



Transportation Subcommittee  
 Meeting Minutes  
 March 26, 2019  
 8:30am – 10:00am

Facilitator:	Dave Bulkowski, Sue Sefton		
Meeting Attendees:	Sue Sefton, Dave Bukowski, Joan Konyndyk, Gordie Moeller, Karyn Pelon, Darlene Bentz, Kendrick Heinlein, Max Dillivan, Aruna Kamara, Johanna Bascom, Debbi Coleman, Wende Randall, Brianne Czyzio		
Time Convened:	8:40	Time Adjourned:	9:50

<b>Introductions</b>		
Name, Organization, what are you looking forward to this spring?		
<b>Citizen's Agenda</b>		
Discussion		
<p><u>The Rapid</u> – They are developing the infrastructure behind the wave card. About 20 of rides are using wave cards. They are still rolling out partner program for institutions that are interested in buying cards in bulk. They will be taking the paper passes for the time being and will always take cash. Laker Line will start construction on April 1. June 3 there will be a Laker Line celebration. For their Comprehensive Operations Analysis they've issued the RFP and have 14 firms interested in submitting. Firm will likely be selected on May. For the TOD Division Ave project, they are still in the process of developing that RFP and work scope and will be meeting with Grand Rapids, Wyoming and other municipalities to develop scope. RFP for this project will go out sometime in June. The possibility of a Route 100 expansion to service northern townships is slim because the route is contracted from Ferris State University. Bus height: 10 feet, 6 inches.</p> <p><u>RideLink</u> is still fully staffed. Kendrick is looking at a few AARP, one-time grants to support moving away from paper manifests. Currently, all organizations get a paper manifest the day before the trips are set to take place. This inhibits their ability to change passengers. The funding would go towards electronic manifests. The manifests wouldn't be on demand but would be much more flexible. After the initial grant, they would need to look at funding for sustaining electronic manifests.</p> <p><u>Wheels to Work</u> –Next month the run between Muskegon and Holland will begin. A route between Newaygo and Grand Haven will begin no later than May 1. In the future, they will be adding a Grand Rapids to Holland route and a Muskegon to Grand Rapids route. It will take a while to get to this point. First round of testing for the app will begin tomorrow. The app will help riders and employers have a more user-friendly experience. They have 108 vehicles currently in their fleet and 10 on order.</p> <p><u>West Michigan Express</u> – Hope network is a partner in this effort. The ultimate goal is rail system between Holland and Grand Rapids. Hope Network will be working on the first mile, last mile, and incorporating getting people to the colleges, companies, beaches, etc. If it is piloted as a bus route, the Rapid will be contracted. There are a few challenges: for the POS system, which stops train if there's an issue with the tracks, it is a \$10 million investment. There are some logistical issues that need to be worked out, it takes about 18 months to get the busses once ordered.</p>		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
<b>Michigan Mobility Challenge Updates</b>		
Discussion		





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Testing will begin tomorrow for the app for Wheels to Work.		
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<b>Transportation-In-All Policy Update</b>		
Discussion		
<p>Wende and Bob went to Nelson township to go through the results of the survey and specifically how it was completed for Nelson Township. In the township, there is not a lot of discussion around transportation for work, besides repairing roads for private vehicles. Road repair is the largest issue that comes up. There was a high willingness to explore things in the survey, but planning doesn't occur as regularly because it is a smaller community. They are not seeing a high degree of need for changes to transportation methods. Wende and Bob presented the full set of slides with survey results. In the future, it would help focus the conversation if the packet for municipality was customized and goes into the need is in that area.</p> <p>In Michigan, townships don't own the roads, it is the county road commission. Maybe consider language for ordinance revisions and Complete Streets policies that could be adopted directly into their master plans. It may be helpful to bring townships something they can work with, perhaps ordinances from other local municipalities. Ordinances need to be in place so developers have a consistent set of rules in place that will encourage things like sidewalk connections. Enforcement of ordinances is also important.</p> <p>The goal of the tool was the make people conscious of what they can think about as they are planning/moving forward to make things more accessible through looking at building accessibility in municipalities systems as well as responding to municipality's needs. The whole idea was to have municipalities build into this, not to tell them what to do.</p> <p>There needs to be a narrative around why municipalities need to make sure mobility is not an afterthought. This could connect with the Community Health Needs Assessment. All hospital systems are required to complete this every 3 years, and it picks up a lot of metrics. Kent County's more recent CHNA can be found here: <a href="https://accesskent.com/Health/pdf/2017KC_CHNA.pdf">https://accesskent.com/Health/pdf/2017KC_CHNA.pdf</a>. Additional data to consider: age distribution, ALICE data, zip code analysis for commute times, CSR access maps, VoiceKent 2017. VoiceKent is not online yet but the group can work with 2015 data for now. There may not be enough data for outlying townships but could show a snapshot of each municipality's community. This may tie into Age Friendly Grand Rapids. Kurt Reppart (1st Ward Commissioner) seemed interested in this work, he may have recommendations or be a good pilot person to run things by.</p> <p><u>Next Steps:</u>          Get in touch with Michigan Association of Planning to see what policies are already out there – Andrea Brown is the Executive Director. Max will make introductions.          Sue, Kendrick, Joanna, Karyn will have a separate planning meeting, potentially after RideLink's meeting.</p>		





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Goal: come up with outline of discussion, what data sets need to be included, how should the conversation flow. Then, look at where to find these things and how to pull them together. Maybe create some awareness, and then target specific areas.

Age Friendly Grand Rapids: looks at making Grand Rapids age friendly through recommendations to transportation, exploration of development of centralized systems, encouraging older adults to explore transportation options, continued advocacy, improved lighting, increased comfort level of older adults, exploring partnerships for routes dedicated to older adults. The group has yet to formally meet but will in April.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
<b>Additional Updates</b>		
Discussion		
<u>Double Up Food Bucks</u> – Gordie will be the local coordinator. They just have generic posters and flyers. Gordie will have posters that list all the farmers across 9 counties. UCOM, SECOM Urban Roots, the Pantry, Other Way, Fulton Street, are all on the bus line. Posters will be available next month.		

