



Transportation Subcommittee
 Meeting Minutes
 June 23, 2020
 8:30am – 10:00am

Facilitator:	Dave Bulkowski, Sue Sefton		
Meeting Attendees:	Kendrick Heinlein, Laura St. Louis, Walt Marston, Debbie Jones, Tamia McGlothlin, Bill Kill, Darlene Bentz, Joan Konyndyk, Tom Gott, Tim Novak, Gordie Moeller, Bill Kirk, Suzanne Reinink, Dave Bulkowski, Debbi Coleman, Ken Miguel-Cipriano, Sue Sefton, Miguel Velasco, Taylor Hartson, Wende Randall, Emily Madsen, Brianne Czyzio Robach <i>(List may not be complete- please contact Brianne if you were on the call but are not listed here.)</i>		
Time Convened:	8:35	Time Adjourned:	9:55

Introductions	
ENTF Open Statement Against Racism and Systems of Oppression	
Discussion	
<p>ENTF released an open statement on June 1 in response to continued violence against Black Americans. As a subcommittee, we have been working against systems of oppression as a subcommittee and recognize that there is still a long way to go. The group reviewed the statement and had time to reflect and respond. Conversations and reflections included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Empathy and compassion are important and appreciated - Important to elevate voices of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and community groups currently doing this work. And involve them in our decision-making process. - How do we coordinate with different agencies to elevate voices and provide education around equity? - Feel that it is important to have these conversations around equity means and actionable steps. <p>Wende encouraged the group to share thoughts and ideas with Liz G for strategic planning, and with ENTFF staff. This is important in shaping ENTFF's work as we move forward.</p>	
Citizen's Agenda	
Discussion	
<p>The Rapid: Public input meetings will be held July 1 and 8 regarding the elimination of the fare-free zone on the Silver Line and Route 19. Public input will also be collected the elimination of change cards and transfers for those who pay cash. Changes are proposed to take place August 1. Comment can also be provided via email, voicemail, and mail. The Rapid will stop selling tickets to partner organizations at the end of July but have asked partners to purchase tickets to cover the next 3-4 months. They will continue to accept paper tickets as long as they are in circulation. Printable single-ride tickets with barcodes will be available for partners who provide single-ride tickets. This was originally seen as a short-term solution but based on conversation will likely be in place longer than originally anticipated.</p> <p>Ridership is slowly creeping back up towards normal numbers. Specialized services are seeing a similar slow increase in numbers.</p> <p>Comprehensive Operations Analysis is still ongoing. They were preparing to share proposed scenarios in early-March. Due to COVID, the budget has changed which could change proposals. They will</p>	





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resume collecting public feedback early to mid-August with the hopes of presenting recommendations to their board to consider in fall with changes coming next spring.

RideLink: They not seeing increases in ridership yet. Through the pandemic, they have been delivering meals and supplies with the vehicles and are hoping to continue this service long-term. Applied for Kent County CARES Act funding for on-demand transportation.

Wheels to Work: Will be working with Department of Correction Offender success program to expand wheels to Work throughout the state. They are currently working on a grant for Muskegon and looking to start up in Oceana County. Working with City of Grand Rapids to provide transportation for Youth Employment program.

Kent County Community Transit: They are starting to see gradual increases in ridership. There is talk of extending current contract to expend funds.

Michigan Mobility Challenge Updates

Kaizen Health – planned launch is July 13. They have been working to ensure that app is usable for all community members. This program will cover the GoBus service area but focuses on the neighborhoods of focus.

Rapid on Demand – A report highlights findings from a survey of users shows an overwhelmingly positive response. Laura will share the report with the group. At last report, the Rapid was looking at an on-demand system for paratransit and will be issuing an RFP for scheduling software and on-demand options.

Wheels to Work app – will be testing starting July 13th. They are working to ensure that app is not structured or designed in a way that is unintentionally biased.

Moving Forward: County-Wide Mobility

Discussion

Recently, the planning group had a conversation with a professor in GVSU’s social innovation program to discuss what this could look like as a class project. The group will meet with GVSU following the next planning meeting (July 10th at 9:30am via Zoom) to discuss scope. If you are interested in attending, please connect with Brianne (brobach@hwmuw.org). Moving forward, the planning group would like everyone in the subcommittee to be involved with interviews. Target audiences have been identified, the planning group will be developing a list of specific contacts as well as working out timing and communication points to stage.

Additional Updates

Discussion

City of Grand Rapids – updates on micro-mobility projects are coming soon!

There will not be a July meeting. If there are specific updates or emerging topics, please send them to Brianne who will send a more comprehensive update in July if needed.

