

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD
MINUTES FOR MAY 28, 2020

A meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) was held at 10:00 AM on Thursday, May 28, 2020, conducted through Zoom, and hosted in the County Administration Building "B", Room B1-501, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida for those unable to attend virtually.

*Note: Audio and video recordings of the meeting can be found at
<http://www.ircgov.com/Boards/TDLCB/2020.html>.*

Present were: Chairman **Bob Solari**, Commissioner, District 5, Vice Chairman **William Lundy Parden**, Disabled Representative; **Marie Dorismond**, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Representative; **Shelisha Coleman**, Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (FAHCA) Representative; **Milory Senat**, Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) Representative, **Cathy Viggiano**, Senior Community Advocate, **Amber Young**, Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (FDVR) Representative; **Joel Herman** Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Representative; **Dalia Dillon**, Area Agency on Aging of Palm Beach/Treasure Coast Representative; **Wendy Grow**, Florida Association for Community Action (FACA) / Economic Opportunities Council (EOC) Representative; **Dr. Harry Hurst**, Citizen Advocate Representative; **Nancy Yarnall**, Area Agency on Aging of Palm Beach/Treasure Coast Representative and **Jennifer Idlette**, Public Education Representative; **Darlene Silverstein**, Medical Community Representative; and **Charles E. McGinness**, Advocate & User.

Absent were: **Bob McPartlan**, Florida Department of Children and Family Services (FDCFS) Representative, and **Jennifer Sideregts**, Career Source Resource Center Representative;

Present were IRC staff: **Brian Freeman**, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Staff Director; MPO Senior Planner; **Patti Johnson**, MPO Staff Assistant, **Kim Moirano**, Recording Secretary. Also present were **Karen Kiselewski** and **Kurt Lehmann**, Cambridge Systematics, **Karen Deigl**, Executive Director, Senior Resource Association, and **Chris Stephenson**, Transportation Director, Senior Resource Association.

TWO VACANCIES: Advocate and User and Children at Risk Representatives.

Call to Order

Chairman Bob Solari called the TDLCB meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. at which time it was determined there was a quorum present.

Roll Call of the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Committee (TDLCB) Members.

Patti Johnson, MPO Staff Assistant performed a roll call of the committee members with those present responding. The alternates acknowledged their presence and stated their representation.

Approval of Minutes of the February 27, 2020 – *Action Required*

Chairman Solari asked if there were any additions or corrections to the TDLCB Meeting minutes of February 27, 2020. There were none.

ON MOTION by Ms. Wendy Grow, SECONDED by Ms. Dalia Dillon, the Board voted unanimously (13-0) to approve the minutes of February 27, 2020, as amended.

Planning Status Report – *No Action Required*

Mr. Brian Freeman provided a brief overview of MPO since the last meeting. MPO has continued to operate with virtual meetings and has continued with all of their regular activities that they needed to accomplish. At the last MPO meeting, the Planning Grant for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 was approved by the MPO and has been put into place in order to continue functioning as the planning agency for the next upcoming fiscal year.

Community Transportation Coordinator Status Report – *No Action Required*

Mr. Chris Stephenson, Transportation Director, Senior Resource Association presented an overview of the 2nd Quarter Transportation Report, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Mr. Stephenson indicated that the Community Coach ridership was down by 4.52 percent in the second quarter of the fiscal year compared to last year. The vast majority of that occurred in the month of March. TD trips were actually up in the second quarter. 5,500 of those trips were medical appointments, 5,100 were shopping trips and about 1,000 were to the Adult Daycare Facility in either Vero Beach or Sebastian. The Community Coach on-time performance was at 94.97 percent. The GoLine ridership was up 10 percent in the month of January. It was down about 1.4 percent for the second quarter of the fiscal year. The ridership was up in January and February and then there was a big decrease in the month of March. They attributed the loss to COVID. The geographical breakdown showed that 27 percent of the riders are on Route 2 and 4. The routes in Gifford are getting about 20 percent, 18 percent in the north county, 12 percent in the southern areas of the county and then 13 percent from the

east and far west sides of the county and then 10 percent traveling in between Sebastian and Vero Beach. The GoLine on time performance was 95.33 percent. There are two GoLine shelter projects left in the most recent phase of shelter installations. The projects should be completed this summer. Road calls were slightly up in the second quarter with no accidents.

Joel Herman arrived at 10:09 a.m.

Ridership was above what it was doing last year until we got into March. Due to COVID, in March and April their Community Coach riderships were down as much as 60 percent at some point and then in May it had gone up a little bit. This is based on the State's fiscal year which is from July to June. So, for the fiscal year, we've already done the 50,451 passenger trips on the Community Coach which is more than we did all of last year. This is due to the big increase in TD funding that the Commissioner for Transportation Disadvantaged gave to the Senior Resource Association compared to last year. The last three months have been a pretty stark difference in the number of trips that they were able to do this year compared to last year. The GoLine Ridership in the last three months has really been a big decrease. Every month in the fiscal year up until March, they were above where they were last year and then starting in March, there was a big decrease. For the fiscal year which has one month left, they're currently at right over a million passenger trips but it is at a 2 percent decrease from where they were during the same time last year at the end of the fiscal year.

