

Minutes

Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

November 3, 2010

Members Present

Nisa Blackwell, Bill Boone, Donald Crinkey, Mike Groeber, Rich Hanna, Dan Hepp, Mike Lowrey, Bill Peters, Herschel Purdue, Andrew Rice, Shane Scarberry, Michael Schulsinger, Dyana Shaffer, Richard Spangler, and Neil Webster

TCC Staff Present

Louis Agresta, Lamar Daniel, Glen Massie, Scott Schmid, and Melanie Runkel

The meeting was called to order by Glen Massie

Greetings and Introductions

The meeting was opened with an introduction of the TCC staff and members of the Citizens Advisory Committee. Each member offered

Transit Intro & Update Report

Glen Massie discussed that the first Transit Rider's/ADA Advisory Committee met on October 25th. This meeting took place during the day because of the limitations of the transit service. As a Federal Transit Administration fund recipient, the city of Springfield must have an ADA Advisory Committee which the city has been without for almost 10 years. Glen also described what services SCAT currently has to offer. He reported that SCAT was awarded four new diesel hybrid buses through the Clean and Green Initiative Grant. Last year SCAT received six new buses through ARRA grant funding. A travel training video will also be created to help people better understand how to ride transit.

Glen talked about alternative transportation and the criteria that must be met with some of the services offered in Clark County. The goal is to find out when these vehicles have down time and drivers available, as well as the cost to pull them together to form a central mobility management system. This will better help identify people who don't meet the criteria, have difficulty getting transportation outside the SCAT system and those people that need to work 2nd shift.

Glen reported on trying to get transportation services to the west side of the county through a Job Access Reverse Commute Grant.

RideShare/Air Quality Intro & Report

Lamar Daniel discussed the importance of air quality in the transportation planning field. He also reviewed alternative transportation options that are used to meet air quality goals. Lamar talked about Ozone Action Days and the need to educate the public when these days occur. He also talked about the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) which are located on the interstate. This warns drivers of any congestion, accidents, or construction.

Bike-Ped Intro & Update Report

Louis Agresta discussed some of the current projects, which include the Little Miami Trail Extension and Downtown Streets Conversion Study. He reported that he is working with the city and National Trails Recreation in regards to what projects he can apply for funding on through a Clean Ohio Trails Grant that is due February 1, 2011.

Roadways Intro and Update Report

Scott Schmid updated the committee on several roadway projects in city and county. He also discussed the Northridge Study, in particular the intersection of SR334 and Derr Rd. This study, which will start after the winter, will review traffic patterns in the area and safety.

Committee Mission and Goals

Glen stated that the CAC represents the general public of Clark County as a whole. All federal programs require a public involvement process and we hope to gain more participation through the CAC.

Glen discussed ways the members of the CAC can make the committee successful:

- Encourage regular attendance and participation
- Share the results of the meeting with the general public
- Meeting agenda and minutes will be posted on the website
- Open discussion: what you as a committee can offer and what you hope to gain in the short/long term

Dan Hepp shared his thoughts that there needs to be safe street/roadways for bicyclists. He used Northridge as an example, stating that you can't get there safely on a bicycle. Herschel Purdue added that Derr Rd. was recently repaved with no change. Scott Schmid added that this is a temporary fix and a proposed left turn lane addition project is currently in the Transportation

Improvement Program. If they are looking at widening then additional space for bicycle/pedestrian needs to be considered.

Neil Webster wanted to know when the traffic signal studies are being conducted, are we evaluating the European style signals that use proximity sensors. Scott Schmid commented that most are evaluated with a loop detector in the ground or microwave sensor. The city of Springfield has quite a few that use the microwave sensor at the top of the mast arm. Neil added that what is frustrating is being at an intersection and you are sitting there idling.

Herschel Purdue asked if the TCC's Long Range Plan takes in consideration for electric car infrastructure in the city. Scott Schmid commented that it doesn't currently and the last update to the Long Range Plan was in 2008. The next update will be in FY2012. Lamar added that currently the TCC is applying for the Sheriff's Dept., County Engineer, and Jobs & Family Services to receive alternative gasoline vehicles.

