

**Jefferson County Human Services Transportation
Local Coordinating Council (LCC) Meeting
December 2, 2010 Meeting Summary**

Attendees

The following people were in attendance: Alvin Tafoya, Jefferson County Human Services; Amy Ciezadlo, Yellow Cab; Angela Schreffler, DRMAC; Babs Nelson, Consumer, Bayaud Enterprises; Beth Morrissey, Consumer, Jefferson County; Brad Calvert, DRCOG; Brittani Trujillo, Jefferson County Human Services; Dave Ruchman, former RTD Board Member; Dawn Sluder, City of Lakewood; Hank Braaksma, Chair, Seniors' Resource Center; Jeannie Slape, LogistiCare; Jim Branche, Consumer, Bayaud Enterprises; Larry Buter, RTD; Roberto Rey, AARP; Steve Allen, Vice Chair, Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; Susan Franklin, Jefferson County Human Services; Mae Washam, Consumer; and Peter Pike, University of Colorado at Denver. Also in attendance were Sue Bozinovski, Bozinovski and Associates, facilitator, and Laura Laureta, project assistant.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:41 p.m. by Chair, Hank Braaksma.

Welcome

Hank Braaksma welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He explained that the LCC would be having a presentation by Susan Franklin, as well as discussing ideas on what the LCC should focus on (two or three goals) for the coming year.

Introductions

Hank asked that each member introduce themselves and give their affiliation. Sue introduced the new project assistant, Laura Laureta, explaining that Laura would be handling administrative assistant duties for the Jeffco LCC.

Select Chair and Vice Chair for Local Coordinating Council

Sue asked the group to consider who should serve as Chair and Vice Chair of the Jeffco LCC, through December 2011.

Motion: Dave Ruchman made a motion that Hank Braaksma be selected as Chair and Steve Allen be selected as Vice Chair of the Jefferson County Human Services Transportation Local Coordinating Council. Babs Nelson seconded this motion. It passed unanimously.

Approve Today's Agenda

Hank asked all of those present to quickly review the agenda for today's meeting and asked for feedback. Susan Franklin suggested that an addition be made to the agenda. The item was added and discussed. She told the group that a request had been received from Easter Seals for a phone meeting as a follow-up to the August 4th and 5th Accessible Transportation Coalitions Initiative (ATCI) session. It was decided that Susan would contact Easter Seals to set up the conference call preferably to take place directly before the January 6th LCC meeting.

Approve 11-4-10 Meeting Summary

Hank summarized Document 2, the 11-4-10 meeting summary, adding that he hoped that everyone had reviewed the entire packet of handouts. He explained that if LCC members would review the documents ahead of time, it would ensure that everyone was familiar with what took place during the previous meeting. Hank gave everyone a few minutes to look over the documents for today's meeting including the 11-4-10 meeting summary.

Susan raised an issue regarding the 11-4-10 meeting summary (Document 2) on page 2 under the heading "Approve Draft Bylaws for LCC." She asked that the first sentence be modified to read "Susan Franklin asked that the County Human Services Department be allowed multiple votes on the LCC." The group concurred with this change.

Susan also asked for a change to page 3 under the heading "Board of Directors." The last sentence of this section was unanimously changed to read "Susan was okay rewording this section."

There was also discussion of how many votes one member organization (e.g., County Human Services or Seniors' Resource Center) could have on the LCC. It was agreed that each member organization could have as many votes as appropriate given the different divisions and offices that focus on different aspects. It was recommended that the limit of three maximum voting members per organization in the LCC Bylaws be removed.

Jeffco LCC Bylaws

Hank referred the group to Document 3 - Bylaws, and requested input. There was considerable discussion of several potential changes.

Article II. Organization. Babs Nelson pointed out that the Easter Seals plan says "homeless and disability and TANF." She asked if this should be added to the Bylaws which read "county's residents who are seniors or persons with disabilities" in order to acknowledge all groups considered undeserved.

Hank suggested that the LCC may not need to be that specific. He proposed changing the Bylaws wording to "persons using public transportation with a focus on the undeserved population."