Due to COVID, one of the measures that was put in place to keep the community and their employees safe was service was shut down for four weeks on Saturdays on the GoLine. Routes 11 and 15 had been suspended until further notice. Buses have been limited to 15 riders on board at a time. They have used the buses that are used for Route 11 and 15 that aren't running for overflow. All of their vehicles are either being detailed or fogged every night with a disinfectant. Foggers were purchased for all of their transportation vendors so that they can fog their vehicles every night. They have stopped multi loading on the Community Coach to make sure there's not very much passenger interaction. All drivers are wearing face masks and face shields are being supplied if requested. Their main hub is being cleaned twice a day. The GoLine vehicles are being wiped down with a disinfectant every hour when they get to the hub. The GoLine vehicles that have a rear door, those are the doors that are being used to board passengers in order to try to keep their driver's exposure to people in the public down. They have also roped off a seating area right behind their drivers so that no one can sit directly behind them. They have ordered some barriers for some of their buses to try and sort of limit their driver's exposure to the public.

SRA received funding from the United Way to provide trips for delivering food and products. They have provided services dropping off groceries, prescriptions, and other essentials to people in our community. There have been over 400 trips that have been made in the last couple of months to provide that type of service in our community. It is all charged to the United Way Grant. SRA is probably on par, if not, a little higher in ridership than some of our neighbors.

Ms. Deigl indicated that SRA has received funding through the CARES Act. The FEDs recognized that transit is an essential service in all communities so they have already come up with some funding for all of the different transit systems so SRA has done pretty well.

Mr. Freeman indicated that for the next couple of years the funding situation is pretty stable especially with the substantial funding that we've received from the Federal Transit Administration from the CARES Act.

Review of Progress Report and Reimbursement Invoice #3 for the 2019/20 Planning Grant – *Action Required*

Mr. Brian Freeman explained that this is reimbursement for the staff's activities in supporting the TDLCB Board and staffing this committee for the quarter that ended on March 31st.

ON MOTION by Dr. Harry Hurst, SECONDED by Mr. Joel Herman, the Board voted unanimously (14-0) to approve the Progress Report and Reimbursement Invoice #3, as presented.

Review of Community Transportation Coordinator Annual Evaluation Report for FY 2018/19– *Action Required*

Mr. Brian Freeman explained that one of the tasks that TDLCB undertakes each year is an evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator which in Indian River County is the Senior Resource Association. SRA has followed the established procedure that the TDLCB has used for a number of years. Mr. Freeman thanked Cathy Viggiano, Shelisha Coleman and Amber Young for conducting a review of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Mr. Solari thanked the Senior Resource Association for all their work in helping to develop and maintain such a great transportation system in Indian River County.

ON MOTION by Dr. Harry Hurst, SECONDED by Ms. Wendy Grow, the Board voted unanimously (14-0) to approve the Community Transportation Coordinator Annual Evaluation Report for FY 2018/19.

Consideration of the FY 2020/21 Annual Update to the Indian River County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP) – *Action Required*

Mr. Brian Freeman indicated the Annual Update is a required task that the TDLCB Board needs to perform each year. Every fifth year, TDLCB does a major

update to the TDSP which was adopted a year ago. At this point, TDLCB is doing an annual update. There were two modifications to the annual update for this year. One was to modify the vehicle replacement schedule so it conforms to the one that was put in place last year as part of the Transit Development Plan. The second one is the annual review and approval of the trip reimbursement rates which are the rates that the State Commission reimburses Senior Resource Association for providing TD service. The rates for the upcoming fiscal year are included in the package.

ON MOTION by Ms. Cathy Viggiano, SECONDED by Mr. Joel Herman, the Board voted unanimously (14-0) to approve the FY 2020/21 Annual Update to the Indian River County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP).

FDOT Presentation of the Florida Transportation Plan - No Action Required

Mr. Brian Freeman indicated that the Florida Transportation Plan is a long-range plan and establishes a lot of the policies for doing transportation improvements throughout the whole state.

Ms. Karen Kiselewski from Cambridge Systematics presented an overview of the Florida Transportation Plan, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Other New Business – No Action Required

Mr. Brian Freeman thanked everyone for conducting the meeting in a different manner than we have in the past. The State Commission had asked local boards to perform virtual meetings through the end of the current State Fiscal Year.

Mr. Bob Solari wanted to address the partners who come from long distances if it's possible to ZOOM on an ongoing basis in the future. Mr. Solari wanted to address that because the ZOOM meetings seem to go reasonably well. If other participants especially those who do have the long commutes think the same, Mr. Solari for one think that it's something we might consider for the future. Mr. Freeman agreed with Mr. Solari especially for the shorter meetings.

ON MOTION by Dr. Harry Hurst, SECONDED by Mr. Bob Solari, the Board voted unanimously (14-0) to approve the Board sending a letter of accommodation to the provider thanking them for the adjustments they have made in this very workable and very difficult situation.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

The next meeting of the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board will be held on **August 27, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.**