

Alliance for Community Transportation (ACT)

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

MEETING OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

9 – 10:30AM

McCONNELL CENTER, 61 LOCUST ST, ROOM 305 DOVER, NH

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85710910029?pwd=OGtsb2xMd20rT0JyQ1RDdFVLZUxw>

[dz09](#)

AGENDA

Members in-person: Cheryl Robicheau (Community Action Partnership of Strafford County), Betty Smith (Ready Rides), Scott Bogle (Rockingham Planning Commission), Colin Lentz (Strafford Regional Planning Commission), Tahja Fulwider (Ready Rides), Emelia Poehlman (NH Disability and Health Program)

Members online: Kate Sullivan (Community Partners)

Staff: Jeff Donald

1) Welcome & Introductions

Members introduced themselves.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes **{VOTE}**

B. Smith made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Seconded by C. Robicheau.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

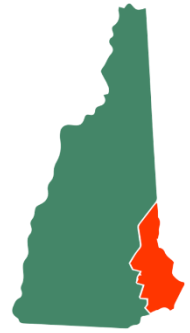
3) Updates & Statistics

J. Donald presented recent ridership data, noting a dramatic up-swing in ridership from July to August (not clear why). Otherwise, all services appear steady. He had seen a similar dip in July with an upswing in August in common applications that matched ridership.

4) Semi-Annual and Annual Reports

J. Donald presented ridership details from the recent fiscal year:

- Trip purpose by frequency. Highest frequency riders primarily take medical, dialysis, and shopping trips (in that order).
- Middle frequency riders typically take shopping and regular medical trips.
- Lowest frequency riders primarily use services for shopping and medical trips.
- The majority of individual riders use a single provider, but 12% of riders use 2 different providers.



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

- Majority of riders are between 60 and 80 years old.
- Ridership by weekly frequency (most clients take between 1 and 3 trips per week)
- Overall trip counts by town, service, and COAST/Wildcat, ACT services, and CTS/MTM/Medicaid
 - Ratio of demand response service trip counts vs. local census population over 60 to show where concentrations are
 - Trips increased from 48,920 trips (July 2021 to June 2022) to 60k in current

5) SFY23 year-end income statement

J. Donald presented year-end financial information noting that all 5310 dollars were spent but a few dollars. S. Bogle asked about the impact of local block grants on services. J. Donald said he was working on improving reporting, but local CDBG and other grants have onerous reporting requirements and some grants from cities are very small but create extra reporting and management work.

6) Partner Update: Emilia Poehlman, NH Disability and Health Program

E. Poehlman described the NH Disability and Health Program at UNH:

- The program operates through a 5-year CDC cooperative agreement which funds similar programs in ten other states.
- Connected to the UNH College of Health and Human Services
- Central mission of improving quality of life for people with disabilities
- All 10 states' programs are focused on "responsive practice" to help healthcare providers improve ability to provide accessible disability-accessible care
- Focus areas to increase access for people with disabilities to Oral Health, Transportation, Fitness, and Food Security.

7) Statewide Updates

J. Donald explained that the NHTA will be focusing on various transportation services to celebrate them in statewide outreach and communications over the next month.

He added that the SCC is creating a website with a statewide transportation directory; each RCC will have their own pages in statewide SCC website. ACT website will likely move to SCC website and COAST will host the Common Application. This would reduce website hosting and maintenance expenses.

The NH VDP Peer-to-Peer Network will be having 1 in-person meeting and 1 virtual meeting each year.

There is a new state project to combat isolation ("Wellness Link") to connect senior centers, publish events, and get seniors together in social settings.

There are six Ten Year Plan hearings coming up in the ACT region. J. Donald recommended that members attend and tell NHDOT staff about their services and clients. It would be more impactful to encourage clients to attend meetings to speak.

J. Donald said he had been invited to participate on the National Transportation Research Board.

8) Information Exchange

Nothing brought before the board.

9) Miscellaneous

Nothing brought before the board.

10) Adjournment

B. Smith made a motion to adjourn; seconded by C. Robicheau.

**The next Executive Committee meeting is currently scheduled for
September 19, 2023, 3:30 - 5 PM**

The next regular ACT Meeting is November 1, 2023, 9 – 10:30 AM.

Reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need, including as much detail as possible. Please make your request as soon as possible, but allow at least 5 days advance notice to ACT; later requests will be honored, if possible, but cannot be guaranteed. Please contact ACT as noted below:

Comments regarding this notice may be directed to:

Jeff Donald
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