

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD

MINUTES FOR MAY 25, 2023

A meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) was held at 10:53 AM on Thursday, May 25, 2023, in the County Administration Building "B", Room B1-501, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

Note: Audio and video recordings of the meeting can be found at
<https://www.ircgov.com/Boards/TDLCB/2022.htm>.

Present were: Chairman **Deryl Loar**, Commissioner, District 4, Vice Chairman **William Lundy Parden**, Disabled Representative; **Bob McPartlan**, Florida Department of Children and Families (FDCF) Representative; **Marie Dorismond**, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Representative; **Victoria Anderson**, Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (FAHCA) Representative; **Zachary Hoge**, Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (FDVR) Representative; **Wendy Grow**, Florida Association for Community Action (FACA) / Economic Opportunities Council (EOC) Representative; **Dr. Harry Hurst**, Citizen Advocate Representative; **Milory Senat**, Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) Representative, **Darlene Silverstein**, Medical Community Representative, **Dale Shepperson**, CSRC Representative and **Dalia Dillon**, Area Agency on Aging of Palm Beach/Treasure Coast Representative.

Absent were: **Jennifer Idlette**, Public Education Representative, **John Birhanzi**, Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Representative.

Present were IRC staff: **Brian Freeman**, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Staff Director; **Mark Vietze**, MPO GIS Planner; **Patti Johnson**, MPO Staff Assistant and **Kim Moirano**, Recording Secretary. Also present were, **Karen Deigl**, Executive Director, Senior Resource Association and **Jonathan Roberson**, CUTR.

TWO VACANCIES: Children at Risk and Senior Community Representatives.

Call to Order

Chairman Commissioner Deryl Loar called the TDLCB meeting to order at 10:53 a.m.

Approval of Minutes of the February 23, 2023 Regular Meeting – Action Required

Chairman Loar asked if there were any additions or corrections to the TDLCB Meeting minutes of February 23, 2023. Mr. Brian Freeman stated there was one small correction, it was the second line from the bottom of Page 3. It should say bus and not boss.

ON MOTION by Mr. Bob McPartlan, SECONDED by Dr. Harry Hurst, the Board voted unanimously (11-0) to approve the February 23, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended.

Planning Status Report – No Action Required

None.

Community Transportation Coordinator Status Report – No Action Required

Ms. Deigl stated that the number of trips for Community Coach did decrease in the last quarter. They're looking at the second quarter of 2022-2023 which would be January through March. It did decrease by about 14 percent. That happens. They have an ebb and flow. She looked at the number of days that they provided services. They were down for a day or two so that adds to that decrease. We should see an increase next quarter. The important about this is that we are still on pace to spend the dollars for the trip and equipment grant and that's the most important so they will be using up all of the funds.

Community Coach on time performance the performance was reported at 90 percent on time which is excellent. The applications that they've received for Community Coach during the second quarter of this year they received 178 applications which 120 were approved. Year to date they've received 332 and approved 217. It runs usually around that 65 percent mark. Their actual total riders currently is 2,803. Their Treasure Coast Developmentally Disabled Disabilities Advantaged Ride Program that's the program where they're providing transportation for the disabled in four counties. This has been an amazing program. As you can see for Indian River and Martin County the number is continuing to increase as in St. Lucie as well. They have applied for the grants again this year. They were given the opportunity to apply for \$750,000 in Martin County and the \$1.5 million again for St. Lucie and Indian River County. They're hoping that they receive that again. Chris Stephenson and Karen Deigl have been asked to speak at the Florida Developmentally Disabled Commission Annual Meeting in June. This program has been deemed the most successful voucher program that they have. If you recall back in 2019 the initial funding came from FDDC. It was \$150,000 for a pilot program. Hence, that initial they have been able to receive funding through the Innovative Service Grants through CTD. They will be speaking to the program. They're hoping that other communities will be able to emulate this program. Since October of 2020 they've done over 100,000 trips in this program.

