

NW Oregon Transit Alliance (NWOTA)
Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes (via Zoom)
April 16, 2021
Tillamook County Transportation District
Tillamook, OR

1. Introductions: Doug Pilant, Coordinating Committee Chair, opened the meeting. Meeting attendees included:
 - Brad Dillingham—Benton Area Transit
 - Paul Lewicki—Sunset Empire Transportation District
 - Doug Pilant—Tillamook County Transportation District
 - Cynda Bruce—Lincoln County Transitb
 - Arla Miller, Ken Shonkwiler—ODOT
 - Juliet Eldred—Trillium Transit
 - Ayreann Colombo, Mary McArthur—Col-Pac EDD
2. Consent Calendar: Unanimously approved. (JD/CB)
 - March 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes—No changes.
 - March 2021 Financial Report—Changes: Quarterly administrative costs, Website maintenance costs, and Facebook marketing.
 - Ridership Performance Report—Postponed until May to be able to compare a full year of ridership pre and during pandemic.
 - Calculating Average Passenger Miles Progress—Workshop was set to be held on May 14th, and move the full board meeting to May 14th as well.
3. NWOTA Standing Items:
 - Marketing—Visitor Pass/Information Card. Coast Printing provided the following quotes:

<u>Information Card</u> —Amount 1000. 4x6, 2sided color	\$155.00
<u>Visitor Pass</u> —Amount 1000. 3.5x4 2sided color, #'d and scored	\$490.00

Partners concurred and Mary will get ordered. Partners would like to use the map in all of the shelters. Map is reprintable and scalable to any size. Gillespie can print for large size maps. A vender in Corvallis can make custom size racks for cards. Doug will send the vendor contact information to everyone.

Travel Studio is really interested in getting Car-Free Travel marketing out. There have been concerns about encouraging tourism during a pandemic. Also, interested in knowing whether capacity is an issue, for existing local riders. SETD—capacity it a big concern. People seem to be out and about more. TCTD reported a bus from Banks to the Coast being full. May have to go to consider requiring reservations for both Portland/Salem. First come first serve. ODOT—May be a little early to encourage visitor transit travel. Don't see the Governor opening up transit capacity any time soon. Still operating under restricted travel. Consensus to wait.

Mary introduced Juliet to Nan Devlin who has been running the North Coast Tourism Studio. Juliet sent out spreadsheet that included destinations reached by bus. Nan Devlin will be the source for Tillamook County destination contacts, perhaps Cape Kiwanda. Brad will be meeting with the local museum and bring this up. Also, he is recommending contacting OSU. Cynda—Recommended Yaquina Bay Lighthouse. Aquarium with 150,000 Facebook followers will be the best. May be some other historic sites. John—Will send out Juliet's spreadsheet to all Columbia

County commissioners and department heads. Will need to see if SETD has followed up with Juliet. Perhaps, Columbia River Maritime Museum. Mary check with Juliet and follow up if needed.

- Website Budget:
 - Arla reported that ODOT will not be paying the \$7,500 for GTFIS? Nor will the vendor shorten the subscription cost if a full year isn't needed.

4. GermFogger Proposal for Disinfecting Equipment

- Brad—Wasn't too sure at first. After the demo, the equipment really seems to work, even as the pandemic winds down. Demo'd the sling, backpack and the full machine that can do multiple buses at once. Found that the sling fit BAT's needs well. Do a lot of demand response, and a lot of time in between runs. Can quickly sanitize between runs. Can store in the buses. Would be great to have.
- Cynda—After seeing yesterday's demo, the large unit seemed so clunky and unnecessary. The slings seem really convenient. Have different areas where buses are parked. The back packs are pretty heavy. The slings disinfect very quickly (1 whole bus in 30 seconds). Larger machine probably is more effective but less flexible. Sanitary system is good marketing for safe transit.
- John—Concur with others regarding the larger machines and plumbing required. Makes the mobile units more appealing. Have a couple of buses that stay away from the transit center for a period of time. Could imagine getting several of the slings. Maybe a couple of batteries or two. Kind of wish the pump were a little more powerful. But demo went well, very quick.
- Paul—When started talking to Creative, there weren't many products available in a timely manner. With sling, would lose capacity of sanitation records. Although, that may not be as important as move into preventive vs survival mode. Like being able to purchase 15 of the slings for the same cost of one of the larger machines. Newer, perhaps more practical solution.
- Doug—Also disappointed that Creative didn't get their proposal in on time. GermFogger was genuinely interested in the NWConnector project. Don't want to deal with the complexities of plumbing buses. Would like to get the unit that can be moved around and do multiple buses, plus a couple of slings. Also have vehicles parked remotely that don't get to Tillamook that often, so slings would be good for them. Most of Tillamook buses come in and out of transit center and always have time between runs. Could easily sanitize the buses between runs at the Transit Center.

Total grant amount is \$187,800 and the deadline was extended through September. Record low level of flu and other transmitted viruses this year because of sanitation and masks. Can clean the Transit Center as well. Will go a long way toward promote public safety. Arla—Request a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). May have riders concerned about the chemicals being used. Thad can put in touch with suppliers so will have a broader selection of chemicals being used.

Next steps—Thad will circle back and see what is needed by each partner and then get a new cost estimate. Purchase of the chemicals is in the original scope for the grant. Question—Consumable parts—may want to get extras. Nozzles. Bags are reusable, but might a good idea to restock those.

Mary to contact regarding which chemicals they use. Important to partners:

- No chemical build-up
- Clean smell (no Lysol/evergreen type of smell)
- Chemical sensitivities from riders?

5. NWOTA Management Plan

- TCTD has conducted a comprehensive fare policy analysis. Attempted to simplify the existing fare structure and align with other NWOTA partners. Hopeful to use new technologies to coordinate dial-a-ride services to solve first/last mile transit needs. Looking forward to watching Sunset's and Benton/Lincolns move to automated ticketing. Hopeful that TCTD can move to mobile ticketing using the same technology.
- Tribes said they don't have staff to commit to meetings. However, because of their significant financial contribution to the Coastal Connector services they perceive themselves as ex-officio members. Potential interest in Yamhill County Transit, as they are in the center of the NWConnector system. Florence through LCOG would like to attend one of NWOTA's meetings. May be interested in becoming a member.
- Explore expectations and options to add new partners. Maybe different levels of commitment. (Pull from Management Plan) Be sure they have the same vision and same commitment.
- Big factor in success is the partners working together. Have a lot of trust and mentorship among the partners.
- Think about potential system improvements in case the Federal Infrastructure bill passes this Fall.

6. Other Business and Partner Updates

No additional updates to report.

Recorded: Mary McArthur, Col-Pac EDD and NWOTA Coordinator