

Iowa Transportation Coordination Council

May 9, 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

Heidi Wicks, Iowa Workforce Development

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

Scott Anderson, TMS

Jeff Harris, Region 6 Planning Commission/PeopleRides

Doreen Chamberlin, Iowa Department of Public Health

Susan Olson, Iowa Department on Aging

Kristin Haar, Iowa Department of Transportation, Chair

II. Review March 14, 2012, Meeting Notes

III. Iowa Mental Health System Redesign

The invited speakers were unable to attend the May ITCC meeting and are scheduled to appear at the July meeting.

IV. AARP/WHO Age Friendly Communities

Connie Eastman discussed the AARP/World Health Organization (WHO) Age Friendly Communities Initiative. According to the WHO, "An Age-friendly city is an inclusive and accessible urban environment that promotes active aging." Connie explained that Des Moines is the third community in the United States to be named an age friendly community, after Portland, Oregon, and New York City. The Age Friendly Communities Initiative looks at open spaces and buildings, transportation, housing, social participation, respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, communication and information, and community and health services and their impacts on the population as it ages. There are four stages to becoming an age friendly community: planning, implementation, progress evaluation, and continual improvement.

AARP Iowa hopes to expand the Initiative to other Iowa communities in the future. Teams have already formed in Cedar Rapids and Johnson County.

V. ITCC Action Plan

a. Goal Setting: Mobility Managers in Iowa

Kristin Haar first went through a presentation on mobility management in Iowa she and Angie O'Brien gave to the Iowa Transportation Commission on May 8, 2012.

Discussion continued from the March 2012 ITCC meeting on the goal number of mobility managers in Iowa and the timeframe in which to accomplish this goal.

The goal number of 16, one per transit region, by July 2014 was offered but a consensus was delayed allowing input by the statewide mobility manager and by the Iowa Mobility Manager Network representative, both of whom were attending a national conference at the time of this meeting.

The conversation then turned to performance measures for the mobility managers. Heidi Wicks suggested having Angie determine the state mobility manager's outcomes so far, ask the mobility managers what they see as their performance measures, and what gaps exist or services are lacking. Lisa Sieren proposed setting minimums with the performance measures which would allow for flexibility in the positions. Jeff Harris stated that the core functions of a mobility manager should be outreach to local, regional, and state groups, self sustainability of the position, one-on-one interaction with individuals needing assistance, and having a work plan unique to the region addressing specific gaps identified.

Discussion on this item will continue at the July 2012 ITCC meeting when several mobility managers are present.

VI. JobLinks Grant Awards

Kristin Haar announced the two winners of the Community Transportation Association of America's JobLinks grants: East Central Intergovernmental Association and Iowa Association of Regional Councils. Each grantee will be working on projects between now and August 31 to address employment-related transportation issues.

VII. IowaCare Transportation Update

Jeff Harris stated that PeopleRides is working with their local IowaCare provider clinic to schedule bi-monthly trips with the clinic knowing to schedule appointments those days for those dependant on public transit to get to the clinic. Kristin Haar thanked Jeff for that coordination effort.

Heather Byron noted that the American Cancer Society would like to know the transit agencies schedules so the ACS can assist in coordinating appointments and transportation.

Kristin promised to bring ridership numbers as soon as they are available.

VIII. Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative Grant Update

Kristin Haar explained that the Iowa DOT Office of Public Transit had applied for a Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative Grant through the Federal Transit Administration. The project will determine the veterans transportation programs/providers in the state, create a one-call/one-click resource for finding available transportation for veterans, seniors, the disabled, and the general public, and the purchase of ridematching software to link veterans and the general public with those wanting to carpool to employment or other activities. Grant announcements are expected in July 2012.

IX. Committee Report – NEMT

No report.

X. IMMN Update

No report.

XI. Statewide Mobility Manager Update

No report.

XII. Member Roundtable

Doreen Chamberlain informed the group of available community transformation grants.

Heidi Wicks expressed concern about the difficulty for Promise Jobs participants to get to their required workshops at Iowa Workforce Development's one-stop offices. Promise Jobs participants do have a transportation allotment – a single mom would receive \$361 a month as an example.

Lisa Sieren noted the Region 2 transit shuttles to Iowa City and Fort Dodge for medical trips.

Sue Olson stated with the area agencies on aging reorganization, as of July 1, 2013, there will be six planning and service areas. Requests for Application will be released in August, letters of intent will be required due October 1, DAS will review the applications and winners announced in December. New area agencies on aging will form between January and June, with the new agencies to have a plan on aging for the region by April 2013.

Heather Byron stated the American Cancer Society is recruiting volunteers for their road to recovery program in Des Moines, Iowa City, and other Iowa communities. Heather added that the ACS remains interested in a statewide bus pass.

Anne Turcotte explained that the Iowa Transportation Commission had approved the long-range transportation plan at their last meeting and that all final passenger transportation plans had been submitted.

XIII. Other Items of Interest

No items offered.

XIV. Adjournment/Next Meeting Date and Location:

May 9, 2012

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