be stretched through the rest of FY09, FY10, and into FY11 as far as possible.

Dave Bieter moved to approved Resolution VMC09-004 - Professional Marketing Services Contract with Drake Cooper; seconded by Tom Dale. The motion was approved unanimously.

Budget Modification for Multi-modal Center Project

Kelli Fairless reviewed a letter from Bob Post of URS requesting a modification to the budget to complete the Site H environmental review as requested by FTA. Kelli explained that when the project was initially scoped, the contractor and staff believed a more modified environmental document could be done. Due to the involvement and engagement by many stakeholders who directly contacted FTA, FTA has requested a more traditional environmental analysis. Discussion was held regarding the amount requested being above the Management Committee's approval threshold. Due to time constraints, staff requested the Management Committee approve the amount, followed by the board ratifying the Management Committee's actions. Members agreed with the importance of moving forward in a timely manner and that the cost of working through site H is the cost of getting to a final site location.

Tom Dale moved to approve the whole amount requested and take to the board to ratify; seconded by Rick Yzaguirre. Phil Bandy pointed out the approval is for \$99,000 less the \$16,000 covered out of the current budget authority remaining in Task 2 making \$83,792 covered by new budget authority. Both Tom Dale and Rick Yzaguirre agreed to the amendment. The amended motion was approved unanimously.

State Street Corridor TTOP

Kelli Fairless reported that at the last VRT Board meeting, Sara Baker had said that ACHD was considering not funding their portion of the State Street Corridor project as ACHD is cutting all studies from their budget. Sara indicated the ACHD Commissioners would be voting on the item on Wednesday and suggested VRT write a letter to ACHD. Kelli encouraged sending a letter to ACHD today and attending their meeting on Wednesday to make public comment. Charlie Rountree suggested Kelli talk to Matt Moore at ITD regarding sharing in the funding.

Tom Dale moved that the Management Committee values the State Street Corridor Study and wants to move it forward and to send a letter to ACHD requesting they make every consideration to continue this very important study; seconded by Phil Bandy. The motion was approved unanimously.

The members requested the letter be copied to the Management Committee members and indicate in the letter that the Management Committee supports the study.

Public Involvement Policy

Since there was a lot of discussion about public involvement during discussion of sites for the Multi-modal Center, the members discussed the Public Involvement Policy and whether to amend the policy as to when to hold a public hearing other than budget, major service changes, and fare changes as currently listed in the policy. Kelli Fairless pointed out that staff uses the policy as their guide for

when to hold a public hearing. It was suggested that when a project is within a city and the city has a requirement for a public hearing, that VRT hold a joint public hearing with the jurisdiction and come back as a board and make a decision and not to hold public hearings that aren't a statutory requirement.

Kelli will direct Mark Carnopis to put in a definition of Joint Public Hearing in the Public Involvement Policy and reference cities and take the policy to the Community Relations Committee for review in April.

Board/Committee Work Session Agenda items for 04/15/08

By general consensus, the items listed in the packet for the 04/15/09 Board/Committee Work Sessions were approved in addition to ratifying the Management Committee's actions of budget modification for the URS contract on the Multi-modal Center, update on bus bench project, legislative update, general project briefing to include update on Boise Downtown streetcar. The Ways and Means Committee will hear a briefing on the State Street Corridor project with options of how to move forward.

INFORMATION ITEMS - none

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 12:08 p.m., Dave Bieter moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to I.C. 67-2345 (c) (1) Labor Relations; seconded by Tom Dale. Roll call vote was as follows: Tom Dale- yes; Dave Bieter-yes; Rick Yzaguirre-yes; Phil Bandy-yes; Ralph Gant-yes; Charlie Rountree-yes; David Ferdinand-yes. The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to go out of Executive Session at 12:20 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

No action was taken following the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Tom Dale moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Charlie Rountree. The motion was approved unanimously.

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NEXT MEETING:

Monday, May 4, 2009

11:00 a.m.

