

Iowa Transportation Coordination Council
March 9, 2016, Meeting
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Polk County River Place, Room 2
Des Moines, IA 50310

MEETING NOTES

I. Call to Order

The March 9, 2016, meeting of the Iowa Transportation Coordination Council was called to order at 10:08 a.m.

ITCC Representatives in attendance:

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

Stacy Lentsch, Iowa DOT Office of Systems Planning

Scott Anderson, Access2Care

Tim Weltzin, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise

Julie Bergeson, Iowa Department on Aging

Frank Greise, League of Human Dignity

Becky Harker, Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council

LeAnn Moskowitz, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise

David Mitchell, Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Connie Eastman, AARP-Iowa

Loren Bawn, Bureau of Refugee Services

II. Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves.

III. Review of January 13, 2016, Meeting Notes

No comments or revisions were received.

IV. 2016 Passenger Transportation Summit Planning

Chair Haar went over final details of the Passenger Transportation Summit planning. Jeremy Johnson-Miller, David Mitchell, and Connie Eastman have agreed to moderate the concurrent sessions.

V. Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 910 Review

Chair Haar presented for Iowa Administrative Code 761 Chapter 910 for review and comment. ITCC members proposed updating the purpose and expanding the required membership. Also reviewed, as it is referenced in Chapter 910, was Iowa Code Chapter 324A. The required membership also is suggested for expansion in that chapter.

VI. Public Transit Advertising

Chair Haar explained that Iowa's public transit agencies are required to advertise their public transit operations throughout their service area including advertising under "Bus Lines" in the yellow pages of each major phone directory of the service area. Some transit agencies have requested the removal of this requirement, replacing it instead with a requirement to have a

website. ITCC members recommended keeping the requirement, and also to ensure that each transit agency's information is up-to-date on LifeLongLinks.org.

VII. JARC and New Freedom Projects

Chair Haar announced the Iowa DOT had approximately \$800,000 in leftover Job Access/Reverse Commute and New Freedom funds (approximately \$400,000 each program). The ITCC was asked for any statewide project ideas for spending down the remaining funds. Loren Bawn suggested job shuttles to Perry and Marshalltown out of Des Moines. The current "fare" being paid by workers making this trip is \$30-\$50/week.

VII. LifeLong Links Project Update

Julie Bergeson and Chair Haar informed the group the database software had been purchased, the database cleanup was underway, the veterans and public transit database entries had been sent to IDA for inclusion, and the LifeLong Links website was being built. It is hoped the LifeLong Links website can go live in April 2016.

IX. Member Roundtable

Connie Eastman shared that AARP has been participating in the update of the DART 2035 plan and has been working with the City of Windsor Heights on a complete streets plan.

Tim Weltzin reported on the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation transition to managed care organizations (MCOs). The current Medicaid transportation broker, TMS, was scheduling trips for after 4/1, but the file for April will be sent to Iowa Medicaid Enterprise who would then divide the trips to the appropriate MCOs. All Medicaid members should have received their final MCO assignment letters. This meeting was Mr. Weltzin's last as he was leaving IME employment.

Scott Anderson informed the group that TMS would be the Medicaid transportation broker for AmeriHealth Caritas and for the fee for service Medicaid members, plus those members new to Medicaid in their first month of coverage until assigned to a MCO.

Frank Greise shared that his center for independent living liked the transportation resource cards created by Mercy Hospital in Des Moines under the Rides to Wellness project, they created their own for the Council Bluffs/Omaha area hospitals. Mr. Greise also reported the State Independent Living Council state plan group had done a survey, receiving 208 total surveys. Transportation was a significant concern statewide of those responding. Chair Haar asked about independent living center coverage statewide and Mr. Greise responded that 26 of the 99 counties were covered.

Julie Bergeson reminded the group of the upcoming Governor's Conference on Aging and Disability, May 23-26. Ms. Bergeson also reported she had attended a meeting in Coralville with the Department of Human Services, Department of Corrections, and Mental Health with the goal of keeping people out of prison once they have been released. Housing, transportation, and employment were the top three barriers to former prisoners re-entering society.

Becky Harker informed the ITCC that the Developmental Disabilities Council is working on its five year plan. Transportation issues and employment come up as focal points. The Council is working with the Iowa DOT to choose a pilot community to educate, train, etc. on available transportation resources. The Council is also currently recruiting members for committees. The annual Developmental Disabilities conference is to be held October 5-7 in Coralville and transportation is an issue for participants.

David Mitchell reported the topic of transportation is coming up frequently in meetings and discussions he participates in. Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services is also working on their portion of the unified state plan.

Loren Bawn shared that he has participated in the refugee focus groups for the DART 2035 plan.

Stacy Lentsch introduced herself to the group sharing she was currently working on updating the state Long-Range Transportation Plan, which will have more detail than the last plan. She is also working on the park and ride plan, currently looking at signage and liability.

X. IMMN and Statewide Mobility Manager Updates

Chair Haar gave the Iowa Mobility Manager Network (IMMN) and Statewide Mobility Manager updates on behalf of Jeremy Johnson-Miller. For the IMMN, the American Cancer Society (ACS) presented to the group, asked for everyone to reach out and spread the word on the Road to Recovery program. The ACS is looking to partner on local projects, like Mercy Des Moines, to start the discussion on access to health care appointments – potential project in Cedar Rapids or Sioux City.

DART has hired a new mobility coordinator, will start March 21. Previously worked at United Way of Central Iowa.

Region 8 has hired Ken Voorhees (previously of Iowa Workforce Development). He is currently making connections and determining needs within the community.

Region 1 is working on increasing marketing efforts (promo video, local events, etc.) developing potential employment shuttle ideas.

Cedar Rapids is part of a team to improve public health access, as part of a state innovation grant. Part of the Cedar Rapids Transit System wide study being conducted, re-organizing routes, etc. Cedar Rapids will be launching a ride matching program utilizing underutilized non-profit agency vans.

Region 4 started conversations with local health care facilities to determine need. Wants to continue efforts started with Mercy Des Moines.

Region 11 is holding town hall meetings in each county. Working with local volunteer driver program to increase service, and ways to partner with HIRTA.

Statewide, the Council on State Governments asked Mr. Johnson-Miller to sit on the Transportation, Technology, and Employment Supports subcommittee. Looking at barriers to employment for persons with disabilities and low-income individuals. Mr. Johnson-Miller is also looking at ways to integrate mobility management into rideshare applications being developed at the Iowa DOT.

XI. Other Items of Interest

None offered.

XII. Adjournment/Next Meeting Date and Location

No regular May meeting will be held. Instead, the Passenger Transportation Summit will be held on May 12, 2016, 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Iowa Valley Continuing Education, Conference Center, 3702 South Center Street, Marshalltown, Iowa

The meeting was adjourned.