

**Transportation Policy Advisory Committee
Public Transportation Sub-Committee**

Members Present:

Tom Irwin, Chair
Dick Lemieux
Dean Williams, CNHRPC
Councilor Byron Champlin
Councilor Brent Todd
Patricia Hutchins
Ed Roberge (Staff Representative)
Laura Aibel (Staff Representative)
Heather Shank (Staff Representative)

Members Absent:

Cathy Wyrenbeck

Others Attending:

Jim Sudak, CAT
Larisa Djuvelek-Ruggiero, BMICAP
Ralph Littlefield, BMICAP

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairman Irwin welcomed Patricia Hutchins as a member of the subcommittee.

II. Approval of Minutes

The amended minutes for the September 22, 2015 meeting and minutes from the October 20, 2015 meeting were approved.

III. Referrals

There were no referrals.

IV. Public Comments

There was no public comment.

V. Updates/Old Business

- i. Ridership Report-** The ridership report was distributed. Ridership on all routes was down between October and November. It was noted this seems to be an annual occurrence.
- ii. CAT Quick Report –** Mr. Sudak reviewed the Quick report with the subcommittee. Currently, CAT enjoys a full complement of drivers.
- iii. Vehicle Replacement Program-** The subcommittee continued the discussion regarding specifications for a replacement vehicle. Subcommittee members and others focused on the following;
 - the pros and cons of two types of buses, front and rear mounted engines
 - maintenance, repair and part availability of rear versus front engine models
 - anecdotal experiences with reliability for front and rear engine models
 - importance of aesthetics in vehicle selection
 - the increased cost of rear mounted buses and the impact on the City's match.

Relative cost differentials between models and the potential for leasing vehicles were also discussed. At the conclusion of this discussion, the subcommittee felt CAT had enough input

from the subcommittee to move forward with NHDOT in developing a specification for the vehicles and to advance the bidding process as appropriate.

VI. Other Discussions

- i. CAT Program Goals** –No update.
- ii. Public Meeting** - The subcommittee agreed there should be a meeting during the hours of CAT's operations along one of the routes. Mr. Roberge will coordinate. Ms. Djuvelek-Ruggiero needs at least two weeks for adequate public notice to the CAT system riders.
- iii. Boarding and Alighting Study** – Mr. Williams distributed some raw numbers from the Boarding and Alighting counts performed by CNHRPC November 17, 18 and 19th.

VII. New Business

- i.** Can the slats on the bench at the stop on Storrs Street be replaced? Mr. Roberge will contact the General Services Department to get this fixed.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.