

Passenger Transportation Plan - Regional Planning Affiliate 1, UERPC  
Transportation Advisory Group Meeting Minutes  
January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 9:00 a.m. - 325 Washington Street, Decorah, Iowa

Present: Sam Castro (NEICAC Transit), Curt McNew (NEICAC Transit), Michelle Barness (UERPC).

1. Meeting called to order at 9:03 a.m.
2. Mobility Manager/Transit Update:
  - Transit Director McNew provided an update on items related to the Medicaid/MCO transportation funding cut issue:
    - 5 providers have contracted with EARL Public Transit, 3 have arranged a discount ticket deal with public transit, and 2 will be providing transportation themselves (RISE – Elkader, and Imagine the Possibilities - Guttenberg)
    - McNew participated in events with state legislators in January. One of the items discussed was that the state may consider requiring more oversight of the private MCOs in the future, based on feedback from different stakeholders. Also, better relationships with local MCO representatives may be something to work on.
    - The Iowa Public Transit Association transit agencies will meet with federal legislators in Washington D.C. in February, as well as with representatives of the FTA, CTAA, etc. Over 60% of Iowa Medicaid is paid for at the federal level so they have a stake in how successfully Medicaid is implemented at the state level.
  - Castro shared that the NEIAGO website update is undergoing. The updated website will be compatible with route match booking, smart phones, etc. for better usability.
  - Castro inquired about the Livable Communities grant project. Barness will check on the status of that and provide information on its schedule to transit so they can be involved.
3. TAG was provided the draft 2018 Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP) a week prior to the meeting. Barness reviewed the layout and major sections of the PTP document, and meeting attendees were given an opportunity to provide feedback on changes or additions to the draft. TAG recommended forwarding the draft PTP to the DOT once revisions were incorporated. The Transportation Policy Board will review and provide feedback on the draft PTP at a January 26, 2018 meeting, then Barness will finalize the draft PTP and forward it to the DOT by February.
4. The next TAG meeting was set for Thursday April 12<sup>th</sup>.
5. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.