

Iowa Transportation Coordination Council

January 9, 2019

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Polk County River Place

2309 Euclid Avenue, Room 2

Des Moines, IA 50310

MEETING NOTES

I. Call to Order

The January 9, 2019, meeting of the Iowa Transportation Coordination Council was called to order at 10:07 a.m.

ITCC Representatives in attendance:

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

Terry Bergen, Iowa Mobility Manager's Network

Roxanne Cogil, Epilepsy Foundation Iowa

Tony Filippini, Ames Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Scott Anderson, Access2Care

Megan Hartwig, Iowa Department of Public Health

Kelly Angell, American Cancer Society

Joe Drahos, Iowa DOT Office of Systems Planning

Brooke Lovelace, Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council

Cord Overton, Iowa Department of Corrections

Jeremy Johnson-Miller, Iowa DOT Office of Public Transit

Carl Lingen, Iowa Public Transit Association

Connie Eastman, AARP Iowa

II. Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves.

III. Review of September 12, 2018, Meeting Notes

No comments or revisions were received.

IV. ITCC Member Agency Spotlight – Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council

Brooke Lovelace gave this Member Agency Spotlight for this meeting, explaining the work of the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council). There is one DD Council in every state and territory with the goal of assisting those with developmental disabilities in leading independent, self-determined lives. The DD Council provides advocacy, outreach and training, and they work to educate policymakers on matters related to the disability community.

The DD Council is appointed by the Governor. 60% of the members must have a developmental disability or have a family member with one. The other 40% of the membership consists of state agencies, Disability Rights Iowa, Vocational Rehabilitation, etc. To help diversify the council, the DD Council has been using the Iowa Department of Human Rights talent bank – a place where persons who would like to be considered for state boards and commissions can enter their interests into a database and then the database can be searched by those boards and

commissions looking for new members. The DD Council meets six times per year and the Council must have a 5-year plan.

The DD Council employs 3 staff. A couple of the DD Council's initiatives include Iowans with Disabilities in Action (ID Action) and Infonet. ID Action is an advocacy group aiming to increase civic action by persons with disabilities. ID Action sponsors local days at the capitol and an Advocating for Change Day at the Capitol. ID Action will be performing a 99 county sweep to hear from local persons with developmental disabilities to assemble a needs assessment. These events can tag on to other events occurring locally. Chair Haar asked if there was anyway public transit could be taken into account at these events – through advertising the local public transit agency as a transportation option to the event and holding the events when public transit was operating.

Infonet is a newsletter of disability issues. The newsletter details what state agencies are working on and follows legislation at the state level.

The DD Council is working on a pilot program to do customized employment training for employers in Ames, Marshalltown, and Carroll to help employers hire persons with disabilities. The program matches a person's interests with business needs.

Terry Bergen asked how the Mental Health and Disability Services (MHDS) regions fit with the DD Council. Ms. Lovelace answered that the MHDS regions do have a representative on the DD Council.

V. ITCC Logo

Chair Haar presented several options for an ITCC logo to be used on letterhead and other materials. The logo options were created by the Iowa DOT's Office of Strategic Communications and Policy. The option chosen by the ITCC representatives in attendance was 1.C. with bolded text and a portion of 1.B. for a smaller logo for the Council when needed.

VI. 2018 Transportation Coordination Report to Iowa Governor and Legislature

The 2018 Transportation Coordination Report to Iowa Governor and Legislature was submitted on December 14, 2018. Several ITCC representatives offered comments on the draft report which were incorporated into the final version. This report is due bi-annually in even numbered years.

VII. DRAFT 2019 Passenger Transportation Summit Agenda

Chair Haar presented the 2018 Passenger Transportation Summit agenda as a starting point for discussions about the 2019 agenda. The 2019 Passenger Transportation Summit will be held on May 23 at the FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC Campus in Ankeny.

Using last year's survey of attendees, the ITCC discussed topics suggestions and offered potential panelist ideas.

VIII. ITCC Member Roundtable

Kelly Angell informed that the American Cancer Society had partnered with the Heart of Iowa Regional Transit Agency to supplement the Road to Recovery program. When no Road to Recovery volunteer drivers are available, rides with HIRTA can be scheduled to assist cancer patients in getting to their appointments with the American Cancer Society paying for the rides. In November, 3 rides were provided. No rides were provided in December, but it is expected the program will

pick up as more learn about the partnership. The American Cancer Society is also contracting with Yellow Cab in Iowa City for similar transportation needs. On January 15, 2019, there will be a meeting of cancer treatment center staff and transportation providers in Iowa City to share the services needed and the services that can be provided. On January 25, the American Cancer Society will sponsor a transportation resource training at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines. Ms. Angell also updated the group that there are currently 160 Road to Recovery volunteer drivers in Iowa.

