

Central Vermont Mobility Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES

October 2nd, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

Attendance: Dan Currier (AOT); Tim Bradshaw (GMT); Monica White (GMT); Nick Foss (GMT); Cynthia Gilbert (GMT); Caitlin Roseen (CVCOA); Amanda Carlson (Capstone); Reuben MacMartin (CVRPC).

Nicholas provided a financial update from GMT for the O&D programs. Of note, the GMT transit rate would be rising substantially in FFY 25 due to increased costs and loss of Covid emergency funding programs with Washington County seeing an increased cost of roughly 20% per ride despite an increase in year-over-year funding from VTrans. Dan offered that this year VTrans was able to provide ~11% more funding than last and that money was shiftable between regions depending on relative demand. Dan went on to note that expected future budget constraints on VTrans necessitate concerted planning for cost containment on all service providers receiving VTrans funds. Nick added that while the per-vehicle-hour rate of service will increase by ~20% this will be partially offset by elimination of per-ride fees.

Reuben requested ridership data at finest useable resolution from providers. Nick offered that ridership by funding stream was available. Group discussion turned to data quality and resolution available via Route Match and ultimately concluded that some form of useable data should be deliverable. Amanda offered that Capstone can do a data pull for their Gopher service.

Monica reported that TAC volunteer driver recruitment efforts via Front Porch Forum has not yielded results. Cynthia noted the return of a previous volunteer and a referral from VTrans. Caitlin highlighted volunteer fatigue post-covid and floods, shared that she had connected with a U of ME researcher looking into climate-related volunteerism and drivers as a logistical asset for disaster response due to their existing in a coordination structure. Potential for coordinating with large employers offering volunteer PTO was discussed. Amanda noted increased demand for moving assistance from unhoused service users. Cynthia observed that moving luggage can be a big ask for some volunteer

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drivers. There was general agreement that having to move folks puts a strain on volunteer retention.

Tim thanked VTrans for increased funding for O&D services. Dan reported that VTrans is currently finalizing new O&D guidance, as last round was issued in 2020, with publication scheduled for November.