

Virtual Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 12, 2021
1:00 to 2:00 pm



Committee Members

Kevin Ellingsburg
Ron Cummings
Ken Bicart
Elaine Henderson
Naomi Jacks

COIC Staff

Andrea Breault
Derek Hofbauer
Rachel Zakem
Ashley Hooper

County Staff

Jeff Rasmussen

Member of the Public

Theresa Conley, ODOT
Ann Synder

Welcome and Introductions

- Attendees made virtual introductions to the group.

Public Comment Period

- Ann Snyder mentioned that she has lived in Ashwood for 20 years. She does not have the internet bandwidth in her area to join the meeting virtually via Zoom, so she must join meeting by phone. Ann added that she is legally blind and cannot drive. She is interested in learning more about the mass transit options available for seniors that those with disabilities living in rural areas of Jefferson County—especially outside of the 97 corridor. She is interested in working with the committee.

Review and approval of December 8, 2020 meeting minutes

- The committee unanimously approved the meeting minutes.

Review and recommendation of FTA Section 5310 and STF Projects

- The Special Transportation Fund (STF) is a state funding source that supports transit services for older adults and those who experience disabilities. The funding allocation for the 2021-2023 biennium is the same amount that was provided in 2019, which will help to maintain services.
- 5310 is a federal funding source that is provided to the City of Madras to support transportation projects that serve older adults and those who experience disabilities.
- 2021 - 2023 Biennium 5310 and STF projects:
 - 5310 - Vehicle Preventative Maintenance (\$40,980)

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- Provide necessary maintenance for CET's Jefferson County fleet, specifically the vehicles COIC uses to support CET's Dial-A-Ride service in Madras and the CET's Route 22 (Madras - Redmond), to keep the fleet in a state of good repair.
 - STF - Service Operations (\$131,400)
 - Support current service-levels for Route 22 (Madras – Redmond) and Dial-A-Ride services in Madras. This funding will also fulfill local match requirements for necessary operations grants.
- Ms. Breault shared that if the committee would like to expand Dial-A-Ride into other communities, like Culver or Metolius, the changes to the application would need to be approved by the City of Madras for 5310. A current Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund project is already funded for local service enhancement in Jefferson County.
- Ms. Conley asked if must deny rides very often with the current coverage. She wanted to understand how “oversubscribed” the Dial-A-Ride service may be and discuss if expanding the service boundary may create more trip denials.
 - Ms. Breault responded there are few trip denials during COVID-19 because ridership s down overall. She added that that Madras Dial-A-Ride service was at its peak ridership and deviated service pre-COVID.
- Mr. Hofbauer mentioned that ridership would likely not increase with and expanded Dial-A-Ride boundary during COVID. He added that CET is already conducting research on transit needs to determine which type of service and destination(s) would serve the community.
- Ms. Jacks motioned to approve the 5310 Vehicle Preventative Maintenance project (\$40,980) and STF Service Operations project (\$131,400) to be considered for review and approval by the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners, seconded by Ms. Henderson, all approved.
- Ms. Jacks asked for the projected timeframe for this group to meet again.
 - Mr. Hofbauer responded that this group with reconvene in the fall.
 - Ms. Jacks added that she would like to get this group together more often to discuss transportation services and ways the committee could play a more active role in community outreach. She asked if this group has the ability to meet outside of the official meetings.
 - Mr. Hofbauer responded that this group provides a critical local voice for Jefferson County, so any input that the committee provides is important.
 - Committee members agreed for Ms. Hooper to share contact information. She will send this along with the meeting minutes next week.
 - Mr. Ellingsburg asked if there are any potential issues with the committee meeting in an informal capacity.
 - Mr. Hofbauer responded that this is an advisory committee and not a board, so meeting informally should not be a problem.
- Ms. Snyder shared that the service area boundary for Madras Dial-A-Ride leaves a gap in transportation access for those living in the more rural areas of Jefferson County.
- Ms. Jacks requested that the year of the meetings be listed on all committee communications. She also requested a copy of the Crooked River Ranch survey and analysis.
 - Ms. Hooper responded that she will share the Crooked River Ranch memo with the committee when it is finalized.
- Ms. Jacks shared her desire to have a Warm Springs representative on the committee. She also mentioned her concern about riders urinating on the bus. She added that people should not be allowed to ride if they are intoxicated.
 - Ms. Breault responded that she has a direct line of communication with CET's Rural Supervisor to address issues when riders breach rules of conduct. It is a challenge to

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enforce this, but drivers go above and beyond to make sure that people get where they need to go safely. She added that Rhonda is a veteran driver for CET and Ms. Breault would be happy to invite her to attend a future meeting to discuss her transit experience.

- Ms. Jacks asked if there was anything the committee could do to support drivers.
 - Ms. Breault shared that there is a robust security system in Bend because of increased resources, which are not as available for rural services. She added that this committee could support drivers and CET by helping to educate the public about CET's services (like Dial-A-Ride) and agency policies.
 - Ms. Hooper shared that she will provide this group with more information about CET's services and she would be happy to coordinate a ride-along with the committee in the future.
 - Mr. Hofbauer added that a ride-along should be scheduled when the situation surrounding COVID has improved.
 - Mr. Bicart mentioned that this committee is a sounding board for the Jefferson County community and he wants to ensure that this group is familiar with CET's services to provide relevant input. He also asked for an update on the incident that occurred with a CET driver last year.
 - Ms. Breault responded that the driver in question worked for Paratransit, which is the company that CET contracts with for Bend transit services. The driver was terminated due to this incident and the case will be addressed this summer.

Discuss 2020 meeting schedule

- The next meeting will be held this fall.

Adjourn