



Transportation Subcommittee
 Meeting Minutes
 January 26, 2021
 8:30am – 10:00am

Facilitator:	Sue Sefton, Dave Bulkowski		
Meeting Attendees:	Aaron Estrada, Anton Mounghoun, Aruna Kamara, Bill Kirk, Brianne Robach, Carra Oteto, Darlene Bentz, Dave Bulkowski, Debbi Coleman, Debbie Jones, Emily Madsen, Ken Miguel-Cipriano, Kendrick Heinlein, Laura St. Louis, Lindsey DeShetler, Monica Light, Rachel Kunnath, Sue Sefton, Tamia McGlothin, Taylor Hartson, Taylor VanderLaan, Wafa Haddad, Wende Randall <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	
Citizen's Agenda	
Discussion	
<p><u>The Rapid</u>: Mobility-for-All is nearing the final stages. There will be a planning retreat with their board tomorrow to discuss final version of the preferred scenario. They expect a report from the Division United project and next steps in February. All cities involved plan to incorporate elements of the project into their master plans. Route 1 service changes – reduction in contract with Byron Township led to reduction in service (down to once an hour) on the Byron Center loop. This changes allowed the Rapid to provide service to Gezon Park Metro Health. Route 1 changes shouldn't impact proposed changes in COA. Township contacts are renewed annually, some have expressed desire to cut costs due to budget shortfalls – could be impacts on routes 2, 4, 9, and 28. Conversations are ongoing.</p> <p>There could be an opportunity for advocacy with newer township representatives, providing historical context around the importance of the service in their township. Riders could share their experience with township boards and supervisors. If you would like to connect with townships, Bill can provide contact information. Anticipate that this topic will be a heavy topic of conversation during tomorrow's Rapid board meeting. Meeting begins at 3:00pm. (board packet and zoom invites at: https://www.ridetherapid.org/about-the-rapid/board-of-directors)</p> <p><u>RideLink</u>: EcoLane software has been purchased, they hope to go live with the software in March. Working with KCHD to determine how RideLink can provide transportation for vaccines. Kendrick can share information on rides from outside of the 6 cities during February meeting.</p> <p><u>Wheels to Work</u>: they are slowly returning to full capacity and are providing service to new locations and companies. Rate changes (due to increases from COVID mitigation measures) led to some companies pulling out of their contracts. They expect to reduce rates again once there is no longer a need to fund mitigation measures. Wafa asked that all transportation providers consider hiring multi-lingual operators and ensuring that information is available in multiple languages.</p> <p><u>Kent County Community Transit</u>: no changes</p> <p>Conversation around impact of ride-sharing companies. As we come out of the pandemic, a challenge will be attracting those who take public transport by choice, who are not typically riding at this point.</p>	





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Moving Forward: County-Wide Mobility	
Discussion	
<p>Small group will be setting a meeting with County Administrator to discuss mobility issue and ask about the current state of transit and funding at the county level. They are hopeful to have more updates soon. If you are interested in helping this group in developing a strategy chart and determining next steps in moving the effort for equitable mobility services forward, please connect with Wende or Brianne.</p>	
Community Partner Updates	
Discussion	
<p><u>DHHS</u>: extended food assistance benefits are being renewed for this month</p> <p><u>US-131 survey</u>: MDOT has released a survey to identify issues and needs on US-131 as part of a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study in the early planning process for major future transportation projects: https://live.metroquestsurvey.com/?u=t5n0r#!/?p=web&pm=dynamic&s=1&popup=WTD</p> <p><u>ENTF Strategic Plan</u>: Leadership team discussing steps for implementation of strategic plan. One step is that each subcommittee create a theory of change for the subcommittee. This will include the services transportation organizations provide, how to improve these efforts, and the ways ENTf can work collectively to increase equitable outcomes.</p>	

