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Polk County Transportation Advisory Group

September 25th, 2019 - 1pm

Des Moines Area MPO

"Partnership of regional agencies to discuss barriers and connect Central Iowa with safe, accessible, reliable, and cost-efficient transportation."

AGENDA:

1) INTRODUCTIONS

Jeremy Johnson-Miller - IA DOT
Roxanne Cogil - Epilepsy Foundation
Dan Zolhan - Catholic Charities of Des Moines
Jessica Luckey- IMPACT Iowa
Hayley Rauzi - USCRI
Mike Armstrong - Street Collective
Catlin Curry - DART
Kevin Lone - Eyerly Ball
Natalie Lynch - United Way
Elizabeth Thill - Dental Connections
Jim Wilkie - LINK Associates
Anthony DuFauchard - RACI
Allison van Pelt - DMAMPO

2) PRESENTATION: Connecting Vulnerable Populations with Community Resources- MercyOne - Emily Fletcher

- a. Ms. Fletcher presented on MercyOne's Community Health Program.
Presentation can be found on the MPO website.

3) REPORT: Mobility Managers Update - Catlin Curry (DART)

DART will undergo a major service change on October 13, 2019. This service change has been under development since October of 2018. With the breadth of changes I encourage you to

Atona • Akey • Brouart • Calise • Clive • Dallas County • Des Moines • DART
Gins • Johnston • Mitchellville • Nowalk • Pleasant Hill • Polk City • Polk County
Urbale • Warren County • Walker • West Des Moines • Victor Heights

take a few minutes and visit <https://www.ridedart.com/2019> to familiarize yourselves with all that is changing.

Some key highlights of the changes include:

- Local Route 11 will extend to Deer Ridge to provide weekday service and the Deer Ridge shuttle will be discontinued.
- Flex Routes 72 and 74 will become Local Routes and will be extended to serve more residents and businesses.
- Flex Connect, a new on-demand service will replace Flex Route 73 - Urbandale/Windsor Heights.
- The Ankeny On Call shuttle hours and service area will be expanded. Will be available Monday-Friday, 9-4 p.m.
- The Grimes on Call shuttle will be replaced by an extension of Express Route 93 into Grimes. This will also mean DART's Bus Plus/Paratransit zone will extend further into Grimes and North Johnston.
- Minor route and/or schedule changes for Routes 3, 8, 10, 11, 14, 52, 72, 74, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 98, and 99.

We are actively sharing this information with riders via email, social media, bus audio, hangtags and temporary signs at affected bus stops, as well as signage at DART Central Station.

4) REPORT: MPO Update – Allison van Pelt

- a. Long-Range Transportation Plan, Mobilizing Tomorrow, is out for public comment. You can review the document [here](#). Public comment period is through November 8th, 2019.
- b. The MPO is participating in two regional discussions with the United Way and the Community Foundation of Des Moines
 - i. Transportation Gap Analysis – Stakeholder groups have recently been interviewed. The next steps are surveys later in Fall 2019. When these are released the MPO will send notifications to TAG members for their dissemination to their clients and staff.
 - ii. Central Iowa Long-Term Recovery – During this discussion the MPO, LINK Associates, DART, and more discussed Gaps in Knowledge, Services, and Participation in post-disaster transportation and housing programs. If you have notes you would like the MPO to pass along to the facilitators please do let Allison van Pelt know as soon as possible.
 1. Roxanne Cogil brought up the crisis those who take daily medication can find after a disaster, and how this can create a landslide of problems and decrease in welfare.
 2. Jessica Luckey mentioned after the Floods of 2018 there is a great need for resources for repairs, that repair providers often will not follow through due to their increased workloads, and that

renters are often responsible for repairs on property they do not own.

5) DISCUSSION: TAG Member Updates & Barriers Discussion

a. Street Collective -

- i. E-scooter discussion is ongoing. The main players at this point are DART, the Greater Des Moines Partnership, DMAMPO, Street Collective, and the City of Des Moines.
- ii. DART will be lead on RFQs, and the MPO will lead on community engagement during the exploratory process.
- iii. This group will come up with a set of regulations for the region regarding the use e-scooters.
- iv. This does leave an opportunity for cities to update and enhance sidewalk conditions for those who currently use the sidewalks and are burdened by construction, pavement conditions, or sidewalk gaps.
- v. The question was posed to TAG members to consider what the deal breakers are for their clients in regards to e-scooters. If you have comments on this topic, please contact Mike Armstrong (mike@streetcollective.org)
- vi. Possibility for a pilot program in summer of 2020.
- vii. The Street Collective will continue to update TAG as the conversation moves forward.

b. IMPACT -

- i. LIHEAP, IMPACT's Energy Assistance Program enrollment is coming up. It is available in Polk, Boone, Marion, Warren, and Jasper counties. Enrollment runs through April 31st, and is applicable to both renters and owners. For more information please consult their [website](#).

c. Epilepsy Foundation -

- i. Iowa Seizure Smart Conference is coming up on November 2nd, 2019 at Methodist Hospital in Des Moines. For more information please visit their [website](#).

6) WRAP UP/FINAL DISCUSSION

Next Meeting: *November 20th at 1pm at DMAMPO*