Valley Regional Transit

830 N. Main Street Suite 230

Meridian, Idaho

Regional Coordination Council Meeting Minutes (CORRECTED)
Thursday March 5, 2009
9:00 a.m.
Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Suite D
1720 Westgate Drive
Boise, Idaho, 83704

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Leslie Felton-Jue, Collister Nbrhd Assoc.	Cecelia Hockett, ACHD Commuteride	Gloria Chigbrow, VRT
Patty Haller, Idaho Office for Refugees	Brian Jain, Idaho Commission for the Blind	Linda Ihli, VRT
Liisa Itkonen, COMPASS	Jan Raeder, Senior Solutions	Mary Barker, VRT
George Knight, Boise State University		Jim Perez, VRT
Landis Rossi, Dept. of Health & Welfare		Toni Tisdale, COMPASS
Robert Miller, Transit Rider		Walt Satterfield, COMPASS
Darrell Quist, Vocational Rehabilitation		Amy Luft, COMPASS
Todd Wilder, LINC		Susan Bradley, AmeriCorps – Accessible Transportation Network
Mitch Young, AARP Idaho		

Chair Robert Miller called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with a quorum present.

Gloria Chigbrow announced a public open house regarding the downtown Boise Multimodal Center to be held on March 4th at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel. Public comments will be taken until March 18th.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve Minutes – 02/05/09 Meeting

Todd Wilder pointed out that the attendance under *Others Present* should read that Susan Bradley and Gus Tropea are with the Accessible Transportation Network.

Mitch Young moved to approve the minutes of the 02/05/09 RCC meeting with the noted correction; seconded by George Knight. The motion was approved unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Travel Training Videos

The members viewed the Travel Training videos as prepared by VRT. After review, the following input was given by the members:

- Passes are not good for 24 consecutive hours as they expire at midnight (3 of the videos)
- Explain passes -cash card – can buy multiple different passes – one ride, single ride, day ticket
- Six month and year long pass are a different kind of card and have to be pre-activated at VRT
- All the passes look the same – video here are the pass options – they look the same – here are some of the differences – where can they be purchased
- Exact change – mention how much fare is or to locate current fares go to ...
- Passback – this is the message you will see – tell what it means
- Filmed boarding bus while bus was lowering (Mary was getting on the bus)
- No voice title for visually impaired – suggested short introduction i.e., to purchase a one day pass...
- State in title whether it is for Canyon County or Ada County
- Should be links on website that read stops to you for visually impaired

- No mention of infant carriers
- Weblink - www not listed
- (1st video) – three types of lifts – show all three types of lifts and how to stay out of the way so the rider is equipped to know what type of lift is going to come out of the bus
- Yellow pull cord is grey on some buses - some have yellow strips that look like molding on the side of the bus - pull cord could use a better transition – you see it before the narrative starts talking about it
- Bus stop – didn't show bus stop sign
- Says wait until the bus has lowered but not all buses lower
- Driver shouldn't open the bus door until the bus kneels - if the bus is a kneeling bus you will hear a beeping sound – there is a sign by the door for a kneeling bus
- Different types of wheelchairs – majority of people use electric wheelchairs
- Show videos to drivers and get their feedback on things they tell riders everyday
- What paratransit service is and how to apply for it
- How do you access additional travel training
- After view these videos, if feel you need additional training contact...
- Include ADA accessible bus stop policy

Other items of discussion:

- Flyers for bus schedules don't list the stops, just the time slots
- Braille set of routes can get from Commission for the Blind and can listen to different routes through Newline - have to register for Newline through the Idaho Commission for the Blind
- How are these going to be used – on website by subject – what languages – Spanish – closed caption – will be determined by travel training program – AARP has good videos
- Is there any place to put more than two bags - only things you can keep under your control – For people who have no other form of transportation, two bags is a real challenge. A lot of people take bus to store and take a taxi home.
- Driver Training - bus is in motion up and down all the time – from safety perspective driver should wait until rider has loaded or unloaded
- Ambulatory disability – great that the bus kneels, but then there is a big step – one of the goals is to have smaller steps on newer buses
- If there is a problem with a farebox, call Rideline so the farebox can get repaired
- Travel training – calling out stops – if deaf how do you find out this info?

Accessible Bus Stop Policy

Gloria Chigbrow reported that funds should be received from the stimulus package that will move the ADA accessible bus stop project forward. The next step is an engineering analysis, scope of work, and to determine cost factors. The ADA accessible bus stop policy came about as a result of a meeting with SILC staff. Some of the bus stops are inaccessible and SILC requested changes. VRT staff and SILC staff came to an agreement to develop a policy so if someone can't get to a fixed bus stop due to inaccessibility, they can be picked up in an accessible area. ValleyRide/Nampa staff will go out and look at all 100 of their stops. COMPASS staff has taken pictures of all the bus stops. VRT staff reviewed the pictures of the 700+ Boise bus stops and found 77 have an inaccessible path to a bus stop. Within 20 feet of those stops there was a break in the accessible path with rocks, no sidewalk, or broken sidewalk.

