

Umatilla County Transportation Advisory Committee
Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Umatilla County Courthouse, Pendleton OR 97801 Room 114
Zoom virtual option
May 17, 2023 10:00AM

AC Members Present: Staci Kunz (transit consultant); Heidi Zeigler (DHS); and Teresa Dutcher (Chair)

AC Members Virtually: JD Tovey (CTUIR/Kayak); Rod Harwood (GOBHI); and Linda Carter (City of Pendleton)

County Liaison: Megan Davchevski (Transit Coordinator)

Public: Krista Purser, Matt Hughart and Desly Amurao (Kittelson and Associates)

Chair Dutcher greeted the group and called the Umatilla County Transportation Advisory Committee (UCTAC) meeting to order at 10:02 AM. There were introductions of the UCTAC committee members in the room and online.

Meeting Minutes:

Heidi moved to approve the April 19, 2023 minutes as presented. Staci seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

* JD Tovey joined the meeting virtually following the vote. *

Transit Development Plan (TDP) Discussion

Megan began the discussion by stating that the UCTAC reviewed the draft TDP at the April 19th meeting, and the Committee requested her to reach back out to the transit providers for feedback. Only Good Shepherd CareVan provided a response for corrections to their hours of operations. Kittelson has made these corrections. Krista Purser noted that more statements have been added to the draft stating that maintaining existing services is more important than expanding services.

Staci asked if public transit for special events could be an added project? Krista responded that page 24 discusses collaborating for special events. Staci asked if park and rides will be coordinated with ODOT? Krista responded with yes, particular park and ride locations have not been identified.

Megan clarified that Stepping Stones (transitional housing) is referenced in Memos 4 and 5. Staci added that she thinks that the City of Umatilla will provide transit services soon. JD shared that CTUIR Kayak and the City are exploring funding options to expand transit services.

Linda asked how this document would be used long term? She thinks sustainability is important and should be a priority. She shared that Krista is going to re-word the statement about the cities of Hermiston and Pendleton not having good transportation to retirement homes. Krista responded that she would follow up with Linda to identify these statements.

Chair Dutcher asked if the group could approve the document with the changes discussed today? The group consensus was yes.

Decision:

Rod moved to recommend approval of the Transit Development Plan to the Board of Commissioners with the discussed edits. Staci seconded. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.

Megan shared that this document will go before the Board of Commissioners on June 7th.

Other Business:

Megan shared that Milton-Freewater no longer wants to provide their fixed-route transit system. This decision goes before the City Council June 12th. Milton-Freewater would still operate the senior/disabled taxi ticket program. Umatilla County, CTUIR Kayak, the City of Milton-Freewater and Chair Dutcher met yesterday to discuss how to keep fixed-route services in Milton-Freewater.

Staci asked if the City completed their system study? Megan responded with no, the study will still need to be completed.

STIF Discretionary grant awards were announced this morning, all of our route requests were partially funded.

Meeting adjourned at 10:26 AM.

Submitted by Megan Davchevski, Umatilla County Transit Coordinator