

ENTF Transportation Sub Committee
October 25, 2016

Present: Adelyn VanTol, Allison Rudi, Becky Fraser, Colene Johnson, Dave Bulkowski, Dawn Broene, Gordon Moeller, Jennifer Kalczuk, Joan Konyndyk, John Mitchell, Johnny Melendez, Mark Evans, Meegen Joyce, Steve Hartman, Steve Burke, Sue Sefton, Tracie Coffman, Kevin Wisselink, Bob McKown

Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Plan – Keven Wissenlink:

- This plan is revised every three years to assess needs and deficiencies and priorities. Ridelink is an example of what services fall under this plan. Once finished it is also reviewed by GVMC, Federal Transit and *The Rapids* Board Consumer Advisory Committee.
- The plan was reviewed by the group with discussion and suggestions. The need for increased capacity in all forms of transportation, looking at different ways to solve problems for workforce and rural versus urban were large themes of the discussion. The revised document is attached.

Strategic Planning:

- Calvin continues to update the interactive maps to include new individual lists. The mapping just went live last night (10/24/16) so there is a wider public access. There is a link to the mapping on a Trello Card which will be sent out to all ENTF Members.
- ENTF Transportation Members note that there is some discomfort at navigating the maps and some kind of instruction, maybe a You Tube Video would be helpful. The United Way has a marketing team that might work something up for that/ The maps have been presented to the Mayors of the Six Cities, Kent county Commissioners and Grand Rapids City Administration
- In an effort to address the, “Transportation in All Policies,” part of the strategic plan, one of Calvin’s interns reviewed the Master Plan for all local municipalities and produced a report card on how they do and do not address transportation in their policies. This tool could be used statewide.
- At our next meeting we need to look at all of the data we now have available and discuss how we can begin to use it to our advantage and what levers we need to pull to advance out goals.
- Kentwood and Wyoming are in the process of updating their master plan in relation to development on Division largely in relation to the Silverline. It could be an opportune time to intervene.

Ridelink:

- There was a small increase in trips but also an increase in trip denials. There were 229 denials in September in relation to only 94 in August.
- *The Rapid* is hoping to add an additional part time call taker.

Additional Updates:

- October 20, 2016 was the 20 year anniversary of the County commission voting against a county-wide Transit Authority
- Red Cross is in negotiations with one group to take over their entire transportation operation. They are offering their vehicles, staff, software and to continue to use their building as a base of operations for up to a year as needed for the transition. If these negotiations fail they also have a Plan B. Transportation services are ending through Red Cross because the National Administration did not think it fell under their priorities of, Disaster relief, Health and Safety and service to armed forces.
- Wheels to Work – There is now a flyer for both employees and employers to explain the service and give contact information. There is also a website www.ridewheelstowork.com. A monthly report is being provided to funders. Other communities have been showing interest. Six companies are using the service. Five more are in the process of beginning the service and a Wheels to Work- Airport Corridor has been created.
- Listed Challenges: Grouping is getting better, Up to 6 at a time. “HUBs” are not practical yet. Need more volume to gain efficiencies. Work hours are not the same within the same company and/or other companies. Driver recruitment is difficult but more promising. No shows are always a problem.
- We are hoping to get a representative from Area Agency on Aging soon to work with us. Ann Ellermets is a likely partner.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

8:30 – 10 am (American Red Cross – 1050 Fuller NE)