Mobilizing Public Access to County-Wide Transportation – MPACT
A YVCOG Transportation Policy Board Standing Committee
Minutes of July 30, 2020

Present:
Jan Ollivier, People for People
Gracie Sexton, People for People
Marcy Durbin, People for People
Oscar Olney, DSHS
Tom Gaulke, Entrust
Linda Howell, WSDOT

Call to Order and
Introductions/Welcome

MPACT Chair Jan Ollivier, called the July 30, 2020, meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

January 29, 2020
Meeting Minutes

Deb LaCombe moved to approve the January 29, 2020 minutes and Greg Story seconded. The motion passed.

2020 Yakima Valley
Metropolitan Long-
Range Plan Update

2020-2045 Yakima Valley Metropolitan and Regional Long-Range Plan. Added many components to the multi-modal sections. For consideration, conducted an online survey that included passenger rail and public transit. Results posted on YVCOG website.

Roundtable
Discussion: Public
Transportation and
Impact of COVID and post I-976

Jan Ollivier asked attendees to share how agencies are handling COVID and impacts.
- **Greg Story, Yakima Transit.** Standard practices include N95 masks distributed daily and gloves for drivers, plastic shields on all busses. Masks available for passengers. Kept fares the same, did not lower of free. Worried about people using busses to ride all day long. Ridership was down, but now growing, especially on Sundays. Trying to keep 10 or fewer per bus. Ellensburg Commuter ridership down 90-95%. 10 riders per day. No classes at CWU this fall. Looking at how they can scale down. No Van Pools running, and do not anticipate them returning soon. Van Pool as alternative to Commuter? Commuter is contracted, with little savings for smaller size. Full size bus for social distancing.
- **Alan Adolf** shared a WSDOT website for COVID impacts on multi-modal transportation: [https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/about/covid-19-transportation-report/](https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/about/covid-19-transportation-report/)
- **Gracie Sexton, People for People,** reported that ridership is down over 50%. Community Connector and door-to-door down 50%. Drivers are masked and gloved, shields have just been installed. Asking to call to make reservations. Since ridership is down, have not had to enforce. Matson Grandview/Sunnyside Valley Connector ridership has been steady and consistent averaging about 81 per month. Door to door service survey asking if they have been around someone who has been exposed, then driver is suited up and masked, no other riders, and ensuring disinfection after drop off.
- **Janna Lewis-Clark, Pahto Passage.** All employees sent home. Lost drivers due to this order. Reduced routes due to no restrooms available. Ridership down over 90% due to reduced routes and no drivers. Distributing masks and gloves to everyone. Full route and full schedule in 2-3 weeks.
- **Tom Gaulke, Entrust.** Ridership down about 90% due to residents living at nursing homes and assisted living. Have re-deployed to other Counties that are more open. 3 major programs affected. Do not see ridership returning any time soon.
- **Linda Howell, WSDOT.** Business Services sending letters asking if any funds remaining. Consolidated grants system is now live. Just hired 2 community liaisons.
- **Oscar Olney, DSHS.** All offices by appointment only support services. COVID exemptions for Work First. No one can get hired due to COVID. Notified they will be teleworking through December 31st. Many clients are transit riders.
- **Eliticia Sanchez, ALTC.** Client services used to ride various appointments and food and nutrition centers. Now having home delivered meals. Doctor appointments by telehealth. Very cautious about leaving home, or having workers come into their home for home visits. Case managers are doing virtual visits. Employees going into the office in shifts.

MPACT Meeting
July 30, 2020,
- Alan Adolf reported that YVCOG is working from home. Wave of the future for telecommuting. CTR group looking at how to move forward with fewer commute trips. Mike Shuttleworth has departed. Lynn Deitrich is Planning Manager. On August 10th, Jeff Watson will take over some transportation duties.

**People for People Valley Shuttle Update**

Jan Ollivier reported that ridership has come back to what it was in December 2019/January 2020. Marketing campaign will begin soon.

**YVCOG Transit Feasibility Study: Schedule**

Alan Adolf reported that the Scope of Work for the grant includes identifying financial, operational, or other barriers to integrated services. Would like to form two subcommittees. One with transit providers the Yakama Nation, Yakima, Selah, Union Gap, People for People to gather current service area data, barriers, and growth plans. The second committee on public outreach and comments. Also considering a subcommittee for writing and developing the document.

**Consolidated Grant: Call for Projects**

Alan Adolf reported that the consolidated grant application is open. Will prioritize projects at a meeting on December 2nd. Applications will be through WSDOT on the Grants Management System (GMS). 4 funding sources: Operating, Mobility Management, Planning, and Capital Projects.

Question: Do providers submit to GMS only? Then, YVCOG will pull information from GMS? (Answer) WSDOT will provide copies to YVCOG. Will ensure the application is complete before scoring and ranking. Developing GMS applications is a bit more work but will save your information for future applications.

**Upcoming Events/Roundtable**

MPACT members share various information and current issues.

**Next Meeting**

The next MPACT subcommittee meeting is scheduled for August 26th at 2:30 p.m. via teleconference.

**Adjourn**

Ms. Ollivier adjourned the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Jan Ollivier, Chair

Date signed: 10/29/2021

Attest:

[Signature]

Alan Adolf, Attending and Attesting Member

Date signed: 28 October 2021