Leslie Felton-Jue pointed out there might be a place to stop on the opposite side of the street. Gloria responded that the policy is for current bus stops that are not accessible. Gloria and Mary will go out and meet with Leslie regarding her concerns.

Discussion was held regarding the time a rider would have to call in to request a courtesy stop. The discussion included the following points:

- Call in by 3:00 p.m. of the day before the ride
- Call in up to two weeks in advance
- Standing request if use the stop every day
- Put a form on the internet and fax in a month ahead of time or a week ahead of time
- Discuss on a case by case basis
- Consider safety and pick up times to keep routes on time
- Name a parameter with more leeway than 20 feet like the length of longest bus but this involves parking issues as many areas are designated as no parking zones for safety issues

Robert Miller suggested the members email Linda Ihli with any other suggestions. He suggested focusing on changes to the policy rather than problems with the policy.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Review of Coordinated Public Outreach Process

Amy Luft from COMPASS reviewed the mobility management strategies that COMPASS is working on and the outreach being planned.

1- Develop Mobility Management Guidebook with best management practices as guidance to planners, developers, and elected officials to help make the community, neighborhoods, and developments more accessible. Staff will go out to groups beginning in April and get their feedback regarding how they get around and physical barriers within their community. The questions will be on Survey Monkey on the web and also translated into Spanish. The results and feedback will be taken back to the service providers in an effort to bridge the gap between what users are saying and the issues providers have.

2 – Field test the Travel Training videos with the actual users and get their feedback. RCC members were asked to contact Amy Luft if their group has a standing meeting that COMPASS staff could attend. The feedback will go in to the development of the Mobility Management Guidebook. The video field tests will begin in the summer.

3 – Feedback on best way to market and reach constituents.

Amy asked the members to contact her or Liisa Itkonen via email or telephone in discussing if COMPASS is going in the right direction and how to best reach target audiences.

Memo to ITD Regarding Prioritization

The members reviewed the memo which was sent to ITD dated 02/20/09 regarding project prioritization. This was a follow up to the 02/05/09 RCC meeting discussion on whether to accept late applications for project prioritization by the Regional Coordination Council.

Report on Stimulus Package

Toni Tisdale from COMPASS distributed an updated Summary of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). She also distributed a project priority list and reviewed the list with the members.

Update on ADA Accessible Bus Stop Project

Mary Barker reported that funds are available for the ADA Accessible Bus Stop Project through the Surface Transportation Program (STP). VRT staff is working closely with ACHD staff on overlapping sidewalk projects to get one contractor to do all the sidewalk work. VRT staff has identified 77 locations in the first group of this project and has already applied for the environmental exclusion for those as the funds have to be obligated within 180 days.

An engineering firm will take a more detailed look at every stop in regard to items such as sidewalk conditions, curb cuts, street level access, and lighting. VRT will partner with Ada County and Canyon County Highway Districts as to projects that are already on the highway districts five year work plan. The RCC members will help identify areas to focus on, identify fixes that need to be made, and critique accessibility either at a meeting or via email or phone. Once the stops are accessible, the engineering firm will look at accessibility within neighborhoods to get to the stops.

COMPASS staff will provide demographic information and is compiling service destinations and working to include child care provider locations. The bus stops will be included with the COMPASS information to note any big gaps. The suggestion was made to work with neighborhood associations, as well. The funds can be used for information at the stops to help people use the stops better. Shelters are also on the list. Mary will forward the engineering firm assessment on to the RCC members when received.

Report on Vehicle Sharing Insurance

Gloria reported on comments from Bill Deal, Director of the State Department of Insurance regarding vehicle sharing and insurance. Any type of vehicle sharing that two companies want to work out is feasible. The cost would be determined between the two entities. The insurance companies can work out the details as long as the policy is written so everyone is happy. Gloria added that there is no reason that the vehicle sharing program cannot move forward.

Link to Mobility Funding Application

Gloria Chigbrow pointed out the new link as listed below for the mobility funding application.

<http://www.mobilityidaho.org/03IMAPFundingGuide.htm>

Rinda Mitchell and Kevin Bittner with ITD can provide technical assistance on the applications.

