CHEYENNE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Laramie County Library Windflower Room and Zoom January 11, 2023



Attendees: Barbara Boyd in-person

C.J. Brown in-person
Kellie Johnson in-person
Clay Muirhead, Chairman in-person
Boyd Wiggam in-person
Rachel Meeker in-person
Dawn Fiscus in-person

Absent: None

Guest: A.T. Stoddard LSC Transportation Consultants

Renee Jording Cheyenne Transit Vicki Nemecek Public Works Director

Staff: Tom Mason MPO Director

Valerie Pickard Office Manager Ginni Stevens Senior Planner

• **Approval of the October 12, 2022 minutes**, moved by Mr. Muirhead, seconded by C.J. Brown. Amendments were made to correct attendance at the last meeting. Minutes as amended pass.

Introductions

- Presentation and recommendation of the Cheyenne Transit Program, Transit Development Plan
 - a. AT Stoddard: The MPO consultant presented the draft Cheyenne Transit Development Plan. We started this plan about a year ago, reviewing existing documents, evaluating existing services and ridership. Ridership on the fixed route services decreased steadily since 2014. The direct service route has been consistent throughout all the years it has been offered. Reviewed routes and stops pre-and post-pandemic. We collected community input via community survey, transit user survey, community meetings and had information on a website. Our proposed transit service plan is proposed in 3 phases over the next 3 years. Phase one brings back 2 of the fixed routes, hourly service with transfers downtown and at the north Walmart and includes complementary paratransit service. Phase 2 will add two additional routes for a total of 4 routes. Adding a third route serves Lincolnway, College to Pershing to the Eastside Walmart, with opportunities for transfers on each route, which operates hourly. Micro transit will continue. Phase 3 will not add additional routes but expand the services provided, extending micro-transit until 10:00pm and Sunday

service from 10:00am to 5:00pm. Comparing previous fixed routes, our new plan covers all of the stops that had major passenger activity. The stops that are not in a proposed fixed route system will still have the micro transit service, so no one loses services. Capital Improvements cover fleet replacement, electric vehicles, and potential transfer sites and hubs to include curbside and on-street. Public comment opportunities included an online video presentation, online survey and the website. Next steps are public comment, presentations to MPO Committees, the City and the County. Then we will prepare the final TDP.

- 1) Mr. Muirhead: Have you determined an underlying cause of the decrease of ridership?
 - (i) Mr. Stoddard: We did look at that, it is a combination of factors. Some of the routes were not efficient, another is that the routes have been the same for a long time, and ridership has changed. There was a fare increase, also the economy was doing well during a portion of that time, so people might choose to drive their own vehicles.
- 2) Mr. Brown: Do the majority of riders have special needs?
 - (i) Mr. Stoddard: It is a mix of people but is mostly people with transportation needs.
- 3) Mr. Brown: A lot of the routes go to shopping centers; do you see a method of carrying items on the bus?
 - (i) Mr. Stoddard: For some, the micro transit might work better. There are a couple options for people.
 - (ii) Mrs. Jording: We have double the amount of stops by adding 'virtual' stops. There is not specifically a bus sign there, but people can be picked up and dropped off within a few blocks from their house.
- a. Mr. Muirhead moved to recommend the plan, seconded by Mrs. Fiscus.
- b. Mrs Meeker: motions to extend phase III service to 11:00pm, seconded by Mrs Boyd.

• Review of Citizens' Advisory Committee By-laws and Terms of Appointment

a. Mr. Mason: You have been provided a copy of the bylaws. If you have any recommendations, please email them to me in the next few weeks.

Update on Other MPO Planning Projects

- a. Colorado/Wyoming Transit Feasibility Study Tom Mason: This project has looked at the feasibility to offer transit between the Colorado Front Range and Cheyenne. This project has been completed by HDR, two public involvement online sessions, lots of public participation. I received the final report just yesterday, this will come before you in March.
- b. *Powderhouse Plan Tom Mason:* This plan is being done by AVI, on Powderhouse from Dell Range Blvd to the Torrington Highway. We had 41 in-person responses. The PlanCheyenne webpage has a nice story map of the project. The preliminary design is estimated to be done this month, with a public outreach meeting in March.
- c. *Van Buren Plan* this plan is being done by Y2 consultants between East Lincolnway to Dell Range Blvd. Our steering committee meeting was done on Dec 1st, with another meeting on January 18th, and an open house at Dildine on January 25th.
- d. *Southwest Drive Plan* US 30 West Lincolnway south to College Dr. Benchmark Engineering was selected for this project. The contract is now going through the

- Governing Body for approval.
- e. Our next project will be the *County Road Impact Fee Plan*, a TAP Grant was awarded to a *Safe Routes to Schools Plan*, the last plan was done 10 years ago. Local match is coming from CRMC and FORMAK a nonprofit foundation. Later this summer we are hiring a consultant for a Greenway plan, this is the last section of the original plan from Crow Creek (MLK Park) to the Airforce Base.

f.

Other Business

a. None

Next Meeting – May 24 and probably a Special Meeting in March.

Motion to adjourn Mr. Muirhead motions, Mr. Brown seconded. Meeting adjourned 8:19pm.