


*** M E M O R A N D U M ***
SEPTEMBER 28, 2009

TO: HAL BRAUNER, WARD 9 COUNCILOR
MIKE BEILSTEIN, WARD 5 COUNCILOR
LINDA MODRELL, BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER
KEN GIBB, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
STEVE ROGERS, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
KAREN EMERY, PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR
LINDA ELDER, DIAL-A-BUS DIRECTOR
CELESTE WEAVER DE BALAN, DIAL-A-BUS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
ROGER IRVIN, BENTON COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
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GREG VERRET, BENTON COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
FRED TOWNE, PLANNING DIVISION MANAGER
JIM MITCHELL, TRANSPORTATION & BUILDINGS DIVISION MANAGER
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TRANSPORTATION PLANNER
BOB LOWRY, LINN-BENTON LOOP COMMISSION
JACKIE SCHRECK, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM CHAIR
BRAD UPTON, BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION CHAIR

FROM: JON S. NELSON, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: UNTIED WAY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOCUS GROUP ON TRANSPORTATION
AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT
SEPTEMBER 15, 2009 NOTES

Thanks again for your participation at the meeting. I really appreciated your time and input.

For those of you invited but unable to attend the meeting, I promised to capture the meeting's discussion points in the hope that it may generate further collaborative discussions.

The following notes reflect the assets, gaps and next steps we discussed. Please let me know if I missed an important point.

Assets

- | | |
|---|---|
| * Safety sidewalk and ramp program | * ADA accessible facilities |
| * Transit availability and coordination | * Compact city to better serve transit users |
| * Volunteers (600 Dial-A-Bus) | * Dial-A-Bus |
| * Paratransit | * Transit users (17% senior/disabled, 30% low income) |
| * Collaboration of government partners | * Alternate modes options (walking, bicycles) |
| * Interfaith care givers | * Inclusive and empowering planning |
| * Medical services availability | * MPO and ACT |

- * Progressiveness
- * Railroad infrastructure
- * PDX shuttle
- * Ride share program

- * Van pool system
- * Planning reduces barriers
- * Travel shed perspective

Gaps

- * More corner sidewalk curb cuts
- * 10 year district sidewalk program too long
- * Downtown drop off site for vans with lifts
- * Adair Village transit service
- * Bike facilities; Adair Village to Corvallis and Albany to Corvallis
- * Monroe to Corvallis transit service
- * Linn-Benton service lacking after 2:30 pm
- * Aging fleet
- * Corvallis to Portland commute all but impossible
- * Healthy food access for low income; community gardens

- * Rural to urban transportation gaps
- * Need 15 minute transit head ways v. 30/60
- * More transit hours, routes, Sunday service
- * Fares too high
- * Enhance ride share and van pool
- * Political jurisdictions do not match/overlay with travel shed opportunities and boundaries
- * Community-to-community travel is hard
- * Amtrak services
- * Dial-A-Bus facilities needs
- * Transportation brokerage for medicaid does not cover required traveling companions

Next Steps to Address Gaps

Discussion areas included the work programs jurisdictions are pursuing that may address “gaps.” An example is Corvallis consideration of enhancing its transit system and safety sidewalk program.

By sharing the notes from the meeting, it is hoped that participants will communicate with each other on collaborative efforts to address identified gaps. Alternatively, I would be happy to facilitate an initial meeting on a collaborative effort idea; please give me a call.

c: Terry Ross, Oregon State University
Jennifer Moore, United Way