The Go Line they ran for 75 days which means that that is the same for Community Coach. Their numbers are increasing still. Ridership is up 12 percent over the same time last year. On Route 15 they are having the highest ridership ever on that route. That is the route that goes down to Indian River State College. The funding for that particular route is 100 percent covered by the Federal Government. That runs out this September but they're hoping that they're going to reup it. It's an important route.

There are no changes to their road calls. It is the same as last year. They had four road calls. The coolant issue and low power was really the cause of those four road calls but they did have not any chargeable accidents during that month.

They are slated to have all of their bus shelters installed. They are going to start with the 27 Avenue shelters first. There are some that need more work than others and cost a little bit more than others. 27th Avenue happens to be one of them because they have to put in sidewalk and some other infrastructure for the location that those stops will be at. All of those will be happening. The list of shelters and Simme-seats that will hopefully change for the next quarter.

Advertising on the bus is very successful and growing. There's more demand for it. They had 12 complaints this past which was down a couple from the last quarter of the same year ago. They had one reckless driving complaint. Timeliness is the biggest complaint. People complaining that their buses are not getting picked up on time and, of course, they are tracking that all the time at different stops to find out if they delayed. Ms. Deigl stated that they have had conversations with the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged. They are very happy with the Senior Resource Association. They're the ones that are providing the dollars now for that program and last year there was \$4 million dollars on the table for the State for Innovative Service Grants and they received \$2 million dollars for the Treasure Coast. Ms. Deigl is very hopeful that they will get the same amount. Those trips are specifically for the disabled and its for work and job training.

Dr. Hurst asked about the three poor customer service complaints were about. Ms. Deigl stated she would have to check into that. She did not know specifically what those three complaints were. She

stated she would follow up. If there is anything major, SRA is on top of it. Ms. Deigl had a meeting with Dr. Moore from Indian River County regarding concerns about the nursing program being moved to Stuart. She shared her concern about transportation because they don't have any intra-school transportation to get people to their different locations. That it's going to make it difficult for a lot of Indian River County students to continue to participate in those types of programs. He stated he would keep an eye on it.

Review of Progress Report and Reimbursement Invoice #3 for the 2022/2023 Planning Grant

– Action Required

Mr. Brian Freeman stated that this is reimbursement for the activities for the quarter that ended March 31st, 2023. They have a lot of remaining items that are being competed this quarter and will be covered under the fourth invoice for the year.

ON MOTION by Mr. Bob McPartlan, SECONDED by Ms. Wendy Grow, the Board voted unanimously (11-0) to approve the Progress Report and Reimbursement Invoice #3 for the 2022/23 Planning Grant and to recommend that the MPO approve it so it can be submitted to the State for reimbursement.

Consideration of the FY 2023/24 Annual Update to the Indian River County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP) – Action Required

Mr. Freeman stated that every year the CTC which is the SRA submits their trip reimbursement rates using a worksheet that the State Commission provides. The State Commission has already approved the proposed rates for next fiscal year which will start July 1 of this year. They are then to incorporate those revised rates into their Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP). The TDSP was mentioned during their TDP presentation earlier. They will be coming back to the Board in the next few meetings with some updates on their Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan because they do have to update that every five years after they complete the CTC selection process. He advised that the MPO Board did recommend SRA for the next five years again for the role of CTC. It's on the State Commission's Agenda for June 15th.

ON MOTION by Mr. Bob McPartlan, SECONDED by Ms. Melissa Arndt, the Board voted unanimously (11-0) to approve the FY 2023/24 Annual Update to the Indian River County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP).

Community Transportation Coordinator Status Report – No Action Required

Mr. Freeman stated that those were all the items. As Mr. Roberson mentioned, they're going to be out at the Gifford Youth Achievement Center and also at the United Against Poverty. They will also be conducting a lot more of the surveying on the TDP.

Other New Business – No Action Required

Chairman Loar thanked everyone for attending the meeting and wished everyone a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend.

Public Comment – No Action Required

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

The next meeting of the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board will be held on **August 24, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**