**South East Regional Coordinating Council on Transportation**

**January 13, 2015**

**Attendee list**

Mary Basilone, Tanja Ryden, Joanne Laferrara, Melanie Ramos, Bill Shine, Rachel Fichtenbaum, Julie Boren, Cindy Curran, Janet Richardi, Angela Azevedo, Nancy Lawson, Mike Morali, Mary Ellen DeFrias, Mautza Aguino, Laurie A. Pimentel, Joe Yasaian, Filemena Tripp, Gary St. Fleur, Eileen Wheeler Sheehan

**Welcome & Past Meeting Notes**

* Julie Boren welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the merged South East and South Coast RCCs, now titled the South East Regional Coordinating Council on Transportation (SERCCOT)
* The group accepted the December 9 meeting notes, with one change: there are 10 SRTA communities (12 if you count Marion and Rochester)
* The group accepted the November 12 South Coast RCC meeting notes
* Angie will make sure the RCC meeting notes are linked from the SRTA website (they are already on the GATRA website at <http://www.gatra.org/index.php/contact-us/rcc-meetings/>)

**Policies & Procedures**

* Julie presented the revised version, updated to reflect the merge of the South East and South Coast RCCs. This version also updates the fiscal management and inclement weather sections
* In terms of the fiscal management section, the RCC cannot directly apply for funding since it is not a 501c3, but member organizations could apply on behalf of the RCC. The RCC Treasurer would serve as a liaison between the RCC and the agency that received the funding.

**Officers**

* One of the original co-chairs has not attended meetings or responded to emails. The group elected Angie Azevedo to serve as the new co-chair along with Julie Boren.
* Mary Basilone is the Secretary (with assistance from Rachel)
* SRTA and GATRA provide support to the RCC

**Meeting Location**

* None of the ideas from last time panned out
* The group brainstormed additional ideas:
  + St. Anthony’s Parish
  + Unemployment Center in Taunton
  + CCBC Taunton
  + Catholic Social Services in Fall River
  + Bristol Elder Services in Fall River
  + Health First
* Members will follow up on these leads for next month
* Angie will book the SRPEDD location as a backup
* Next meeting: February 10, 9-11 AM

**Action Items from Medical Forum**

* SERCC convened a medical transportation forum on November 7. One major theme that emerged was a need for more publicity of existing options. Many people still do not know about services available or about the Ride Match online tool to find rides: [www.massridematch.org](http://www.massridematch.org)
  + We could apply for funding to print brochures and/or hire marketing consultants
  + We can do outreach to agencies to make sure COAs, human service agencies, healthcare facilities, etc. share the information & link to Ride Match on their websites
  + Use facebook & social media – this is a key way to reach the families of seniors
  + Outreach through local cable & radio stations
  + Outreach in Spanish and Portuguese as well as English
  + A marketing class at UMass Dartmouth takes on community projects & might be of help – at this point that would probably be for fall 2015
    - Joanne La Ferrara will contact them
  + Idea: apply for Community Transit Grant Program funding
    - Mary Ellen will talk to Erik to see if SRTA can be the lead applicant
  + Frame this as outreach (not marketing)
  + The group formed a subcommittee: Janet Richardi, Mary Basilone, Tanja Ryden or Rachel Fichtenbaum, Melanie Ramos, and Mary Ellen DeFrias
    - Janet will plan the first meeting
  + Since the region is large, the group decided to start by focusing outreach on the cities: New Bedford, Fall River, Taunton, and Attleboro
    - Then we can replicate it in other towns
* Another theme was need for increased coordination
  + Much discussion of technology at the forum but some efforts are already underway and at this point it may be beyond the scope of the RCC to develop a technological approach
  + Angie suggested the group could start small by looking at a town or subregion and developing an inventory of available vehicles and looking for opportunities to increase coordination at the local level (e.g. look at vehicles owned by churches, the YMCA, small nonprofits, etc.)
  + The group decided to start with a focus on Wareham since there is a large need there and since it is surrounded by towns with substantial need
  + Angie will start a google doc so we can all add information
  + Angie will email Ann McCrillis for information
  + Mary will get information from Ride Match

**Other Discussion**

* Is there a way to influence hospitals so that they locate new facilities near transit?
  + Town planners are a key stakeholder
* SRTA is working with the City of Fall River on their discussions with Amazon about the warehouse Amazon may open in Fall River
  + Bus access for workforce
  + Gary is meeting with Amazon to talk about MassRIDES
* CrossTown Connect model – towns in the Acton area decided to pool their COA dispatch to share one full-time joint dispatch person instead of each paying for a part-time person
* Feedback forms from the medical forum – we will discuss this at the next meeting
* Forum on work and education transportation needs – we will put this off until fall 2015 since we are busy following up on the medical forum action items (maybe November again)
* Additional transportation gaps
  + Access to BCC in Fall River and Cape (over the bridge)
  + It takes 2 hours to get from Fall River to New Bedford & 4 to get from Attleboro to Fall River
  + GATRA is trying to get a daily shuttle from Wareham to New Bedford

**Upcoming Events**

* Volunteer Driver Program Forum February 4, 9-noon at the Plymouth COA. RSVP to [theadora.fisher@state.ma.us](mailto:theadora.fisher@state.ma.us). Volunteer driver program coordinators, drivers, and anyone interested in starting a volunteer driver program are welcome. Cosponsored by MassMobility, OCPC Area Agency on Aging, SPREDD, and the Plymouth COA. Light refreshments will be served.
* Next SERCCOT meeting: February 10, 9-11 AM, location to be confirmed