

**Salem Area Mass Transit District
Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee
Tuesday, May 1, 2018
Courthouse Square - Senator Hearing Room
555 Court St NE, Salem, Oregon 97301**

A. CALL TO ORDER & NOTE OF ATTENDANCE:

John Hammill called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Hammill, Vice Chair; Marja Byers; Emily Broussard; Victor Reppeto; Sharon Heuer

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ron Harding, Chair; Sherena Meager-Osteen; Jean Sherbeck

STAFF:

Ted Stonecliffe, Transit Planner II; Chris French, Senior Planner; SueAnn Coffin, Contracted Transportation Manager; Melissa Kidd, Operations Programs Administrator; Jolynn Franke, Administrative Assistant, Transportation Development

SAMTD BOARD LIAISON:

Jerry Thompson, SAMTD Board of Directors

PROVIDERS:

Goran Petrovic, General Manager, MV Transportation; Tim Williams, Safety Manager, MV Transportation

GUESTS:

Arla Miller, ODOT Rail and Public Transit; Tim Rocak, CEO, Garten Services; one member of the public who did not leave any information

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. New projections for FY18 Section 5310(FTA) grant appropriation

Ted Stonecliffe announced that after the April 3, 2018 STFAC meeting, staff were informed of a change in the amount of Section 5310(FTA) funds estimated to be received in Federal Fiscal Year 2018 of about \$15,000 less. Therefore, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) had to reconvene and form a new recommendation to the STFAC. Additionally, TAC members

had to take into account the requirement that 55 percent of the Section 5310(FTA) funds were to go towards what is defined as “traditional” projects by the Section 5310(FTA) Circular (“circular”) and 45 percent were to go towards “other” projects defined by the same circular. Copies of the circular’s definitions of traditional and other projects were provided to the STFAC members in the attachment to the staff memo.

2. New recommendation from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to the Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (STFAC) for funding Fiscal Year 2018 Section 5310(FTA) grant applications:

At the request of John Hammill, Vice Chair, Jolynn Franke announced the recommendation to the STFAC from the TAC for Section 5310(FTA) grant funding. The TAC recommends to **approve funding of the Garten Services vehicle purchase application in the amount \$15,000 with a priority ranking of 4 (lowest priority); to approve funding for the Cherriots mobility management call center and partnership coordination application in the amount of \$72,316 with a priority ranking of 3; to approve funding of the Cherriots Shop and Ride preventive maintenance application in the amount of \$32,428 with a priority ranking of 2; and to approve funding of the Cherriots Shop and Ride purchased service application in the amount of \$97,912 with a priority ranking of 1 in order to satisfy the requirement for 55 percent traditional projects and 45 percent other projects based on the estimated amount of \$217,716. Should the actual amount of available Section 5310(FTA) funds exceed the estimated \$217,716, the additional funds will be applied to the four projects based on their ranking and not to exceed the total amount requested, and in a manner to satisfy the 55/45 (traditional/other project) requirement.**

C. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tim Rocak, CEO of Garten Services came forward to thank the STFAC for considering Garten’s request for Section 5310(FTA) funds toward the purchase of a new vehicle. Lack of transportation is a barrier for individuals with disabilities to get to their jobs out in the community. Garten is working towards making transportation options more available for those individuals.

D. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – April 3, 2018

Victor Reppeto motioned to approve the April 3, 2018 STFAC meeting minutes as written. Emily Broussard seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously among voting members.

E. ACTION ITEMS:

1. [MOTION]: Recommendation to the Cherriots Board of Directors to fund FY18 Section 5310(FTA) grant applications [John Hammill] –

Emily Broussard motioned for the STFAC to accept the recommendation from the TAC as written and pass it on the Cherriots Board of Directors. Marja Byers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously among voting members.

F. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. First Quarter Ridership Comparison - Cherriots Regional, Cherriots LIFT, Cherriots Shop and Ride [Ted Stonecliffe] -

STFAC members were provided with ridership numbers for the first quarter of calendar year 2018 compared to the first quarter of calendar year 2017.

- Ridership on Route 10X has increased in 2018 compared to 2017. This is likely due to the addition of two daily round trips that were put into service in May 2017.
- Route 20X has seen a decrease in ridership in 2018 compared to 2017. Staff is aware of reliability issues with this route and will be implementing changes to the schedule next week that should correct these issues. This route serves stops in Woodburn, Mt. Angel, Silverton, Chemeketa Community College, and the Downtown Transit Center.
- Ridership on route 30X is about the same in 2018 compared to 2017. Last May, cuts were made to service on this route east of Stayton, but more trips were added west of Stayton. This route serves stops in Salem, Aumsville, Stayton, Mill City, and Gates.
- Ridership numbers for Route 40X were reported differently in 2017 than in 2018 due to changes made to Regional service in Polk County last May. Looking at the combined ridership of Routes 40, 45, and 50

in 2017 and compared to the combined ridership for Routes 40X, 50X, and the Polk County Flex would give a more accurate comparison.

- Cherriots LIFT and Shop and Ride ridership are both higher in 2018 compared to 2017. SueAnn Coffin shared that the Shop and Ride service has been receiving so many requests that some have had to be turned down. Cherriots LIFT likely experienced more ridership in the first quarter of 2018 because of the milder winter weather compared to that of January 2017, which caused a lot of cancellations.

2. Upcoming Cherriots Regional schedule changes [Ted Stonecliffe] –

Beginning May 7, 2018 schedules for routes 10X and 20X will be modified slightly in order to correct some on-time performance issues with these routes. Also, the 5:30 p.m. trip for Route 10X will be moved to 5:00 p.m. so that commuters don't have to wait around an extra 30 minutes.

3. Provider Updates: None

4. Round Table Topics:

- Emily Broussard offered kudos to the Cherriots Call Center for offering great service, being pleasant to talk to, and answering calls so quickly. The Cherriots Call Center has seen a 75 percent reduction in calls and significantly reduced their staff since the contract with Non-emergent Medical Transportation (NEMT) expired on March 1 of this year.
- Victor Reppeto has heard of some problems with the new NEMT call center and ride providers, such as limitations on requirements for bus passes and drivers not showing up for scheduled rides. Those experiencing these and other issues are encouraged to contact Willamette Valley Community Health (WVCH) and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to report them. The Cherriots Call Center had recently decided to stop giving out the phone number for the new call center

provider and were encouraging callers to contact WVCH and OHA instead, but that decision will be reconsidered.

- An additional STFAC meeting will be scheduled for June 5, 2018 as there may be a new applicant for membership on the STFAC. If staff is not able to obtain an application from the interested party in time, the meeting will be cancelled.
- Questions were asked about the State Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF), but it is too early to know any details. Staff is aware that there will be a requirement for a committee separate from the STFAC that will review and recommend funding applications, but they do not have any details on the structure of this committee yet. Once ODOT has finalized the administrative rules for the STIF program, STFAC members will be notified.
- Public outreach for a proposal of a new Cherriots fare structure will begin on May 14, 2018 and end on June 8, 2018. This is part of the project known as "A Better Cherriots," and will help inform the planning process which will determine how to enhance service beginning in September 2019. Approved fare changes would not take place until July 2019.

G. ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Recorded by: Jolynn Franke, Administrative Assistant, Transportation Development Division

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, June 5, 2018; 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Courthouse Square Building, Senator Hearing Room
555 Court St NE, Salem, OR 97301