

Minutes - Draft
Senior Services | Aging in Place Task Force Meeting
Transportation Working Group
February 23, 2022 6:00 PM

1. Call to Order

Called to order at 6:05pm.

Present: Paul Webb, Marie Catanzaro, Maryanne Dunmire, Cynthia Burt, Richard Pressel, Brad Strader, Steve Pernal.

2. Approval of Minutes from February 2 meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes.

Motion by: Brad Strader

Second: Richard Pressel

All in favor.

3. Approval of Agenda.

Motion: to approve the agenda.

Motion by: Maryanne Dunmire

Second: Richard Pressel

All in favor.

4. Subject Matter Expert Presentations

a. Speakers present

MyRide through AAA1B. They focus on options and travel training options for folks who need to become more familiar with services.

You can find information online, to find services based on your needs based on your zip code. Different resources have different limitations and may charge fees. Private companies are \$20 to \$30 per trip plus mileage so it can be expensive.

Travel training services are available and done by mobility specialist and driver cessation counseling is available and help them understand their options.

Anyone wishing to participate in the meeting who needs special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact Carol Schwanger, city manager executive assistant at 248-246-3203 by noon on December 30, 2021 so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Potential gaps for seniors are areas that are not covered by any community services and cost. Some areas have opted out of Smart. Services need more affordable options as more population ages. Funding is a challenge.

Mobility Specialist are taking calls Monday through Friday. Mobility training is based on availability and the needs of individual requesting. Typically done within 1-2 weeks. Can take out small groups at the same time.

SMART Bus Madonna Ombudsman for Oakland County to share information about SMART. ADA Assessment Coordinator was also available. SMART has fixed routes and connector service which is reservations based. Reservations depend on the type of activity. Doctor appointments are 6 days ahead while others meetings or social gatherings might be 2 days in order to make your reservations. ADA certified status, means you cannot take fixed route by yourself. With this will allow you to take connector bus anywhere you would like to go. Sometimes services are limited to radiuses and cities that are opt in cities. Participants must get certified through SMART to qualify. ADA status gives a lot of benefits for those who qualify. It takes 21 days to process applications for ADA certification status.

Flex is an on demand service within zones and the average ride is 2\$. Allows users within a zone to go where they would like also within that zone. Royal oak is partially covered under the Troy pilot. It covers parts of Royal Oak north of 13 mile.

Door to door service provides assistance from the door to your home, and from the vehicle to the door of the building you are going to. They can also do ADA ramp checks to ensure the ramps they are going on are ADA compliant. In door to door service the drivers cannot provide weight bearing assistance.

SMART also has a train the trainer program to help folks learn about using the bus. Assessment can offer suggestions in ensuring safety to ensure it be safer and easier. Recommended that you mention you need help so they can calculate additional time. The individual needs to carry whatever equipment or groceries they have as services often have different limitations on what they can do.

Ben Stupka from the Regional Transit Authority (RTA). RTA helps with funding for community based services, and SMART. Looks regionally for service gaps. Hopefully

looking a future of on-demand service, but there are a lot of challenges. December 2021 is the finalization of regional master plan. Looking at some regionally travel training. Different systems have different rules so Ann Arbor is different than SMART which is different than Detroit. RTA services as a business accelerator for transit.

Erin Koch, Interim Senior Services Center Coordinator. Senior bus from the senior center. Riders can schedule rides up to 2 weeks in advance. Royal Oak and Pleasant ridge only. Operate from 9am to 3pm so they work riders to make sure they get back home and let people know about the cut off time. You have to live in the city of Royal Oak, 62+ or disability with doctors note. Buses have lift, and ramps. 7 drivers who are awesome at helping residents and knowing where people live and what bus might be better for certain areas. No smart phone is required. \$3 for one way; \$4 round trip. Cash or upfront purchases of tickets. Some trips to areas outside of Royal Oak. Primarily Doctors or Somerset. Turnaround time is more limited. If you have a prescription if the driver is able they will wait for you, but it is only if they are able. Post-CoVID drivers don't help with bags, but that may change back in the future. The senior bus does not operate if we lose power, on holidays or weekends. Rides are first come, first served. Drivers also do day trips to museums and other events. SMART limits the bus to end at 3pm per the contract we have for their buses. Buses for are rented through SMART, typically at least 1 bus is in for maintenance.

b. Additional speakers for next meeting

Still looking into uber, lyft, go/go grandparent.

Sustainability Mobility group

c. Provide update on external presentations/answers

5. Work on "We Heard" and "We Are" statements

Think about this for next meeting.

Maybe we need to include electric vehicle infrastructure.

6. New Business

7. Next Meeting March 16, 2022

8. Public Comment.

Janice Wagman – parking sentry meters have kiosks is they take no coins in parking lots, like at city hall. Parking structure allows coins. Ferndale 9 mile and pine crest has back in, and people still park the wrong way. Parking structure by library has EV stations. Handicap on street parking and set design. Birmingham has a lot of spaces Royal Oak could too.

9. Adjournment.

Adjourn at 7:30pm.