Article VI. Membership. It was agreed that the changes discussed earlier in this meeting related to number of votes by organizational members would be incorporated into this section of the Bylaws.

Sue proposed that she, Hank and Steve rework the Bylaws for consideration at the January LCC meeting. The group agreed.

Participation Agreement Forms

Hank referred the group to Documents 4a and 4b (Participation Agreement Forms). He explained the importance of LCC members getting them signed because it could take some time. He then suggested that Angela Schreffler with DRMAC can either be an LCC member or a visitor and is welcome to all meetings.

Presentation “The Good the Bad and the Ugly: Accessing public transportation through the eyes of an elderly person or a person with a disability” By Susan Franklin.

Susan prepared this presentation for the Citizens’ Transit Academy and the LCC group asked her to also give it here. She showed pictures she took of various impediments to public transportation throughout the metro region, as well as some good things she found. Susan mentioned the importance of advocating for those in need.

There was discussion by LCC participants of the impediments and strengths in transportation, especially in specific geographic areas. Some of what was mentioned included: rental bike lockers at some RTD locations, uncovered and covered bus benches, readable vs. unreadable signs, steps too big on buses, curbs not allowing accessibility to the disabled to get into the portable toilets at some RTD locations, sidewalks cracked and too small, bikes on light rail and buses, and finally that those who use the light rail have to cross tracks to get to the handicap ramp.

Hank summarized by noting that there will continue to be increased public interest in improving coordination and infrastructure.

Selecting Top Priorities from Easter Seals Plan and Jeffco Aging Well Transportation and Mobility Report and Strategic Plans

Hank explained the general differences between the Easter Seals Action Plan and the Aging Well Transportation & Mobility Plans and groups. He recommended that the LCC focus more on the Aging Well Transportation & Mobility strategic plans including in particular self-mobility (i.e., people wanting to continue getting around on their own).

Sue facilitated the discussion of selecting key priorities for the Jeffco LCC to focus on during the coming year. She referred the group to Documents 5a (2010 Easter Seals ACTI Action Plan) and 5b (Aging Well in Jefferson County Transportation & Mobility Report & Plans). Sue also provided copies of the PowerPoint document “Comparing Urgent Issues and Objectives from Easter Seals Action Plan to Goals and Objectives from Jeffco Aging Well Short-Term Strategic Plan” dated 12/2/10. She recommended that the LLC come up with at most 3 primary things/issues to work on out of both plans. Sue encouraged participants to speak up about what they think are important issues to work on.

EASTER SEALS ACTION PLAN. Sue summarized the Easter Seals Urgent Issues which focus on (1) better coordination, (2) addressing funding cuts while demand increases, (3) improving service and information, and (4) designing a communication strategy. Group discussion occurred around each of these four Urgent Issues and is highlighted below.

Easter Seals Urgent Issue #1 (ES1)

Better coordination is needed to improve the use of services, transferring from one mode to another and connecting multiple services, and in meeting regional transportation needs.

Sue reviewed Urgent Issue 1 and the Objectives listed under it in the Easter Seals Action Plan.

- Dawn would like to make a guide as to how things will work and be covered in the future.

- Sue asked Angela Schreffler, DRMAC Executive Director, what she believes the Jeffco LCC needs to be focusing on in the coming year. Angela suggested that we work on what can be done within the next year and focus on both long and short term goals.
- Brad Calvert suggested using a format such as: Lead, Partner, and Advise/Advocate where the LCC would identify its specific role for each action item or priority
- Susan said that “one call center for all rides” calls out to her.
- Alvin said that cutting costs for Medicaid would be possible if there was a “call center.” and if there was a X-1-1 type number for transportation.
- Hank suggested the group focus on the United We Ride one single phone number and a call center to coordinate transportation.

In summary, related to Urgent Issue 1, the Jeffco LCC has been formed and there was agreement that a key priority of the Jeffco LCC should be to “Identify and investigate call center coordination models and propose a model for pilot implementation in Jefferson County.”

Easter Seals Urgent Issue #2 (ES2)

Funding cuts/increased demand: lack of Medicaid funding; provider rate cuts.

Sue reviewed Urgent Issue 2 and the Objectives listed under it in the Easter Seals Action Plan.