Gloria is meeting with Liisa Itkonen and Walt Satterfield to determine what project to apply for from the 5316 and 5317 funds. An update will be sent to RCC members.

Leslie Felton-Jue moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:59 a.m.; seconded by Todd Wilder. The motion was approved unanimously.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, April 2, 2009

LINC -1878 West Overland Road - Boise, ID 83705



Regional Coordination Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 2, 2009
9:00 a.m.
LINC - 1878 W. Overland Road - Boise, Idaho

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Leslie Felton-Jue, Collister Nbrhd Assoc.	Cecelia Hockett, ACHD Commuteride	Gloria Chigbrow, VRT
Patty Haller, Idaho Office for Refugees	Darrell Quist, Vocational Rehabilitation	Toni Tisdale, COMPASS
Liisa Itkonen, COMPASS	Todd Wilder, LINC	Walt Satterfield, COMPASS
Brian Jain, Idaho Commission for the Blind		Gus Tropea, AmeriCorps – Accessible Transportation Network
George Knight, Boise State University		Susan Bradley, AmeriCorps – Accessible Transportation Network
Robert Miller, Transit Rider		Tiffany Southwick for Bobby Ball-ADA Task Force
Jan Raeder, Senior Solutions		
Landis Rossi, Dept. of Health & Welfare		
Mitch Young, AARP Idaho		

Chair Robert Miller called the meeting to order with a quorum present.

Susan Bradley informed the members of a Louis Braille 200th birthday commemorative coin that was recently unveiled and available at the National Federation of the Blind State Convention. A small portion of the proceeds of the sale of the coin will go to the National Federation of the Blind.

Leslie Felton-Jue suggested a unionized bus driver participate on the RCC on a regular basis. Gloria pointed out that drivers could be brought in on an as needed basis as was the case when Amy Luft from COMPASS recently showed the travel training videos to the bus drivers for review. Gloria suggested the members review the Transportation Service Coordination Plan and note who the stakeholders are listed in that document and how they were selected. Any decision the RCC makes regarding membership would need to be taken to the VRT Board for approval.

Gloria moved that committee members review the Transportation Service Coordination Plan and address the subject again at the RCC next meeting; seconded by Mitch Young. The motion was approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve Minutes – 03/05/09 Meeting

Leslie Felton-Jue pointed out that under the accessible bus stop policy discussion the meeting noted was with SILC not LINC.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the 03/05/09 RCC meeting noting the correction; the motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Destination List

Walt Satterfield reviewed the targeted population maps included in the packet and noted data was collected on service provider destinations in both Ada and Canyon counties. Liisa Itkonen suggested a future meeting be held at COMPASS so more detail can be reviewed on the maps. Staff is working on a services website and GIS analysis.

Following discussion, members were asked to send any comments to Liisa Itkonen on what they would like to see on the population/destination maps, in addition to the following:

- Route information
- Medical providers
- Destinations where “everyone has to go” (CDHD etc.)
- Maps for areas without fixed-route bus service

Liisa commented that Mary Barker is planning to do a ridership survey. COMPASS could look at adding that information. Patty asked if key service places within 2 blocks of routes could be placed on the maps, as well. This item will be put on the May RCC agenda. The RCC will meet at a place where technological capabilities are available.

Discussion was held regarding the first 77 bus stops that will be fixed through the availability of stimulus funds and that have gone through a prioritization process. Members were asked to send any comments regarding the bus stops to Mary Barker.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Review of Public Hearings on ADA Accessible Bus Stop Policy

Gloria Chigbrow reported on the two informal public hearings held March 30th at Nampa City Hall (no attendees) and March 31st at Boise City Hall (3 attended) to hear comments on the proposed ADA Accessible Bus Stop Policy. The three people who attended the Boise hearing had questions regarding implementation and how it would work. Input was received from RCC members and others that they had forwarded the policy to. The policy will be on the VRT Management Committee agenda Monday. Gloria is waiting to hear if Health and Welfare in Nampa, SILC, and ADA Task Force would like to be on the list to have flags available for pick-up. Senior Solutions asked not to be on the list.

Gloria explained the informal public hearings were held in an extra effort to reach as many people as possible. Gloria reviewed the terms of agreement for a passenger to be picked up by use of the flag and explained that for safety and accessibility reasons, the orange flag is necessary for anyone that needs to be picked up near a fixed stop that might currently be inaccessible to them.

