



**Draft Meeting Minutes
Transportation Advisory Committee
Wednesday, June 12, 2024; 2:00 p.m.**

MCRPC, Suite M-103, Government Center
115 East Washington St., Bloomington, Illinois
Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Meeting

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

2. Attendance

In Person: Jennifer Sicks, Tania Barreto, Francesca Lewis, Thomas Valencia, and Ashlyn Bristle (McLean County RPC).

Virtual: Raymond Lai, Sydni Brantley (MCRPC), Laura Dick (SHOW BUS); Kathryn Johnson (ECIAAA); Shelly Moss (Connect Transit); Dietra Kulicke (Chestnut Health Systems).

3. Public Comment

No public comments have been received.

4. Approval of Minutes May 8 10, 2024

This item will be addressed at the next meeting as there was no quorum.

Items for Discussion

5. IDOT HSTP Program Status Report

- There is no new information on delivery status for vehicles or additional contracting.
- When IDOT has new information, grantees (under the consolidated vehicle procurement) will be contacted via Black Cat. Ms. Sicks will also inform organizations if new information is available.

6. HSTP Region 6 Committees and Regional Plan Update

- MCRPC will meet with the Region 6 Joint Committees (Policy and Technical) in Pontiac next Monday July 17th. There is a zoom link on the MCRPC website for those interested in attending. Anyone with comments on the plan should submit them by June 17th.
- The updated Region 6 Human Services Transportation Plan will be submitted for approval during that meeting. One of the objectives of the plan is to ensure there is representation from each county for each of the committees.

7. Urban Area Provider Program Status

a. Connect Transit

- Finishing analysis of Micro zone that was rolled out. They will have recommendations for the Board during their June meeting.
- Starting a messaging campaign, part of new branding for the system. There will be new wraps on buses and new promotional materials will be available.
- Connect Transit will start hiring new drivers for Connect Mobility and fixed route service. The Connect Mobility service demand is growing, so new drivers are to keep up with demand.
- Connect Transit currently waiting on vehicles from the CDP program but have no updates from IDOT.

b. Other Organizations

- No other representatives were present. Ms. Sicks will contact their representatives to inquire as to updates.

8. Urban Area Provider Program Status

a. East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging

- They are working of rebranding, with the objective of making it easier for older adults to find their services and/or be directed to the right resources.
- As one of their main services is transportation and meals delivery, it is important for people to be able to find them.
- Ms. Sicks asked if there are restrictions on changing the organization name. Ms. Johnson advised that the agency may change their name to serve their community.

b. SHOWBUS

- Ms. Dick has not heard anything about delivery dates for vehicles received though IDOT grants. There may be additional information in August.
- If awarded money from other grants such as Rebuild rounds 1, 2 or 3, and based on their contracts, organizations would have to cover the cost differences with local funding. The option has been offered to reduce the scope of their contracts to reduce costs. Any changes in scope will be subject to approval, requiring several stages of review.
 - The SHOW BUS original scope for Region 6 was for 3 super medium and 3 medium buses. The scope has been reduced to 3 super medium buses.
 - IDOT has announced that organizations will not receive buses in large numbers, but rather one by one.
- SHOWBUS has more drivers than usual.
- There will be a new Adult Care Program in Kankakee. The center will be breaking ground in November 2024. SHOWBUS staff is already in conversations with them for transportation services and they are hoping that the new center will help bring back adult care to other Region 6 counties. For the program to break even, it will require at least 100 clients.

c. Chestnut Health Systems

- No new updates. Although they have transportation services, it is limited to their clients.
- Ms. Sicks noted that MCRPC will be initiating a Veterans Parkway study, an objective of which is to have accessible health care along the corridor. She inquired as to findings of the Needs Assessment Plan that should be considered by the study.
- The Health Department prepares a Community Needs Assessment Plan every three years. A survey is launched in support of the assessment will be opening next week. There are questions about transportation and health access. Survey results may be available later in August.

9. Next Meeting – Wednesday, July 10, 2024.

- Implementation strategies of the Region 6 Plan will be discussed.

10. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 pm.