- There was discussion around the importance of advocating, writing grant proposals, and providing public education.
- Some discussion focused on the Medicaid cuts and their impacts. Alvin asked what data was lost by Medicaid cuts and how we make up the money. Brittani suggested that the group gather numbers on monies lost for Medicaid via the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF).
- Mae Washam offered to obtain some numbers that she has access to via a committee that she serves on.
- Roberto Rey mentioned that lobbyists may not be as up to date with transportation needs as they could be and that this would be a good time to approach them.

In summary, there was no final decision by the group for Urgent Issue 2 around what, if any, specific objectives to focus on.

Easter Seals Urgent Issue #3 (ES3)

Clarify and close the services and information gap (Lack of transit services for the underserved populations – older adults, frail, homeless, unemployed, power mobility devices, & affordable options).

Sue reviewed Urgent Issue 3 and the Objectives listed under it in the Easter Seals Action Plan.

- Brad, Babs and Angela discussed creating a message that has weight. They stressed that people do not know where to find information and services that are available to the community (specific to Jeffco would be great).
- It was suggested by Susan, Dawn, Angela and Brad that Urgent Issues ES1 (re: better coordination) and ES2 (funding cuts but increased demand) seem to overlap a lot with ES3 (clarify and close services and information gap)

In summary, there was no final decision by the group for Urgent Issue 3 around what, if any, specific objectives to focus on.

Easter Seals Urgent Issue #4 (ES4)

Design a communication strategy to support the coalition's work.

Sue reviewed Urgent Issue 4 and the Objectives listed under it in the Easter Seals Action Plan.

- There was considerable discussion. Hank reminded members that there is a Jeffco LCC.
- Brad said that building allies will help the LLC And that we need small wins first, then get allies, etc.
- Larry Buter spoke to the need to incorporate into education. Says this will help strengthen the group.
- Hank suggested the focus continue to be on infrastructure. Dave replied that the LCC can go to CDOT to get monies for infrastructure.
- Susan suggested that “streamline” is the key word!
- Sue stated that it was getting late, but for those who wanted to stay, she would go over the Aging Well Goals. Most attendees stayed.

In summary, there was no final decision by the group for Urgent Issue 4 around what, if any, specific objectives to focus on.

AGING WELL IN JEFFERSON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY PLANS. Sue summarized the Aging Well in Jefferson County Transportation & Mobility Goals which focus on (1) ensuring and increasing mobility options for seniors, (2) ensuring adequate assisted transportation services and resources, and (3) ensuring accessibility for seniors and persons with disabilities on RTD systems. Group discussion occurred around each of these three Goals and is highlighted below.

Aging Well Goal #1 (AW1)

Ensure mobility and increase mobility options for residents as they age.

- Dave stated that the LCC can work with city's 2013-2015 capital plans and that this is important for long-range planning.

- Susan said this must be a priority (and the cities concurred).
- Brad mentioned that we can recommend options from the MUTCD.

Aging Well Goal #2 (AW2)

Ensure adequate assisted transportation services and resources for all aging Jefferson County residents.

- Hank mentioned that some geographical areas within the county lack services.

Aging Well Goal #3 (AW3)

Ensure convenient accessibility for older residents and persons with disabilities on Regional Transportation District (RTD) systems.

- Dave stated that he believes that cities, not RTD, are responsible for infrastructure.
- The group discussed that it would be important to get onto city council agendas.

In summary, the group concurred that discussion and selection of strategic priorities for the Jeffco LCC would need to continue at the January meeting.

Updates

Sue distributed two draft documents that she was asked to create: (1) Jeffco LCC Meeting Ground Rules and (2) Guidelines and Responsibilities and asked members to let her know if there should be any changes.

Hank asked that everyone present look at Document 6 for the dates of the meetings for the 2011 Calendar Year. All meetings during 2011 will be on the 1st Thursday of the month, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Conference Room A-D, 900 Jefferson County Parkway, Golden (Jeffco Human Services Building).

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Sue asked everyone present to be sure to sign the attendance sheet.

Meeting summary was prepared by Laura Laureta and Sue Bozinovski.