Richard Spangler wanted to know what kind of quality of air is coming across our borders and is it currently being measured. Lamar stated that there is a monitor on the central firehouse for this issue and two other monitors for ozone (one on Spangler Rd. and another on North Urbana Rd. by Navistar). The Regional Air Pollution Control Agency in Dayton collects data from those three monitors and reports on an annual basis what the air quality issue is. The biggest portion of our air quality emissions is coming from the interstate.

Committee Focus Group (Breakout Session)

A 15 minute breakout session was held for members in their respective area of interest (roadway, bicycle/pedestrian, alternative transportation, and air quality) with TCC staff. Items to be discussed are:

- Identify immediate needs of your group
- What is required to meet the needs of the focus area
- Help to create a strategy
- Determine if how often the group will need to meet as if a subcommittee needs to be formed
- Designate a representative for the group to introduce the issues when the committee reconvenes

Committee Presentation and Discussion

- **Bicycle/Pedestrian** – Bill Peters reported that the group decided to let the Greater Springfield Friends of the Trail become the subcommittee for the CAC. Immediate concerns of the group right now is the relocation of the Little Miami Scenic Trail, looking at how

Northridge can be connected into the trail system or how to make it bicycle/walker friendly area, and being a part of the update to the Trail Plan. He added that the group felt meeting quarterly was a good way to stay in touch with what is going with the other groups. Nisa Blackwell wanted to know if the section of Derr Rd. near Moorefield would have a bike paths added. Louis Agresta commented that a consultant will review the area to determine the most feasible way to connect Northridge to the bike trail system, which may or may not include Derr Rd.

- **Alternative Transportation** – Andrew Rice reported that the main issue is accessibility. The group looked at the dependability of the transport, including personnel who will drive the vehicles, maintenance, and safety of the transport as well as that of the passengers. General area of focus included defining the transport area and the various costs involved. The group agreed that they should meet quarterly until there is a need to meet more often. Michael Schulsinger asked if alternative transportation would include aviation. Glen Massie commented that in regards to the TCC, we don't have any ties with aviation. The city of Springfield is directly involved with Federal Aviation. Lamar Daniel added that aviation only impacts air quality if there is an issue.
- **Air Quality** – Bill Boone reported that to positively impact air quality the group determined that emissions have to be reduced. In order to do that you have to look at alternative transportation, as well as changing the behavior of the general public. The group felt it would be a good idea to look at public education to help impact the general public. This would include working with local government/business and to be a part of the TIP process and Long Range Plan. The group would like to meet quarterly and Lamar suggested that it would also be a good idea to attend a couple of TCC meetings.
- **Roadway** – Scott Schmid commented that the group agreed to meet quarterly.
- **Transit** – Richard Spangler reported on what was discussed during the Transit Rider's/ADA Advisory Committee Meeting. Several issues were brought up for discussion: the difficulty of riders who use scooters/wheelchairs to get on and off the bus, the schedule of the SCAT buses, and the cost to ride the bus. Herschel Purdue commented that it would be a goal to make the public transportation system in Springfield productive and pleasurable that people would choose to ride it when they have other options. Currently, it seems that public transportation is solely for people who have no other forms of transportation. People who own cars in Springfield would not ride the bus. Michael Schulsinger asked where the schedules for SCAT are being distributed. Glen Massie stated that they are at Kroger, Meijer, locations downtown, in the TCC office, and SCAT's main office. Michael suggested that they be placed in the downtown library and the two branches in Springfield.

Establish Meeting Location and Frequency

It was determined by the committee as a whole that meeting quarterly is the best option. Glen stated that for future meetings he would like to see more time spent within the focus groups

talking about what the TCC staff has researched from the previous meetings. The next meeting will be February 2, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at Springview Government Center. The meeting site can be moved to other places to better accommodate people.

Old Business

No report

New Business

No report

Public Comment

No public comment

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.