

Iowa Transportation Coordination Council

**July 11, 2012, Meeting
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Polk County River Place, Room 3A
2309 Euclid Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50310**

MEETING NOTES

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

Those in attendance included:

Connie Eastman, AARP

David Mitchell, Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Heather Byron, American Cancer Society

Anne Turcotte, Iowa Department of Transportation

Lisa Sieren, United Ways of Iowa

Tim Weltzin, Iowa Department of Human Services – Iowa Medicaid Enterprise

Scott Anderson, TMS

Jeff Harris, Region 6 Planning Commission/PeopleRides

Kay Fisk, Neighborhood Transportation Services

Chris Zeilinger, Community Transportation Association of America – National Resource Center

Margi Ness, United We Ride

Angie O'Brien, Statewide Mobility Manager

Jeremy Johnson Miller, Heart of Iowa Regional Transit Agency

Michelle Bostinelos, Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Organization

Zach Young, Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Chris Diggins, North Iowa Area Council of Governments

Courtney Harter, Southwest Iowa Planning Council

Theresa Armstrong, Iowa Department of Human Services

Becky Harker, Iowa Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council

Kristin Haar, Iowa Department of Transportation, Chair

II. Review May 9, 2012, Meeting Notes

III. Iowa Mental Health System Redesign

Theresa Armstrong with the Iowa Department of Human Services attended to give an overview of the Mental Health and Disabilities Services (MHDS) System redesign.

Ms. Armstrong stated that three bills passed during the 2012 legislative session:

- SF2247, changing Iowa Code to say "intellectual disability" rather than "mental retardation"

- SF2312, law enforcement officers must complete mental health training every four years and creates an optional commitment mental health pre-screening
- SF2315, the Redesign Policy bill

Ms. Armstrong added that transportation is a big issue with the judicial branch as many persons need to be committed right away, even needing transport to another community.

The new MHDS system will be organized by Regions, with services provided locally, regions administering the services and the state setting the standards. Counties were to form their own regions, following some set criteria. In some instances, individual counties that met all of the criteria may be their own "regions."

SF2315 also reinstates the county MHDS tax levy. The Balancing Incentive Payment Program (BIPP) created will provide greater access to home and community based services, and will utilize a one-call, one-click system.

IV. Iowa Institute for Transportation Coordination Team Reports

Chris Diggins reported for Region 2, the region around Mason City. Mr. Diggins reported their team focused on items in their Passenger Transportation Plan. A travel navigator was hired shortly after the institute, accomplishing the 90-day goal of a mobility manager. The region has a goal of a one-call dispatching, although they are a brokered transit system, using GPS technology. Region 2 has started a medical shuttle to Iowa City two days per week using New Freedom and United Way funds, making stops in Mason City, Charles City, Waverly, and Waterloo. They are providing an IowaCare shuttle to Fort Dodge. Currently, the economic development group serving seven of their counties is conducting a regional survey, including transportation questions.

Margi Ness noted that the National Rural Transit Assistance Program has medical and transit scheduling software available through their website.

Michelle Bostinelos represented Region 4, the region around Sioux City. Their main goal was to hire a mobility manager. They have funding for this position, with local match provided by the Area Agency on Aging, and have a goal start date for the chosen person of October 1, 2012.

Jeremy Johnson Miller reported for Region 11, the eight counties around Des Moines. Their group's motto is, "Anywhere, Any Place, Any Service, Anytime." Their region held a Mobility Matters Conference in April 2012. The group would like to visit PACE in Chicago to see how their transit system operates. Mr. Johnson Miller and Craig Hanner have been hired as mobility managers for HIRTA and DART, respectively. One project they would like to work on is expanded hours of service.

Courtney Harter represented Region 13, the region around Atlantic and Council Bluffs. Their region would like to conduct a study about transit services available and partnering with the MAT transit system in Omaha/Council Bluffs. They are interested in creating a one-stop

shop. One question the group has is whether another mobility manager makes sense in addition to the mobility manager serving the Omaha/Council Bluffs area. They are also working with a college to get students to class.

Kay Fisk reported for the Cedar Rapids team. They are holding quarterly TAG meetings and having lunch and learn sessions between meetings. They will be hiring a mobility manager over the summer, accomplishing that team goal. The TAG held a transportation forum in June. Other issues to be worked on include reworking their fixed routes, creating a 211 call center, and refining the bus schedule for readability.

V. ITCC Action Plan

a. Goal Setting: Mobility Managers in Iowa

The group gave consensus to the goal number of 16 Iowa DOT-funded mobility managers in Iowa by July 2014.

VI. Mobility Manager Performance Measures

Lisa Sieren noted that performance measures should have a minimum amount of time required, should include outreach and fundraiser goals and identify gaps in services.

More discussion on this item will occur at the September ITCC meeting.

VII. AARP Coordination of Transportation in Rural America

Kristin Haar and Connie Eastman reported on their trip to South Dakota on July 10, 2012, to attend a meeting with the Livable Communities Subcommittee of the AARP National Policy Council.

VIII. Statewide Transit Pass Discussions

With time constraints, this item was not addressed during this meeting.

IX. Committee Report – NEMT

No report.

X. Committee Report – Volunteer

No report.

XI. IMMN Update

Jeremy Johnson Miller reported that the IMMN, at their last meeting, discussed the need for goals when they start their positions to give some direction. The mobility coordinators are also making an effort to reach out to veterans groups to discuss transportation needs.

XII. Statewide Mobility Manager Update

Angie O'Brien reported her work with the Iowa Association of Regional Councils JobLinks project and announced the creation of a mobility management website, www.iowadot.gov/iowamobilitymanagement.

XIII. Member Roundtable

Chris Zeilinger reported that the new transportation bill would contain no specific Job Access Reverse Commute or New Freedom funding. Iowa will now only be receiving \$1.25 million per year for bus funding, which is now a formula based on 5307 transit systems' populations.

XIV. Other Items of Interest

No items offered.

XV. Adjournment/Next Meeting Date and Location:

September 12, 2012
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Polk County River Place, Room 3A
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