

Alliance for Community Transportation (ACT)

Working to expand affordable and efficient community transportation in southeastern New Hampshire

MEETING OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

Friday, January 20, 2023

9 – 10:30AM

This meeting was held in an all-virtual format due to inclement weather
Meeting Minutes



1. Welcome and Introductions

Members Present:

Betty Smith (Ready Rides), Rad Nichols (COAST), Scott Bogle (Rockingham Planning Commission), Cheryl Robicheau (Community Action Partnership of Strafford County), Colin Lentz (Strafford RPC), Pam Lowy (Great Bay Services), Tahja Fulwider (Ready Rides)

Staff Present: Jeff Donald

R. Nichols declared that the meeting was being held virtually due to inclement weather and the time-sensitive nature of approving the Coordinated Plan.

2. Approval of Draft Coordinated Plan

S. Bogle and C. Lentz reviewed edits to the draft Coordinated Plan that had been incorporated since the ACT meeting on January 4, 2023.

C. Lentz reviewed several updates to the demographics and service need chapter. He had updated the executive summary at the beginning of the chapter and had made several changes to the maps of demographic data. The maps were in a “heatmap” format, text was made to be more readable, and the data were presented more consistently between each map. C. Lentz highlighted final updates to the data on Medicaid enrolment, saying that the state had just posted monthly enrollment data by town for all of 2022. The Medicaid data were a monthly sample so J. Donald suggested using the data to calculate a ratio rather than showing the whole numbers or percentages by town. C. Lentz said he would be updating the map on vehicle availability to include households that have no vehicle access AND households with limited vehicle access (according to American Community Survey data).

C. Lentz reiterated that the chapter relied on data from the decennial census (which is an exact count), and 5-year samples from the American Community Survey (which had much higher margins of error because it is a statewide sample).

S. Bogle reviewed revisions to the service profile chapter. Main changes were to the Community Partners description and to the information for Great Bay Services. Pam Lowy said she had an updated description to send. C. Robicheau said she would be sending an updated description for Strafford CAP.

S. Bogle reviewed a new matrix of all RCC agencies, the type of services they provide, and their eligible clients. R. Nichols noted a change to the information for Portsmouth Senior Transportation. S. Bogle explained results from a service need model (from the Community Transportation Association of America - CTAA) he had run for the region.

BARRINGTON
BRENTWOOD
BROOKFIELD
DOVER
DURHAM
EAST KINGSTON
EPPING
EXETER
FARMINGTON
FREMONT
GREENLAND
HAMPTON
HAMPTON FALLS
KENSINGTON
KINGSTON
LEE
MADBURY
MIDDLETON
MILTON
NEW CASTLE
NEW DURHAM
NEWFIELDS
NEWINGTON
NEWMARKET
NEWTON
NORTH HAMPTON
NORTHWOOD
NOTTINGHAM
PORTSMOUTH
ROCHESTER
ROLLINSFORD
RYE
SEABROOK
SOMERSWORTH
SOUTH HAMPTON
STRAFFORD
STRATHAM
WAKEFIELD

S. Bogle reviewed Chapter 6 (on regional coordination history and background) which was new since the most recent board meeting on January 4, 2023. Members discussed the unique context of each region when it comes to improving coordination.

S. Bogle said he had added new content to Chapter 7 (Funding Sources) based on a discussion with Tim Diaz from Rockingham Nutrition MOW about state matching dollars for federal funds. DHHS Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services matches up to 40% of Title 53B federal funds with state match.

S. Bogle reviewed Chapter 8 (Findings and Recommendations), which included multiple recent edits following discussion at the recent ACT Board and Executive Committee meetings. It included updated figures on the amount of state matching funds for federal dollars. Aspirational performance measure language had been dropped after recommendations from the Executive Committee. Instead, S. Bogle had expanded discussion about the value of TripLink and increased coordination for reliable and consistent data compilation from participating agencies. He added that Rockingham and Strafford RPCs had submitted an application for an FTA planning grant to study accessibility of fixed route transit stops, and develop updated local ordinance related to improving transit stop access during new developments. The draft included a new objective to develop a late-night shuttle to serve employers that operate later than COAST's last fixed route service.

S. Bogle reviewed several other recommendations in the draft chapter. He also reviewed a draft table of funding sources, matching requirements, and service impacts.

C. Robicheau made a motion to adopt the draft Coordinated Plan on behalf of ACT, with the understanding that changes suggested at the meeting would be incorporated. The draft plan will also be adopted separately by each Regional Planning Commission at their next available meeting. P Lowy seconded the motion.

Members voted unanimously in-favor [via roll call vote]

3. Adjourn

S. Bogle made a motion to adjourn; seconded by C. Robicheau [unanimous in favor]