

**Transportation Policy Advisory Committee
Public Transportation Sub-Committee**

Members Present:

Dick Lemieux, Acting Chair
Councilor Byron Champlin
Councilor Brent Todd
Ruairi O'Mahony
Laura Aibel (Staff Representative)

Members Absent:

Ed Roberge (Staff Representative)
Steve Henninger (Staff Representative)

Others Attending:

Jim Sudak
Deb Cuddahy, Penacook Community Center
Tom Irwin

I. Call to Order/Introductions

Mr. Lemieux called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the December 2013 meeting held on January 7, 2014 were approved.

III. Bus Stop at Penacook Community Center

Ms. Deb Cuddahy, Executive Director of the Penacook Community Center, presented materials detailing the Community Center's mission and vision. She also presented a schedule of services provided by the Community Center for seniors that would benefit from adding a CAT stop near the Center. Previously, Mr. O'Mahony and Mr. Sudak had test driven a CAT vehicle by the Center to verify the feasibility of getting a vehicle through the streets and to time the detour. Their test drive confirmed a stop on the northbound route could be accommodated without disrupting the existing Penacook route schedule. The subcommittee was supportive of adding the stop because it would enhance senior access to the fixed route system, thereby increasing individual mobility. After some discussion, the subcommittee requested Mr. O'Mahony and Mr. Sudak complete another test drive to determine the feasibility of adding a stop at the Community Center on the southbound route as well. They will report back their findings next meeting.

IV. FY2015 CAT Funding Request

Mr. Sudak presented the draft funding request. The request is for level funding, providing the same level of service. Mr. Sudak continues to be very concerned with driver retention. The salaries offered by CAT are not competitive with the transit industry or construction opportunities. The subcommittee thanked Mr. Sudak for his efforts. A representative from the subcommittee will be prepared to speak at the budget hearing in support of the funding request. Mr. Sudak reminded the subcommittee that a major equipment replacement is scheduled for FY2016.

V. Public Comments

There was no public comment.

VI. Referrals

There were no council referrals this month.

VII. Updates/Old Business

- i. Ridership Report** – Mr. Sudak distributed the ridership reports. The subcommittee noted ridership was down slightly. Mr. Sudak indicated riders are not inclined to wait in the cold for buses, so any optional trips are reduced.

- ii. **CAT Quick Report** – Mr. Sudak distributed the Quick Report. The Volunteer Driver Program (VDP) continues to expand.
- iii. **CAT Monthly Productivity Report** – Not distributed this month.
- iv. **CAT Outreach** – The Mobility Manager and Travel Trainer continue to reach out to English as a Second Language (ESL) students, Riverbend clients, Concord High School students and others to encourage people to use CAT as a means of transportation.

VIII. New Business

IX. Other Discussions

- i. **Reserved for CIP/Private Development Projects**- No report.
- ii. **CAPBMCI/CAT Staff Updates** – No update.
- iii. **Adopt a Bench Program** –No update.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.