

Transportation Advisory Group – RPA 1
Meeting Agenda: October 12, 2012
Upper Explorerland – Decorah Office Conference Room
10:00 a.m.

- ❖ Introductions
 - Karla Organist, Karn Pankow, Dee Hosak, Katie Angell and Earl Henry
- ❖ Recap of last meeting – review notes
 - Karn and Ashley Christensen have discussed a compilation of all transportation options available to people in the region. Hopefully this information can be put on a regional website for use by anyone looking to get around in Northeast Iowa.
- ❖ Job Access Mobility Institute
 - About the Institute
 - We put an application in for technical assistance to help develop an employment transportation solution and it was awarded to us. We have met as a group 3 times already.
 - Progress so far
 - Put together Political, Economic, Social and Technological reasons why this is a need in our area (will get e-mailed out to everybody). The outcome of this was to come up with a challenge statement. Our challenge statement is “How can we make transportation more affordable?” We have started our design brief. Both the Challenge Statement Matrix and Design brief are attached.
 - The Process
 - We want to conduct interviews with the individuals that are most impacted
 - Research what other rural areas are doing to make this work
 - Try to find a pilot project that we can make work in our 5 county area
 - As a committee we need to know what people need and what they want
 - Our Target audience would be existing workers, job seekers, employers, legislators, investors, local officials and economic development
 - Need to come up with a research plan (primary and secondary)
 - Want to make sure that our project is self sufficient
 - Next step would be a project plan that we have 4 weeks to accomplish
 - TAG Assistance Request
 - We would like help with identifying interviewees, researching alternative transportation ideas, data collection and brainstorming
 - We need people to fill out a survey for us and we would like help to accomplish this

- ❖ Additional Updates on PTP TAG Projects:
 - Mobility Manager
 - Mailed out 68 surveys and Karn gave permission for others to hand them out as well so she is not 100% sure on how many people have actually seen the survey but so far she has received 45 responses (a sheet with a breakdown of the survey was handed out).
 - Approximately half of the 45 responses would like to meet to discuss possibilities and Karn is currently working on this
 - Got approved for the Wheels to Work grant because DOT had a lot of confidence in the transit staff in our area and because it is really thinking outside of the box
 - Cresco has a in town bus service that will provide rides to individuals between 7:00-4:00 Monday thru Fridays (excluding holidays) for the cost of \$2.00 a ride. It is currently getting tracked to see how much this service is getting used through December.
 - Decorah, Waukon, Elkader, Guttenberg, Oelwein and West Union currently have a transportation system set up as well but all run on different schedules so calling Karn would be the best way to find out what is available in the area you are interested in
 - 24 hour notice is required but feel free to call if it is shorter notice to see if there might be any options available
 - Marketing
 - Getting the word out to people in many different ways such as radio, local television station and paper ads
 - Collaborations
 - Stakeholder Outreach
 - Days on the Hill
 - ❖ Next Steps
 - What do we need to do to get people to want to attend our meetings or keep people attending
 - Will need to review Passenger Transportation Plan Update in January
 - ❖ Committee member items
 - Katie Angell from Helping Services of Northeast Iowa said that victim services regions are down to 6 regions, she stated how much this will affect our victims of crime. She will send out more information via e-mail because town meetings are being held concerning this.
 - ❖ Set next meeting date
 - Friday, January 25 at 10:00
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