

Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board

Teleconference notes

March 15, 2016

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon Alaska Time

PRESENT:

- Joan O’Keefe, Nonprofit Organization
- Glenn Miller, Municipality
- Heidi Frost, Disabilities
- Jennifer Beckmann, Low Income
- Lucas Lind, Alaska Mental Health Trust
- Pat Branson, Seniors
- Katherine Eldemar, Denali Commission
- Robert Wright, Public At Large
- Mike Vigue, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
- Lisa Aquino, Public At Large

NOT PRESENT:

- Julianne Baltar, Tribal
- Kelda Barstad, Department of Health and Social Services, Senior and Disability Services
- John Cannon, Department of Labor and Workforce Development

STAFF:

- Debbi Howard, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
- Eric Taylor, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
- Marsha Bracke, Bracke & Associates, Inc., Facilitator

AGENDA

STATUS REPORTS

C&PTAB members provided the following updates:

Coordination Recommendation – Mike Vigue

In the effort to secure an opportunity to present the Coordination Recommendation to the Governor, Mike has talked with his Commissioner who has talked with the Governor and Chief of Staff directly. The feedback is to wait until the end of the session. Chances are a meeting will not occur before the April 11 meeting of the C&PTAB and April 12 presentation to the Transit Conference given the legislative schedule, but Mike will continue to pursue this. Pat Branson said she will be in Juneau the last week of March, and if anything were to be scheduled for that time, she could participate. Mike said the meeting could also happen in Anchorage; he will provide whatever new information he gets.

Calculating Costs – Jennifer Beckmann and Debbi Howard

The excel spreadsheet is ready for demonstration at the conference, pending a potential test by the folks who participated in the initial focus group. Marsha will try to schedule a webinar of among as many on that group as possible to test the tool prior to the April conference.

Accessible Taxi Initiative – Glenn Miller, Heidi Frost and Joan O’Keefe

The Fairbanks NorthStar Borough Request For Proposal (RFP) to do an Accessible Taxi Feasibility Study was scheduled for release February 25, 2016. A costs analysis conducted to compare this effort to other studies was recently completed (to fulfill requirements of the study grant). The RFP should be released in the next week or two. The RFP maintains the June 30 reporting deadline.

Tribal Transit – Marsha Bracke

Julie Baltar, who could not be on this call, is coordinating the agenda and the process for the Tribal Transit Conference, where C&PTAB has a place on a panel discussion featuring coordination. Those interested in discussing that in more detail are invited to stay on the call following the adjournment of this meeting. C&PTAB expressed a lot of enthusiasm for this opportunity.

TRANSIT CONFERENCE

The Transit Conference features a C&PTAB Update and workshop on coordination during the early morning session on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, and a breakout session later that same morning on the C&PTAB Calculating Costs demonstration. Marsha will draft a presentation/workshop and send to the group to review electronically, and work with the Calculating Costs subcommittee on framing their part of the agenda.

Information to sign up for the conference has already been distributed.

APRIL 11 C&PTAB MEETING

Mike asked how many board members would be attending the meeting. Kelda Barstad had already reported she would not be able to attend due to travel constraints; Katherine Eldemar confirmed the same. Lucas Lind reported he was tentative at best. Mike Vigue will not be able to attend because of commitments to the legislative session on April 12.

Regarding the agenda, Marsha proposed a Strategic Planning Session in the morning, given this single opportunity for the group to meet face-to-face this year. The afternoon would focus on preparing for the conference presentations and workshops. It is hoped some IWG members can attend and participate in helping prepare for and conducting the workshop. Marsha will send a specific invitation.

Marsha will work with DOT to explore videoconference opportunities to engage people face to face in the strategic planning session. An agenda will be forthcoming.

POST CALL DISCUSSION

The following individuals remained for the post call discussion about the Tribal Transit Conference presentation: Mike Vigue, Heidi Frost, Jennifer Beckmann, Katherine Eldemar, Eric Taylor, Debbi Howard and Marsha Bracke.

Marsha shared with the group the agenda on which Julie was working and the specific coordination panel discussion. Mike reported he was asked to represent the DOT&PF Transit/FTA portion of that panel; Heidi and Jennifer had previously volunteered to represent the C&PTAB, and Julie had them identified on the agenda already.

Heidi reported she has been doing additional research around coordination, its benefits, and its economic impacts to share with the panel. Because Marsha was not able to get Heidi, Jennifer and Julie together on the phone in the weeks prior, she went ahead and drafted a PPT intended for use as a framework and talking points for what she anticipated would be initial comments by presenters. Mike suggested opportunities to coordinate that with DOT&PF.

There were some mixed expectations among folks on the call about the scope and process of the panel, whether there would or would not be introductory comments, whether DOT&PF would speak together or separately, and thoughts that the panel would most emphasize a robust discussion among the panelists. Both Mike and Marsha reported having already sending questions to Julie (in Marsha's case) and Paulette (in Mike's) about session purpose and process.

The group reviewed the PPT, discussed and made some edits, committed to following up on developing sections that specifically applied to them (DOT&PF doing the FTA guidelines piece, C&PTAB doing the C&PTAB introduction and supplemental information to enrich it). Regardless of the panel format and process, the group considered the coordination of talking points important to eliminate redundancy, and all remained flexible in terms of sharing, separating or otherwise coordinating those messages.

Marsha committed to contact Julie as soon as possible to try to secure answers to those questions. *(Post meeting: Marsha reached Julie who then scheduled a conference call of the entire Tribal Transit Conference Coordination Panel on Friday, March 18, 2016 from 10-11 a.m.)*