



Transportation Subcommittee
 Meeting Minutes
 November 24, 2020
 8:30am – 10:00am

Facilitator:	Sue Sefton, Dave Bulkowski		
Meeting Attendees:	Aaron Estrada, Bill Kirk, Brianne Robach, Claudia Pohlen, Darlene Bentz, Dave Bulkowski, Debbi Coleman, Emily Madsen, Joan Konyndyk, Ken Miguel-Cipriano, Kendrick Heinlein, Laura St. Louis, Miguel Velasco, Rachel Kunnath, Sue Sefton, Tamia McGlothin, Taylor VanderLaan, Walt Marston, Wende Randall, Max Dillivan, Monica Light <i>(List may not be complete- please contact Brianne if you were on the call but are not listed here.)</i>		
Time Convened:	8:33	Time Adjourned:	9:55

Introductions	
Discussion	
The Rapid: Comprehensive Operations Analysis	Bill Kirk
Discussion	
<p>The Rapid has developed a preferred plan based on the Mobility for All process. The main goals of this preferred plan are to increase frequency, improve on-time performance, and increase access.</p> <p>Community feedback and concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerns around the span of service times that on-demand zones and routes are available, this is currently somewhat limiting based on budget - Concerns around moving route 7 to Seward which would move stops away from the Women’s Resource Center and Senior Neighbors. This change would be predicated on sidewalk improvements. - Concerns around changes with Route 5 and lack of service to the Wealthy Street corridor - Concern for potential loss of service south of Burton on Madison with elimination of Route 3. - Potential options to connect with businesses in the Chicago Drive corridor - The proposal is based on conservative estimates, so they are confident that this can be sustainable for the near future. Also, the final plan will include recommendations on priorities if the Rapid is able to scale up based on funding. They have requested long term planning funds that could lead into a master plan update. <p>Moving Forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Rapid will be continuing to connect with partners inside and outside of their current service area to make improvements and will continue to work to ensure documents and feedback opportunities are accessible in many different languages and formats. - As the City of Grand Rapids is looking at planning for equitable access to Riverfront properties, the Rapid has been working and coordinating with Mobile GR as they explore options for scooter, car, and bike share. <p>If you would like The Rapid staff to provide this information to your staff or constituents, please connect with Bill. Bill will send additional opportunities for feedback to share with the group. Connect with Bill (bkirk@ridetherapid.org) and/or Max (mdillivan@ridetherapid.org) with any feedback.</p>	
Citizen’s Agenda	
Discussion	





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The Rapid: Division United hosted a free virtual lecture with IncDev Alliance, a national organization who trains local communities on small scale development. The Rapid continues to work with local municipalities and anticipate recommendations in spring of 2021. The Rapid is going through a bus stop improvement program to update every stop to be ADA compliant and to add benches and shelters when possible. First round of interviews for the CEO position was this week. Schedule of future interviews is available on: <https://www.ridetherapid.org/about-the-rapid/board-of-directors>

RideLink: They are working with the Rapid for January release date of EcoLane for on-demand response. Funding for senior millage were approved, amounts were similar to last year.

Wheels to Work: they are working with companies to get operational funding. Ridership is growing and they are continuing to add new companies. Prices were raised this past week, but most companies are continuing service.

Kent County Community Transit: no large changes, low ridership continues. They are not concerned with spending down funds at this point.

Moving Forward: County-Wide Mobility

Discussion

The group has not met in a while, but a small group will be touching base next week to discuss timeline and next steps. GVSU team has been working on projects, anticipate that research will be available mid-December.

Community Partner Updates

Discussion

Go Bus Plus: will run through the end of December. There is still a lot of room for participants to sign up, please share! Unfortunately, have had some technical difficulties, but are continuing to assist folks in signing up.

Feonix Mobility Rising and Disability Advocates: partnered for a mobility pilot for veterans. They are currently recruiting volunteer drivers. Pilot is available to any veteran, anyone in their family, and their personal care attendant and for any trip. Rides have to start in Kent County. Connect with Laura (laura.s@dakc.us) for more information.

