



Transportation Subcommittee
 Meeting Minutes
 January 22, 2019
 8:30am – 10:00am

Facilitator:	Dave Bulkowski, Sue Sefton		
Meeting Attendees:	Rich Jones, Eleanor Moreno, Joan Konyndyk, Karyn Pelon, Sue Sefton, Gordie Moeller, Dave Bulkowski, Darlene Bentz, Whitney Erehmsman, Kendrick Heinlein, Angie Dryer, Debbie Coleman, Wende Randall, Brianne Czyzio		
Time Convened:	8:30	Time Adjourned:	10:00

Introductions	
Name, Organization, any cold/flu elixirs or stories	
Citizen's Agenda	
Discussion	
<p><u>The Rapid:</u> They are going live with GRPS with the Wave card. For West Michigan Ride share, they are beginning the active commute week planning, usually that is in June. Special Series Manager (Lisa Young) and Communications Manager (Lisa) have been hired. The Laker Line is still in progress, currently they are working on the design of the bus. Whitney will send information out about how this group can get involved in active commute week. Laker Line busses will be the accordion busses. Right now, Route 50 busses are full, so these new busses will help accommodate all the students and other passengers. They plan to break ground in the spring and are hoping to start service in the fall of 2020.</p> <p><u>Hope Network:</u> For the Mobility Challenge, there is some difficulty in communicating with MDOT to get payment. However, the first rendition of the app looks great! Wheels to Work is going great. They just hired 9 new drivers, which will help them open up to more employers. They are very close to setting up a run between Grand rapids and Holland. A run between Muskegon and Holland will be next. These will start out as second shift runs, and once the bugs are worked out, they will expand to third shift, and then first shift.</p> <p><u>Mobility Challenge:</u> A project between Disability Advocates and the Rapid and others was awarded funds. The project is 5 vehicles on the southeast side that are going to be linked together with a product called Via, which is similar to Uber, but aimed toward commuting. DAKC will be recruiting people for the test pilot. The hope is the rides can be added on the fly, so people do not need to call and give 24-hour notice. The goal is to provide an on the demand service. It is predominately focused on health care. The winner was Kiason Health. They are based in Chicago and partner with hospitals. They help folks not miss appointments due to transportation. They want work with Non-Emergency Medical Transportation. Rich will contact Hank from Mobile GR to see if they can come to the February meeting. The City will be launching automated shuttle downtown in February/March, Hank can speak to this as well.</p> <p><u>Cascade Township:</u> The Rapid is still in conversation with them. They are also talking with southeast area. Amazon fulfillment center will be coming in late summer. Along with other companies in that area, there is a need to for transportation. Rebecca Kinnestrand is the transportation person with Amazon. The Rapid will be starting a comprehensive operations analysis in the summer. This will garner transportation needs and insights. The meeting talked about how the Rapid and Steelcase and Amazon and others can ensure transportation for employees. A beauty company is coming to Patterson in the same corridor, they will start up in middle of 2020, they will start with 150</p>	





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<p>employees. Wheels to Work goes as far as 76th street. Perhaps this is an opportunity for companies to look at reducing bias in their hiring.</p> <p>Local activity around state legislation for licenses for all can be looked at as a policy item to address and/or support. There is a lot of fear about being able to travel, especially in the Latinx community. This could be something that could be explored from an equity standpoint.</p>											
<p>Conclusions</p>											
<p>Action Items</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action Items</th> <th>Person Responsible</th> <th>Deadline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Invite City of Grand Rapids to talk about City of Tomorrow Challenge at February meeting</td> <td>Wende/Brianne</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invite Hank from Mobile GR to February meeting</td> <td>Rich</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	Invite City of Grand Rapids to talk about City of Tomorrow Challenge at February meeting	Wende/Brianne		Invite Hank from Mobile GR to February meeting	Rich	
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<p>Presentation: Story Gathering & Transportation Eleanor Moreno</p>											
<p>Discussion</p> <p>Eleanor currently works at Kids Food Basket doing community engagement and listening. She also works at CO2, which is a storytelling collective. They have been collecting qualitative data that is slowly turning into quantitative data. This project came out of walking and interacting with neighbors. They've collected a little over 1000 stories in the past year. 213 of the stories are around access. They concluded that losing transportation can lead to losing connections with friends and family. With loss of connection, it may be harder to ask them for a ride if they need one. Eleanor's challenged this group to look at how they are connecting and sharing information with community. There are areas where this group can dig deeper and bridge across different issues. Seeking connections could help bring in individuals who should be part of the decision-making process. It would be great to have people who use transportation services around the table.</p>											
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<p>Grant Proposal Presentation Sue Sefton</p>											
<p>Discussion</p> <p>Reginal Plan Association is a nonprofit out of New York City who promotes ideas to improve health. This group looks at all aspects of health, and transportation is a huge social determinant of health. The grant is designed to get peer regions together to look at how to develop a regional plan. The grant would pay for trips to NYC, webinars in between, technical assistance, and more. The grant wouldn't bring any money to the community but may help with Transportation-In-All Planning.</p>											
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<p>Transportation-In-All Policy Wende Randall</p>											
<p>Discussion</p> <p>Bob and Wende will be meeting with Robin from Nelson township in February. They will take the draft of the municipality survey results and pull out the general themes. They plan to talk through the</p>											





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general opportunities that are available in planning. This will function as kind of a pilot, for talking with municipalities.		
Conclusions		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Ridelink		
Discussion		
They started off their new fiscal year on January 1. In 2017, had \$45,000 taken out of the program because it wasn't being used. For 2018, they added about \$60,000 to the program because the need was there, and drivers were fully staffed. For 2019, they will be doing more presentations in the community. They go to different apartment complexes to explain that Ridelink is accessible for many different things, not just health-related travel. They plan to use their millage funds to focus on technology.		
Conclusions		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum: Transportation & Mobility Discussion/Initiatives		
Discussion		
Daniel will plan to present next month. Whitney shared that Danielle Glasser recently presented about LinkedIn's innovative ride share program. They are trying to increase awareness and get other companies to do ride share. Whitney will share slides from the presentation. If anyone is interested in hosting WMSBF meetings, Whitney can connect you with her contact.		
Conclusions		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Additional Updates		
Discussion		
The State of the City address is on February 25th at 5:30pm. TED will be doing a Grand Rapids event again, follow TEDx Grand Rapids on social media channels.		
Conclusions		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