Jeremy Johnson-Miller informed the ITCC of the work between the Iowa DOT Office of Public Transit and the Iowa Department of Public Health to review local community health needs assessments (CHNA) for identified transportation needs and how to assist local departments of public health in solving those needs.

Tony Filippini shared that the City of Ames comprehensive plan has both public health and public transit components. The Ames Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO) is looking for a consultant to update their long-range transportation plan. Prior to work on the long-range plan, the AAMPO will update their public participation plan. Other MPOs starting work on their long-range plans include Cedar Rapids and Des Moines.

Connie Eastman stated that AARP Iowa hosted a Transportation 4 America webinar for mobility managers on encouraging transit ridership. AARP Iowa is also working with Des Moines and Cedar Rapids on encouraging older Iowans to use public transit.

Ms. Lovelace explained that the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council had added transportation to its priorities for Medicaid for this legislative session.

Roxanne Cogil reported the Epilepsy Foundation Iowa had recently provided seizure education for Johnson County SEATS, Cedar Rapids Transit and Linn County LIFTS. A session also was provided for SE Polk school bus drivers. Ms. Cogil informed that SWITA provides the seizure signs bookmarks to all their new drivers. The Epilepsy Foundation Iowa receives many calls for persons needing rides. Ms. Cogil explained that ability to hold a drivers license following a seizure varies from state to state. In Iowa, a person is not supposed to drive for 6 months following a seizure. However, Iowa is not a mandatory reporting state where a doctor would be required to report a patient after they have a seizure.

Carl Lingen shared Iowa Public Transit Association's (IPTA) legislative priorities for 2019. They include innovative funding sources and Medicaid transportation issues. IPTA wants a standing meeting between Iowa DOT and Iowa Department of Human Services to discuss changes to transit funding as a result of Medicaid changes.

Scott Anderson informed the group that Centene will be the third Managed Care Organization for Iowa Medicaid. Centene's contract begins July 1. Access2Care will bid on the transportation brokerage contract with Centene.

Joe Drahos explained that he had been working to collect usage counts at Iowa DOT's park and ride locations. The most used park and ride site is at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids. Persons parking there may share rides with one another or board the 380 Express bus which started service in October. Mr. Drahos also has been working on transit ADA bus stop data.

Megan Hartwig shared that Mr. Johnson-Miller had participated in a rural health forum recently. The Iowa Department of Public Health is developing a state plan for rural health, with the final report to be complete in early March.

IX. IMMUN Update

Mr. Bergen reported on the recent work the Iowa Mobility Manager's Network. The IMMN will hold their January meeting via conference call. The state lost two mobility manager positions due to lack of funding in the past year, therefore the IMMN is working to identify current staff at other agencies who essentially serve as a mobility manager but without the title. Identifying these persons will expand the network and the ideas shared among the group.

Reporting on the work of a couple mobility managers around the state, Mr. Bergen shared that Catlin Curry in Des Moines had recruited new members to DART's transit advisory group and had arranged transportation for persons attending English as a Second Language classes. Kelly Schneider in Johnson County has been working with food pantries to determine needs and creating educational materials about transportation options available in the county. As Linn County mobility manager, Mr. Bergen reported he had been working with the transportation access program to help seniors and immigrants with transportation needs. Mr. Bergen also is participating in the Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization long-range transportation plan update process and working with Cedar Rapids Transit to update their ADA complementary paratransit application.

X. Statewide Mobility Manager Update

Mr. Johnson-Miller echoed what Mr. Bergen shared about finding persons doing the work of mobility managers without the title. He will begin by talking with public transit agencies about persons they may have on staff doing mobility management work.

Mr. Johnson-Miller also updated the group on the "Get There Your Way" website. Work on this website has slowed as other Iowa DOT IT projects have taken priority. Mr. Johnson-Miller will update the group on this website's progress during future ITCC meetings.

XI. Adjournment/Next Meeting Date and Location:

**ITCC
March 13, 2019
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 1:50 p.m.