George Knight will check with BSU disability resource center to see if they would like to have flags available for pickup. Gloria will send an e-version of the policy to any organization interested in providing flags and review the policy with them and answer any questions they may have. If they agree to have flags available for pick up at their location, they will be added to distribution list. Jan Raeder pointed out that customers need to understand the fixed route is not a demand service.

Review of Prioritization of Amenities

Gloria Chigbrow thanked the members for their input regarding the prioritization of amenities. Comments will be compiled and forwarded to Mary Barker. Gloria will send out an email to the members reminding them to participate in the prioritization process. Members were asked to forward the email on to others that might be interested in providing comment.

Project Updates

Gloria Chigbrow reported on the five remaining projects that the RCC is directing.

Joint Marketing Project – Walt Satterfield from COMPASS is working to create a list of human service transportation providers. A marketing firm selected through a Request for Proposal (RFP) will put the information into a workable database so the information can be disseminated to the public.

Accessible Cab Project – The Accessible Cab Steering Committee has met twice. An RFP is being developed looking for a professional who has worked in the accessible taxi cab program to assist in developing the completed project. The formal document will outline all requirements including insurance, incentives, cost analysis, training, information gathered on resources, and possible cab companies who would like to participate in the project. Possible funding sources will be identified through the project implementation. VRT made application through ITD to receive funds to implement the accessible cab program. Jan Raeder was thanked for attending the last accessible cab meeting and reporting on the Boise SCRIPT program.

Travel Training Program

Gloria noted that an RFP is being put together for creating the travel training project to develop an actual program which will include what the staff would look like, what kind of services would be provided, and what

the formal processes are to understand the person's needs. Information from a travel training course that Gloria took last year through Easter Seal will be used and tailored to the demographics of our area. This is the second project where funding was requested through the ITD Mobility Funding Application.

Employee Incentive Program

Gloria is working with the Meridian School District regarding a request to stop at the joint school district office. They would like training as to what service could look like for the school district to give their employees and students access to buses. They have asked Gloria to talk to their employees about what programs VRT can offer as far as riding the bus and also about access to other services like vehicle sharing, Commuteride, and accessibility of bike paths and walk paths to the bus stop.

Vehicle Sharing Program

Gloria will be talking to the Kuna City Council regarding finding ways to fill the gaps and connect communities that don't currently have service to the service in other communities through ACHD Commuteride or a vehicle sharing program that could possibly connect Kuna to existing service. It was pointed out that with funding cuts in Medicaid and senior transportation, vehicle sharing becomes so much more important. Gloria reported that staff is working with Caldwell in regards to what service options could look like and the costs.

Gloria also reported that there is an opportunity to get a team together to apply to attend Easter Seals training on mobility coordination. VRT is putting together a team to include VRT, COMPASS, AmeriCorps, and ADA Task Force representatives and submit an application which will indicate this is where we are in coordination and our number one priority is increasing the accessibility and availability of our services and that the RCC is concerned and interested in assuring that there is mobility available.

Update on ADA Accessible Bus Stop Project

Mary Barker was not able to attend the meeting, so Gloria will ask her to do a written update, which will be forwarded to the RCC members. If any members want to meet with Mary, Gloria will set that up.

Other Discussion Items

Leslie asked if drivers have answers regarding services if customers ask how to get somewhere or should the driver direct the passenger to Customer Service. Gloria responded that bus drivers are not experts in all resources that VRT has so the first contact should be Customer Service at 345-RIDE. Gloria pointed out that there is discussion on having a Mobility Manager in this area. A Mobility Manager would have access to information regarding accessible cabs, paratransit, bus information, bike information, and the 511 and 211 systems. The Mobility Manager would be the keeper of the information and tasked with keeping it updated and knowing who to send the caller to.

Toni Tisdale noted that COMPASS has applied for rural funding for Mobility Management for rural services in outlying counties including Owyhee, Elmore, and Gem counties. Partial funding was received. Staff is going out to the areas and working with them in using available resources. Community Transportation Association of Idaho CTAI is also doing mobility management statewide.

George Knight asked if communication technology was available for a communication service plan in that a bus could have a computer on board for customers to get information. Gloria will pass that information on to Don Matson who is collecting information on technology. Leslie asked if there was some kind of technology that could announce the intersection or could be put up on a screen.

Leslie Felton-Jue moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Patty Haller. The motion was approved unanimously.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Suite D - 172 Westgate Drive - Boise, Idaho