

MINUTES

Town of Acton

Transportation Advisory Committee

Wednesday August 19, 2015
Acton Town Hall;
Room 121
7:45-9:00 pm

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Present:

Bengt Mutén, Chair

Jim Citro

Jim Yarin

Randall Bashta, prospective member

Franny Osman, Selectman Liaison

Dulcey Lacroix, member of Littleton Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Comm.

Meeting brought to order at 7:45 pm

Citizens Concern:

Hosmer St. – as approaching Rte. 2- Traffic- Was Alauddin Chowdhury replied to re: traffic situation?
Bengt will make sure.

Ward Bein passed on a question re: are there bike racks on the Yankee Bus?

Minutes of Aug. 1 2015 approved with one minor edit.

Doug Halley presenting:

- CrossTown Connect (CTC) poster. End of Sept. Doug and Steve L. and others will be honored with recognition by International City and County Managers Association for CrossTown Connect work
- Acton Boxborough Littleton Maynard Westford (CTC towns) joined a compact. Participation, vote, financing—by consensus if possible. 5 Businesses are part of CTC as well.

CTC has its own budget, charges towns and businesses according to services received. Acton 3 vehicles being dispatched, \$15k, Littleton \$10k, Maynard \$10, Westford

Devens is going to become our 6th community. Devens Enterprise Commission. Peter Lowitt, Acton resident, represents Devens.

MART and LRTA have agreed to share vehicles among the towns WITHIN their region. After a year, we will try crossing RTA lines. Maynard and Acton can pick up within region.

Riders and COA's are linked, and we have to make sure we give seniors opportunities have rides but don't break their link with their COA.

Rail Shuttle:

Road Runner has more riders than other vans because it does targeted shopping and food pantry trips. COA van and Dial-a-Ride are used by individuals, all day, but never full. Goal is to find ways to get more than one rider on van to make it more effective.

Bengt: could one request ride with "this is the earliest and this is the latest time."

Doug: We do that as much as possible. One of things we are doing is, database allows us to observe and correct by targeting audiences that can be coordinated. Some of COA classes mean van has a hard time getting all users to the COA on time. We want to get numbers that are higher than any other community. Besides Maynard, our vans have the highest

Randall: COA view?

Doug: This was not their choice and sometimes this is not ideal for them. We are working on improving their experience.

Jim Y: Q about relationship between fixed route and on-demand ones. Fixed route might meet needs of some of the users.

Bengt: Would like to see Rte 16 extended to Acton, Emerson. Doug says LRTA doesn't want to extend it to (Littleton Station)

Doug: We just sent a letter to LRTA re: accessing 76,000 available within our Cherry Sheet assessment. First 9 months, Oct. to June 16= 90-100k , next year 130 to 135k.

Some route maps that Jim Y recommended were shared by Doug.

Use Westboro as a model.

Assume very low ridership to begin with. As people realize benefit, more ridership.

Jim Y: Route 2a and School campus and train station important.

East Acton Bus and train schedule study looked at and most inbound trains can be met by the train.

Concord Rd. fields by cemetery easy to get into a route, Rte 2 fields at School St. hard to reach. Discussion of ball fields being covered.

We have to think about when the train schedule changes (supposed to be Nov. 15 to Jan. 2016), we will have to change the fixed route.

Discussion of Fixed Routes.

Now planning an all purpose route with small changes different times of day. Not worried about ridership day 1 but a year in want to maximize use.

Minutes by Franny Osman