

McHenry County Transit Plan Implementation Task Force

Agenda

McHenry County Transit Plan
Implementation Task Force

DATE: July 25, 2012

TIME: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: McHenry County Administration Building, Conference Room A
667 Ware Road, Woodstock, IL 60098

1. Call to Order – Jason Osborn (MCDOT)

2. Public Participation/Open Comment Period

3. Transit Grant Program

- MCRide update – Jason Osborn
- Algonquin Township Road District – Anna May Miller
- City of Marengo – Josh Blakemore
- Faith in Action – Sarah J. Ponitz
- Veterans Assistance Commission – Mike Iwanicki

4. Transit Planning Activities

- McHenry County Transit Draft Service Plan Presentation – Jason Osborn
- 2012 Survey of MCRide users – Scott Hennings (MCDOT)

5. Funding Program Updates

- McHenry County JARC/NF project status – Jason Osborn
- McHenry County Transit Grant Discussion – Jason Osborn

6. Other Business

- Discussion on MCRide ten-ride and round-trip punch card vouchers – Scott Hennings
- McHenry County 2040 Transportation Plan Public Meeting – Jason Osborn

7. Next ITF Meeting

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 26, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

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Minutes

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DATE: July 25th, 2012

TIME: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: McHenry County Administration Building, Conference Room A
667 Ware Road, Woodstock, IL 60098

Attendees

McHenry County Staff: Jason Osborn, Scot Hennings, Jeff Young

Faith in Action of McHenry County: Thomas Aquilina

Richmond Township Road District: David Bockelmann, Patricia O'Neill

City of McHenry: Doug Martin

City of Crystal Lake: Brad Mitchell

McHenry Township: Terry Wagner

Algonquin Township Highway Department: Anna May Miller

McHenry County Board: Ersel Shuster

McHenry County: John Labaj

Pace: Mary Donner, Dan Dembinski

Dorr Township: Bob Pierce

Senior Services: Bee Rettinger

City of Woodstock: Roscoe Stelford

The meeting started at 2:00.

Mr. Osborn provided an update regarding MCRide. The average inter-community trip distance has remained at about 8 miles while the total number of trips has stayed between 1,800 and 2,000 each month. At this time, it appears that many more people are taking advantage of MCRide to travel between the communities or many more people are using MCRide to make "one-seat" trips that otherwise would have required them to transfer to or from the fixed routes, municipal dial-a-rides, and Metra. The number of trips taken on the municipal dial-a-rides has been slowly falling since the implementation of MCRide.

Ms. Miller from the Algonquin Township Road District gave an update on her transportation service, explaining that she has had more dialysis requests from an increasingly less ambulatory clientele. These dialysis sessions, many of which are held at

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DaVita Dialysis in Crystal Lake, typically last over three hours and have led to capacity issues on the Algonquin Township service.

Mr. Aquilina provided an update for Faith in Action of McHenry County. He explained that this summer's heat is wearing on seniors, who often need to wait outside for their ride. Volunteers are also harder to find, so Faith in Action is reaching out to church groups in an effort to expand their number of drivers.

Mr. Osborn provided an update on the McHenry County Transit Plan and handed out copies of the plan to those in attendance. Recommendations in the Transit Plan include restructuring the existing fixed bus routes in McHenry County and implementing bus service on IL 31 and Randall Road from Crystal Lake into Kane County. Each recommendation was explained in detail and questions and concerns from the group were addressed.

Mr. Hennings provided the group with an update on the 2012 Survey of MCRide users. He explained that the overall opinion of MCRide was favorable and general knowledge of the fixed route Pace buses is limited.

Mr. Osborn provided a funding programs update. Information provided by Pace indicates that more trips are eligible for JARC and New Freedom funding than previously estimated. This is good as it means more of this funding can be utilized earlier.

The Fiscal Year 2013 Senior Grant applications are due in late July. The County is going to submit for \$100,000 to fund trips for seniors on MCRide and the McHenry Township Senior Express being coordinated with MCRide. MCRide provides service to seniors in Dorr, Greenwood, and McHenry Townships and the cities of Crystal Lake, McHenry, and Woodstock.

Mr. Hennings then initiated a conversation about MCRide vouchers. He handed out prototypes of the vouchers and talked about the cost to print them as well as possible security features. The group conversation then revolved heavily around the need to ensure the fare cards cannot be fraudulently copied. The group also expressed its continued desire to pursue the fare cards in the near future.

Mr. Osborn then talked about the 2040 Transportation Plan open house that will take place sometime at the end of August. It will be open to the public and anyone interested in transit should attend.

The meeting concluded at 3:00.