

Human Service Transportation Coordination Task Force February 15, 2007 Meeting Summary – DRAFT

Attendance

Carolyn Bellamy, MV Transportation
Sherry Burford, TransIT Services of Frederick County
Bobby Coward, DC ADAPT
Ted Daniels, District Rehabilitation Services Administration
Cedar Dvorin, Arlington Agency on Aging
Anthony Foster, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
Sharon LeGrande, Northern Virginia Family Service
Jana Lynott, Northern Virginia Transportation Commission
Jim Maslanka, Alexandria Specialized Transit
Nancy Norris, TransIT Services of Frederick County
Denis Paddeu, Fairfax County Department of Transportation
Mary Parker, AARP
Kathy Porter, Chair, Mayor of Takoma Park
David Sharp, Montgomery Co. Commission on People with Disabilities
Ron Skotz, Corridor Transportation
Gloria Swieringa, ACORN
Robbie Werth, Diamond Cab
Steve Yaffe, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)

TPB Staff:

Beth Newman, COG/Department of Transportation Planning
Wendy Klancher, COG/Department of Transportation Planning
Jerry Miller, COG/Department of Transportation Planning

Meeting Highlights

Review of Draft Coordinated Plan

- Staff presented a draft of the Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan and asked that task force members provide their comments by Thursday, March 1, 2007.
- Task Force members asked that the following unmet transportation needs be added to the Plan: 1) specialized transportation for people with temporary disabilities; 2) the needs of people waiting for MetroAccess eligibility approval and 3) getting workers to employment sites not served by transit.
- The task force agreed to add a priority action for improving sidewalk infrastructure around transit stops because it poses a major impediment to mobility. Lighting at transit stops is also a concern, and the task force discussed how some jurisdictions are installing lights that can be turned on by passengers at bus stops to alert the driver that someone is waiting to be picked up.
- A task force member raised some concerns about the accessible taxi subsidy pilot as written. The concern was that a subsidy program could out taxi companies that already have

accessible cabs at a competitive disadvantage. The description will be revised based on the comments, and stress that the pilot is for jurisdictions that don't currently have accessible cabs, such as the District of Columbia and Prince George's County.

Discussion on Competitive Selection Criteria for JARC and New Freedom Projects

- Staff presented the updated competitive selection criteria for review and discussion. Members suggested that the feasibility of an organization to implement a project should be added as a criterion.
- Task force members also commented that the criteria emphasizes regional projects but the funding is very limited and that a way to count the number individuals served by sidewalk improvements could be estimated by Census data on persons with disabilities by block group.

Review of Public Outreach Forums

- Staff reviewed the plan for two focus groups with consumers and asked task force members to provide any suggestions for consumers to participate. One focus group will be held on JARC service and issues and one on New Freedom service and issues. The focus groups will include 8-15 consumer representatives and will be conducted by a professional facilitator. Participants will be asked to provide their feedback on the strategies and actions in the draft Coordinated Plan. Feedback from the focus groups will be incorporated into the plan.
- Staff also discussed presentations of the coordinated planning efforts that have been made to date to other committees.

Next Meeting and Next Steps

- Staff will update the draft Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan and competitive selection criteria and email to the task force, which will have until Thursday, March 1, 2007 to submit comments.
- The next task force meeting will be held on Thursday, March 8, 2007 from noon to 2 pm in the COG Board Room.