**South East Regional Coordinating Council on Transportation**

**April 14, 2015**

**Attendee list**

Mary Basilone, Julie Boren, Tanja Ryden, Melissa Vanhorn, Laura Beaudoin, Cindy Curran, Melanie Ramos, Anne C. Bisson, Mary Ellen DeFrias, Janet Richardi, Mike Moran, Steve Salwak, Aniko Laszlo, Ivan Brito, Joanne Laferrara

**Welcome & Past Meeting Notes**

* Julie Boren welcomed everyone to the meeting
* The group reviewed and accepted the March 10th meeting notes

**Review of the Subcommittee on Outreach Project**

* Janet Richardi told the group that the United Way of Greater Attleboro Taunton (UWGAT) agreed to file the Tufts Health Foundation grant on behalf of SERCCOT. She explained that the focus of the grant is “Access” to information about transportation options and we will work with healthcare facilities/hospitals to improve awareness of how to find a ride so that patients will experience fewer missed appointments. The communities we are targeting: Taunton, Attleboro, New Bedford and Fall River. We also plan to hire a consultant to develop a marketing and media plan. We currently have South Coast and Morton Hospitals interested in sponsorships and each have committed to pledge $2,000 each. Sturdy Hospital has also expressed an interest in the project, but has not committed. We are looking for a contact at St. Anne’s Hospital (Steward group) The letter of intent is due in mid-July so we have time to get that ready.
* Melissa Vanhorn suggested that the UW will be getting a marketing intern from Stonehill who might be able to assist this project as well.

**Wareham Inventory Project**

* Julie Boren brought up the Google Doc Wareham Transportation Resources database that the group has been developing and talked briefly about what is happening with our call-out campaign to identify possible transportation providers in the Wareham area.
* Mary Basilone tried to call the list of livery services and reported that most of these organizations are exclusively limo companies and are not interested in coordination. Also, most of their drivers are contracted so they really don’t have an available staff on hand.
* The discussion was turned over to Tanja Ryden so she could talk to the group about liability issues surrounding transportation coordination. She referred to a brief her organization prepared (Insurance Issues in Community Transportation) that outlines some of the insurance options available to small transportation-providing organizations in Mass. Steve Salwak (SSCAC) expressed his concern about liability, especially if there are other non-SSCAC drivers involved.
* Julie Boren asked Aniko if the state could look into the high cost of insurance and maybe see if there is a way to reduce the cost for groups that are interested in coordinating services. Aniko said the state is not in the insurance business but she would talk to people at MassDOT.
* Later, Tanja shared with the group another brief about Sharing Community Vehicles. She explained there are many different models. For example, several organizations form partnerships where one organization acts as the lead and owns the vehicles while the other member organizations hire/manage the drivers and pay for the fuel. Someone said there are many regulations and compliance issues regarding MAP vehicles.
* Aniko Laszlo passed out the MassDOT Authorized Vehicle Use Guide, which outlines the state’s Mobility Assistance Program and FTA’s Section 5310 Program guidelines in regards to “required use” and “encouraged use” of MAP or FTA funded vehicles.
* After a lengthy discussion about different vehicle coordination models, Melissa Vanhorn suggested that maybe we could develop a consortium where a non-profit organization such as South Shore Community Action Council (SSCAC) acts as the lead organization since they already own MAP vehicles. Then the other partner organizations would pay a membership fee to SSCAC. Riders would potentially pay a fare or organizations could buy passes. Later in the discussion, Steve and Melissa agreed to work on a rough draft on this possible membership model.
* Aniko Laszlo also said she could provide the group with a list of 5310 vehicles that have been awarded to non-profit organizations in the Southeastern Mass region. The group would like to see if SSCAC is the only non-profit in the region that has MAP or FTA-funded vehicles.
* At this point in the meeting, Janet Richardi mentioned that instead of cold calling the different transportation providers and community-based organizations, that perhaps we should contact Sal Pino (Director, Community and Economic Development in Wareham) to set up an exploratory meeting to see who he thinks should be at the table. Janet said she would make this call. The council agreed to hold off on making more calls to the inventory list and pursue this meeting approach instead.
* Someone mentioned that we should talk to Jana Hunkler (Berkshire Rides/BCAC) about their vehicle share model and how they dealt with maintenance and insurance issues. She will be at the May 5th meeting and we can talk to her there.
* Someone else said they would research the Crosstown Connect (Acton) coordination model. Aniko offered to provide write-ups that have been done on this model
* Tanja Ryden gave Julie three more organizations for the Wareham inventory project. She obtained the information from the UFR State Database – it’s a financial statement file that shows what organizations have paid for certain services, i.e. transportation/drivers.

**Upcoming Events**

* Next SERCCOT meeting: May 12, 2015, 9:00 – 10:30 AM
Location: SRPEDD offices, 88 Broadway, Taunton MA