



Town of Sudbury

<https://sudbury.ma.us/transportation/>

Sudbury Transportation Committee

Minutes

Thursday, March 28, 2019

2:00 PM

Police Department Conference Room, 75 Hudson Road, Sudbury, MA

Core Members Present: Daniel Carty, Alice Sapienza, Beth Suedmeyer, Bethany Hadvab, Daniel Nason, Susan Iuliano, Adam Duchesneau

Advisory Group Members Present: Debra Galloway

Absent: Charlie Dunn, Carmine Gentile, Scott Nix

Also present: Kay Bell, Commission on Disabilities; Linda Faust, citizen guest

Confirmation of Quorum

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, Dan Carty as acting chair convened the meeting at 2:11 PM.

Selection of Clerk

Alice Sapienza agreed to take minutes.

Microtransit Presentation

Alice Sapienza shared an upcoming Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC) presentation, "Microtransit in the MAGIC Region: Where? How? Why?" with the committee. This material, to be presented on 4 April in Concord, summarized the technical assistance provided by the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission (MAPC), with funding from MAGIC, for the taxi, bus, and livery initiative submitted in March 2018. In brief, the relevant chronology of technical assistance began when Travis Pollack (MAPC) disseminated a request for information (RFI) to microtransit vendors in December 2018, and six companies responded: eCab, Liftango, RouteMatch, TransDev, and TransLoc. Presentations from these vendors took place virtually in January and February 2019. Materials available include (1) each vendor's response to the RFI, (2) slide decks from each vendor, and (3) notes on the Q&A, etc., that occurred during the video conferences. The objective of today's presentation was to provide industry and strategic conclusions, as opposed to any judgment about the preference for a particular vendor. The hope is that, at the MAGIC meeting, the results will stimulate a conversation about microtransit as complement to regional transportation authority (RTA) services.

Linda Faust and Kay Bell provided important input on these initiatives in terms of accessibility. Kay Bell also discussed the importance of communication about any new service, and passed out feedback on her experience with the twice-weekly shuttle service on Route 20. In general, committee members believed the presentation provided a clear overview of microtransit at this point in time.

Efficiency and Regionalization, Community Compact Cabinet Grant

Also part of MAPC technical assistance was creation of an application for an Efficiency and Regionalization grant. This was completed and submitted to the state on 15 February 2019. Subsequently, Travis Pollack was notified by Sean Cronin that the application be submitted instead to the Community Compact Cabinet's Best Practice Program. Alice Sapienza stated that this change will involve the following:

- Sudbury will be lead municipality submitting the request; the other towns collaborating in the original E&R grant are Acton, Bolton, Boxborough, Carlisle, and Stow
- The required signatory on the CCC proposal is the Chair of the Board of Selectmen (Robert Haarde). The proposed application needs to be added to the agenda for the Sudbury BoS meeting on 9 April. Adam will inform the town manager; Dan will ensure discussion of the proposal on 4/9. Sapienza available as needed and will submit application on 10 April.
- As lead, Sudbury will be assisted by MAPC in the overall management of this multijurisdictional pilot. Monies will be awarded to Sudbury, and there will be minor administrative support needed over the course of the pilot (e.g., reports on interim progress and a final lessons learned report). MAPC, as regional planning agency, will take the lead in coordinating communities, etc.

Upcoming Meetings With Attleboro YMCA, With Lyft

Dan Carty has spoken with Robin McDonald at the Attleboro YMCA, a reference provided by Andi Bailey of Uber, and suggested that anyone interested in the Y's experience with Uber could go to Attleboro when a meeting is set up. Carty also reminded the Committee that Ben Sisko from Lyft would present at the next meeting (April 18, 9:30 AM, at the Police Station). Carty, Sapienza, and Sisko will have brief conversation on 5 April, to prepare for that meeting.

Chamber of Commerce Feedback

Dan Carty distributed a memo from Charlie Dunn, following up on a request for information from Charlie about town businesses and views on employment and transportation. His findings included data on hourly wages of employees needed as well as where current employees live. The conclusion was that affordable transportation would be a benefit, and businesses might be willing to provide some sponsorship (e.g., subsidize portion of transportation services).

Member Updates, Administrative Updates

With regard to the recent public presentation of the Livable Sudbury assessment, Alice Sapienza offered to provide tailored excerpts from the report to Committee Members, for the benefit of their stakeholders (e.g., Department of Health, Public Safety, etc.).

Beth Suedmeyer discussed two new planning efforts by Sudbury: the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) plan, and the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) update. The MVP is sponsored by the state's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and we received a grant to develop the plan and be a certified MVP town. The LHMP is coordinated by FEMA (federal) and MEMA (state), and we also received a grant to update our expired 2010 plan. There will be public meetings during the development of each plan. Additionally, because of the overlap between transportation and municipal vulnerabilities, Beth invited members of the Transportation Committee to attend meetings with the consultant on these topics during the next year. Members of this committee will be involved in the planning process. Once the plans are complete, Sudbury will be able to apply for implementation grants.

Debra Galloway presented statistics for both the CoA vans (July-Feb, 4,433 rides) and the new Tuesday/Thursday shuttle (Oct-Feb, 525 rides). This translates to 64 unique riders for the CoA vans, and 44 unique riders for the shuttle.

Review of Action Items

- Where does TNC levy reside in town accounting? (OPEN) Carty to follow up with Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues; noted that amounts are currently very small
- Weston Senior Center ride hailing 101 (CLOSED): Debra Galloway scheduled a workshop on Uber/Lyft Rideshare at the Senior Center for May 2. She spoke with the "TRIPPS" organization to do this. She will find out if hard copy material is available (OPEN).
- Chamber of Commerce—where workers live (CLOSED, see above)
- Alice Sapienza status on Transportation Committee charter (OPEN); this should be settled during the April 9 BoS meeting
- MWRTA Grant (OPEN); where is the actual grant available?
- Public Safety LERT and assist training information (OPEN): to be provided by Andi Bailey from Uber
- Public procurement relevance to town contract with TNC (OPEN): Dan Carty will follow up
- Grant Writing help from town (OPEN): Carty to keep this topic (either a hired grant writer or ability to hire part-time consultation services) current, noting this is a longer term item
- Emerson information (CLOSED): Kelsey Magnusen provided full statistics and answered the question about outpatient services (they do not include physician office visits)

Future Agenda Items

Describe the results of the MAGIC presentation on microtransit at the 4/18 meeting.

Review and Approval of Prior Minutes

Minutes of 7 February 2019: Alice Sapienza moved to approve, Susan Iuliano seconded, no discussion, approved with noted edits

Minutes of 21 February 2019: Alice Sapienza moved to approve, Dan Nason seconded, no discussion, approved with noted edits

Minutes of 14 March 2019: Dan Carty moved to approve, Beth Suedmeyer seconded, no discussion, approved with noted edits.

Discuss and Schedule Upcoming Meetings

Next meeting scheduled for April 18th 9:30am Police Department 1st floor training room

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:41 PM.