



## Iowa Transportation Coordination Council

September 11, 2024, Meeting

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Online Only

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

### Meeting Notes

**Attendance:** Brooke Lovelace, Roxanne Cogil, Hugh Lively, Spencer Thompson, Kristin Haar, Kelly Schneider, Vienna Hoang, Carl Lingen, Dex Walker, Emma Simmons

#### I. Call to Order

#### II. Introductions

#### III. Review July 2024, Meeting Notes

- a. IA SAIL Project - Eugenia Kendall, Strategic Planning and Assessment Coordinator, Division of Aging and Disability Services
- b. 2024 Passenger Transportation Summit
- c. ITCC Member Roundtable
- d. Member Organizations for ITCC
- e. Statewide Mobility Manager Update

#### IV. ITCC Mission and Purpose – Emma Simmons

- a. **Mission:** to discuss and review transportation coordination issues and address institutional and/or regulatory barriers to coordination to provide the most transportations with the effective use of public investment.
- b. **Purpose:** To improve access to the community through transportation, to enhance cost-effectiveness of coordinated transportation, and to strengthen interagency partnerships and collaboration with state, local, and industry groups.
- c. **Goals: Phase I- Educate council members**
  - i. Identify funding programs (private as well as public) that are or can be used to fund passenger transportation services.
  - ii. Identify best practices in coordination.
  - iii. Continue to identify root causes for lack of coordination.
    1. lack of awareness of current services
    2. perception that service can be provided less expensively
    3. perception that current service cannot meet the needs
    4. artificial service boundaries
    5. limited service
    6. consumer choice/preferences
    7. lack of awareness of potential partners
  - iv. Look for opportunities for collaboration



**d. Goals: Phase II- Educate public and raise level of awareness.**

- i. Develop and education program in collaboration with transportation consumers.
- ii. Present the disability education program in each of Iowa's metropolitan areas.
- iii. Present a customized version to rural audiences in each of the state's transit regions.
- iv. Facilitate meetings between designated public transit systems and local human service and public health agencies to promote local coordination efforts.
- v. Inform public transit systems, other providers and funding agencies of various transit coordination practices found in Iowa or elsewhere.
- vi. Work to remove any state of federal regulatory barriers to coordination of publicly funded transportation services.

**e. Comments:**

- i. Review the ITCC Mission, Purpose, and Goals on a yearly or biennially
- ii. Look at getting back into the group's roots
- iii. Evaluate and understand the goals set by the council
- iv. Create a Microsoft form to gather priorities or ideas for the group
- v. Set tangible tasks that will help reach some of the goals set by the council

**V. Biennial Coordination Report – Emma Simmons**

- a. The Code of Iowa, Section 324A.4, subsection 2, Code 2024, states the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) "shall biennially prepare a report to be submitted to the general assembly and the governor prior to December 15 of even-numbered years. The report shall recommend methods to increase transportation coordination and improve the efficiency of federal, state, and local government programs used to finance public transit services and may address other topics as appropriate."
- b. Due on December 15
- c. Draft will be ready for review during the November meeting

**VI. ITCC Member Roundtable – All**

**a. Kristin Haar**

- i. State management review was August 27-29
- ii. In total, there were four findings after the review
- iii. Went to commission for PTIG projects

**b. Carl Lingen**

- i. Legislative socials, meeting with legislators
- ii. Mid-year meeting October 7-8
- iii. Starting the Transit Economic Impact Study

**c. Spencer Thompson**

- i. Public Transit Long Range Plan is on schedule

**d. Roxanne Cogil**

- i. Sent in a letter on the importance of NEMT
- ii. Iowa Seizure Smart Conference on November 9<sup>th</sup>
- iii. Seizure education programs for school districts and bus drivers

**e. Hugh Lively**



- i. Water levels have receded
- ii. 3 staff lost their homes, 1 vehicle was lost
- iii. Working on reporting for end of fiscal year
- iv. Rides is going through final steps to become a 3<sup>rd</sup> party CDL tester
- v. Working on right-sizing fleet

**f. Brooke Lovelace**

- i. Make Your Mark Conference September 18-19

**g. Kelly Schneider**

- i. Fare free has helped boost riders
- ii. Continuing training for fixed route rides, has doubled the number of clients
- iii. International rescue committee for refugees
- iv. Trip connect – North Liberty/Coralville, hope to expand transit in these areas

**h. Dex Walker**

- i. Working on Lyft pilot project
  - 1. This is to help with last minute scheduling
  - 2. Focus on situation where the trip would be dropped otherwise
  - 3. Lyft is only picking up would be missed trips
  - 4. Currently, this is only available were Lyft services are operational
- ii. Working with MTM and MCO's Refugee population
  - 1. Looking into which providers are necessarily meeting members needs
  - 2. Could Lyft relieve some of the gaps?
- iii. ITCC
  - 1. Utilize this group as a space to provide insight from providers, coordinators, etc., pull MTM into the conversation
  - 2. Work on setting up some roundtable discussions

**i. Vienna Hoang**

- i. For IVRS, they just completed an Employment First training for all providers on the Western side of the state (expected 40 participants but had about 90!);
  - 1. They will be doing another one on 12/10/24 for the Eastern side of the state at the Coralville Public Library.
  - 2. This training is on how to use resources to support individual w/ disabilities into competitive integrated employment (CIE).
- ii. They also still have the Iowa Blueprint for Change grant which is a grant that allows the IBC to work with anyone and everyone who would like to do something to move individuals w/ disabilities in subminimum wage, contemplating it, or are in some type of day habilitation program into CIE.
  - 1. Please reach out to Vienna if you have an INNOVATIVE idea that you would like to do. [vienna.hoang@iowa.gov](mailto:vienna.hoang@iowa.gov)

**VII. Ideas on New Members/Member Organizations for ITCC**

- a. Are there organizations that have had turnover, and we need to reengage with?
  - i. Access2Care
  - ii. Easterseals
  - iii. Iowa Association of Community Providers



- iv. Iowa Department of Corrections
- v. Iowa Department of Transportation, Motor Vehicle Division
- vi. Iowa State University Extension
- vii. A Public Transit Advocate

**VIII. Statewide Mobility Manager Update – Emma Simmons**

**a. Iowa Rideshare**

- i. New site is in the works

**b. Iowa DOT Public Transit Plan**

- i. Timeline is set, and currently on schedule

**c. Make Your Mark**

- i. Spencer Thompson and Emma Simmons will be at an exhibitor booth as representatives from Iowa DOT and ITCC
- ii. We will have a booth with handouts and a board where people can jot down thoughts about public transportation in Iowa

**IX. Adjournment/Next Meeting Date and Location:**

ITCC  
November 13 (need to reschedule due to conflict), 2024  
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.\*  
Polk County River Place, Room  
2309 Euclid Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310

\*Lunch provided