

Iowa Transportation Coordination Council

January 10, 2018

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Heart of Iowa Regional Transit Agency

2824 104th Street

Urbandale, IA 50322

MEETING NOTES

I. Call to Order

The January 10, 2018, meeting of the Iowa Transportation Coordination Council was called to order at 10:03 a.m.

ITCC Representatives in attendance:

Kristin Haar, Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) Office of Public Transit, Chair

Jeremy Johnson-Miller, Iowa DOT

Kelly Angell, American Cancer Society

Tony Filippini, Ames Area MPO

Scott Anderson, Access2Care

Julie Bergeson, Iowa Department on Aging

Rebecca Bax, Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council

Terry Bergen, Iowa Mobility Manager's Network

Michele Meadors, Consumer

Connie Eastman, AARP Iowa

Carl Lingen, Iowa Public Transit Association

II. Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves.

III. Review of November 8, 2017, Meeting Notes

No comments or revisions were received.

IV. ITCC Member Agency Spotlight – Iowa Department on Aging, Julie Bergeson

For this meeting's Member Agency Spotlight, Chair Haar introduced Julie Bergeson with the Iowa Department on Aging (IDA).

Ms. Bergeson informed that the IDA receives its funding through the Older Americans Act, first passed in 1965. The amount Iowa receives is based on the number of Iowans over the age of 60. IDA has a state plan and each Area Agency on Aging (AAA) has an area plan, each updated every four years. IDA's commission includes seven commissioners and four legislators.

Most of the IDA's responsibilities come out of Title III of the Older American's Act, dealing with supportive services. Examples include chores, adult day programming, transportation, and nutrition (congregate meals and home delivered meals). IDA offers falls prevention education, as the average cost per fall for an individual is \$28,000. Other programs include health promotion, caregiver support, employment services for older Iowans, and long-term care ombudsman. Each AAA has Elder Rights Specialists on staff to help with elder abuse reporting.

IDA is the oversight and monitoring agency for the AAAs.

In FY2017, transportation and assisted transportation were in the top 5 services utilized and funded.

Terry Bergen asked how funding levels are. Ms. Bergeson responded stating that federal funding is stagnant and state funding continues to be cut. Chair Haar asked how the AAAs are funded. Ms. Bergeson replied that some do fundraising, some are offering fee-for-service options, in addition to the federal and state funding they receive.

V. "Examining Coordination" Project with National Center on Mobility Management – Johnson-Miller/Haar

Jeremy Johnson-Miller announced a grant the Iowa DOT received from the National Center on Mobility Management to explore how the ITCC can align with the federal Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM) and examine coordination of state funds to expand passenger transportation in Iowa. The project must be complete by May 30, 2018.

To start this project, the grant will pay for a retreat for ITCC representatives in March or April 2018 at Honey Creek Resort in Moravia, IA. At the retreat, the group will have 8-10 hours of facilitated discussion and strategic planning to enhance or improve existing ITCC structure in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 324A. An informational brief will be created from that discussion, which will be presented at the May 2018 Passenger Transportation Summit, and submitted to the CCAM to showcase Iowa's efforts.

As part of this process, the Iowa DOT would also like to expand the table to include more agencies and more closely mirror the membership in CCAM. Some of the agencies to be invited include veterans affairs, education, USDA, corrections, and housing.

Once the date of the retreat is known, Mr. Johnson-Miller or Chair Haar will notify the ITCC representatives. Chair Haar noted that in order to make the retreat run smoothly, there would likely be some homework beforehand for those attending – sending in plans and showing funding streams that pay for passenger transportation.

VI. 2018 Passenger Transportation Summit Agenda Setting - Haar

Chair Haar continued the discussion from the November ITCC meeting about agenda items for the 2018 Passenger Transportation Summit. Chair Haar announced the Summit would take place May 24 at the FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC Campus in Ankeny. After much discussion, the agenda will include healthcare and elected officials panels, a presentation of our coordination/retreat informational brief, and an #IamIowaPublicTransit slide show showcasing real passengers utilizing Iowa public transit services.

VII. Member Roundtable - All

Kelly Angell started off the Member Roundtable by sharing that the American Cancer Society may be starting community grants for transportation in Iowa. This would be a new venture for the ACS region including Iowa, as they do not normally pay for direct services. Grants could go to medical centers or communities. Ms. Angell also reported on the Road to Recovery program, stating that Cedar Rapids only has 5% rate of unmet needs, Iowa City 10% and Des Moines has between 5 and 10%.

Mr. Johnson-Miller is now a member of the Cancer Consortium Access Workgroup, with his first meeting with the group next month. The Des Moines Bicycle Collective is adding alternate modes of transportation to their long-range planning. Mr. Johnson-Miller is working with the motor vehicle division and those in charge of Iowa 511 to make 511 more complete by including other transportation modes and wayfinding abilities.

Mr. Bergen shared that this spring/summer a bikeshare will launch in Cedar Rapids. He is working on a healthcare access project to improve access to healthcare and will have a better definition of the project after a February healthcare summit. Cedar Rapids Transit's triennial review by FTA is in April, after that review is complete Mr. Bergen will be working with Cedar Rapids Transit to update their ADA paratransit qualification process. Mr. Bergen recently created a transportation resource guide in English, Spanish, and French. French is one of the languages spoken by immigrants from African nations.

Scott Anderson reported that Access2Care is still proving non-emergency medical transportation in Iowa for those clients known as fee-for-service Medicaid recipients. There are currently around 30,000 fee-for-service Medicaid recipients, following the departure of AmeriHealth Caritas from the state and Amerigroup's inability to immediately take on any new members.

Connie Eastman informed the group that AARP in Iowa continues work on livable communities and age-friendly greater Des Moines initiatives.

Tony Filippini shared that the Ames Area MPO recently added a dispatch project for HIRTA Public Transit to their Passenger Transportation Plan. The MPO also supported state safety performance measures.

Rebecca Bax informed the group that she had met with Chair Haar to discuss the Developmental Disabilities Council's state plan goals and other projects of mutual interest. Public transit will give a presentation at the February Iowa Coalition for Integration and Employment meeting. The DD Council has distributed the information about the Iowa DOT's ADA transition plan. Ms. Bax also shared that the Council and the DOT are working with the Center for Disabilities and Development at the University of Iowa to possibly conduct the USDOT's Every Person Counts training in the state. The DD Council is now serving on the MAC (Medicaid Advisory Council). Finally, Ms. Bax shared that Disability Rights Iowa has a legal case on the integrated settings rule and transportation.

Michele Meadors reported that DART paratransit is moving to a computerized reservation system. DART is also trialing automated wheelchair tie downs in its buses. Ms. Meadors also shared the Y is now advertising bus routes and looking at selling DART bus tokens.

VIII. IMM and Statewide Mobility Manger Updates – Bergen/Johnson-Miller

Due to limited time, no IMM or Statewide Mobility Manager Updates were given.

XI. Adjournment/Next Meeting Date and Location

**March 14, 2018
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Polk County River Place, Room 2
2309 Euclid Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50310**

The meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.