

McHenry County Transit Plan Implementation Task Force

Agenda McHenry County Implementation Task Force

DATE: September 24, 2014

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** – ITF Chair

2. **Roll Call**

3. **Minutes Approval**

4. **Public Comment**

5. **Subcommittee Reports**

6. **Old Business**

- MCRide Update – Scott Hennings (MCDOT)
- Senior Services Grant

7. **New Business**

- Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning
- ITF Transportation Priorities

8. **Adjournment**

November Meeting: TBD

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Implementation Task Force

Minutes

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LOCATION: McHenry County Administration Building
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Attendees

McHenry County Division of Transportation: Scott Hennings, Joseph Korpalski, Jeff Young
Pace: Mary Donner, Dan Dembinski, Kisha Hearn
Pioneer Center: Tom Riley
City of Woodstock: Paul Ruscko
City of McHenry: Doug Martin
City of Crystal Lake: Brad Mitchell
McHenry County Bicycle Advocates: Eberhard Veit
Senior Care Volunteer Network: Sarah Ponitz
McHenry County Planning and Development Department: Dennis Sandquist, Jeff Harris
Village of Lake in the Hills: Fred Mullard
Metra: Rick Mack
Senior Services Associates: Deborah Danitz, Valerie Usalis
Regional Transportation Authority Director: Blake Hobson
Visit McHenry County: Jaki Berggren

Mr. Hobson called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. On a motion by Mr. Mack, seconded by Mr. Ruscko, the minutes from the July ITF meeting were approved unanimously. Seeing no public comment, Mr. Hobson moved to old business and asked Mr. Hennings to give an update on MCRide.

Mr. Hennings provided each member of the ITF a summary sheet showing the program's number of trips by month, the cost per trip, and the farebox recovery ratio. The data shows that the number of trips provided on MCRide has remained constant at approximately 7,000 trips per month. The number of trips provided between the communities has slowly increased to about 3,000 per month, while trips within Crystal Lake (1,800), trips within McHenry (1,200) and trips within Woodstock (1,000) have decreased over time. At the same time, MCRide's cost per trip has decreased slightly to approximately \$16.38 per trip and the farebox recovery ratio has increased to 9.3%.

Next, Mr. Hennings gave the ITF an update on MCRide's application for Senior Services Grant funding for FY2015. MCRide applied for \$300,000 in SSG funding but was awarded only \$79,020 by the commission, out of a total of \$1,729,020. This is in line with what the commission has awarded the program in the past, but is not enough to maintain the status

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quo, much less expand service in 2015. Fortunately, the SSGC has announced that an additional \$350,000-\$700,000 will be awarded to existing applicants on 11/14/14. On a motion by Mr. Mack, seconded by Mr. Riley, it was also determined that the ITF would submit a letter of support for the MCRide program, as resolutions authorizing funding for the program and various IGA's make their way through the County Board process. Mr. Hennings agreed to draft a letter to be signed by Mr. Hobson at the November ITF meeting.

Mr. Hennings then moved on to a discussion about the FTA's announcement that a new grant program was available called the "Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning". RTA materials were distributed regarding the Metra UP-NW line and the possibility of applying for this funding was discussed. It was determined that Mr. Hennings would reach out to Metra and the RTA for more information.

During discussion, it was determined that at a standing item on each meeting agenda would be an informational presentation by one of the ITF members. This way, each of the members would learn more about what each other do, and the ITF would get a better idea of the "big picture" when it comes to transportation in McHenry County. Mr. Veit was considerate enough to volunteer to give a brief presentation at the November 12th ITF meeting regarding the role of the McHenry County Bicycle Advocates in improving nonmotorized transportation in McHenry County.

Finally, Mr. Hobson discussed prioritizing additional transit services in McHenry County. He asked Pace and Metra staff to come to the next ITF meeting with a list of 20 or so priority projects for the group to consider. The intent of this exercise is to rank each project in terms of importance and take the prioritized list to the various boards for consideration. It was mentioned that the organizations with volunteer driver programs (Senior Care Volunteer Network and Senior Services Associates) should also be thinking about how to work together and with the other agencies in order to improve services for County residents.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Ms. Donner and a second by Mr. Mullard at 3:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the ITF is scheduled for November 12, 2014.