

Meeting Summary

Mobility Advisory Committee

Sara Davis, Co-Chair

March 8, 2023

Meeting Summary

Procedural Business

1. Welcome and Introductions

Sara Davis, with OATS Transit and Co-chair of the committee and Martin Rivarola, Assistant Director of Transportation and Land Use of Mid-America Regional Council, welcomed attendees to the meeting. Sara Davis asked everyone to introduce themselves in the meeting chat. Mr. Rivarola introduced Jonathan Feverston as a new MARC staff member that will assist with the Mobility Advisory Committee.

2. Approval of September 7 Meeting Minutes and November 2, 2022 meeting summaries

A motion to approve the September 7th meeting minutes was provided by Kim Blobaum (The Whole Person) and seconded by Anne Miller (Don Bosco Center). There were no abstentions and all approved. A motion to approve the November 2nd meeting minutes was provided by Anne Miller (Don Bosco) with Jim Huffman (Life Unlimited) seconded. There was one abstention and all others approved.

Main Business

3. Section 5310 Funding Round Debrief

Martin Rivarola (MARC) led a discussion to reflect on the 2022 Section 5310 funding process. Martin provided an overview of the process that took place. This overview included the 2022 programming schedule, an overview of the 5310 application guidebook and application portal, and 5310 scoring criteria. The staff scoring table was provided to show the separation of scores by application and criteria. A review of the applicant presentation meeting was provided. Martin asked if applicant presentations were an important and helpful part of the process. The application review with funding amounts was provided including an explanation of the additional meeting to discussed supplementary funding that was unprogrammed. This included a discussion of funding scenarios, with scenario 1 selected to provide additional funding to already programmed applications to get closer to the funding amounts requested.

Sara Davis then opened discussion to the committee to get feedback about the process.

Anne Miller thought that the process went well, and the presentations were helpful to clarify information about funding applications. Roger Montero (EITAS) did feel that the presentations were beneficial. Lisa Womack stated in the chat that it was good to hear about the other projects and presentations. Margaret Brown (KCATA) found the presentations to be helpful. Carla Norcott-Mahany asked how many organizations were new to the process. Carla stated that she was new to the process and found the presentations helpful. Carla also provided feedback about the application portal and how there was trouble attaching letters of support and some technical glitches. Martin

Rivarola responded that MARC and KCATA do try to test the site for glitches and will ask for volunteers to help when the portal launches next year. Jim Huffman found the presentations to be helpful to understanding some of the more specific aspects of the organizations and applications. Sara did say that the presentations helped understand the work of new organizations that are applying for funding. Rachel Herbig (The Children's Place) commented that an attachment section to upload was provided but that it asked if one combined document could be uploaded rather than multiple attachments. Rachel questioned whether this could have been the technical issue with the application portal.

Martin Rivarola reminded the committee and any organizations that applied for funding that MARC assesses a 1% project fee to facilitate the program. Invoices are sent a few months after funding is awarded. Anne Miller asked if the 1% comes off the top of the funding. Martin responded that is invoiced at the end after funds are received.

Michael Soodjinda (The Whole Person) asked when funding will be sent to the organizations that were awarded funding. Margaret Brown (KCATA) responded with an update. The grant application was submitted to the Federal Transit Administration and will take approximately 60 days to be reviewed and approved. Packages will be sent to the awarded organizations and those organizations will have 60 days to agree to the funding and sent it back to the KCATA so that funding can go through procurement. Approval of the funding application is anticipated in late April or Early May.

4. Breakout Groups for 2023 Workplan

Jonathan Feverston (MARC) facilitated breakout room discussions where the meeting attendees were divided into small groups to discuss potential ideas to add to the committee's 2023 workplan. The questions for the breakout groups are below with discussion points:

- How can the Mobility Advisory Committee facilitate sharing knowledge and ideas between agencies in the committee?
 - Patrick Trouba's group mentioned holding a forum or provide dedicated time for one organization to present to the committee.
 - Expand on each organization's work and to bring a story to allow for different organizations can network together.
 - Sara Davis mentioned the importance of accepting volunteer opportunities when they come up so that organizations do present at meetings.
- How can committee meetings provide opportunities to learn about other ideas and practices from other regions of the country?
 - Patrick Trouba's group mentioned having an outside speaker come in that may help facilitate learning new ideas.
 - Anne Miller's group wanted to focus more on the local entities to foster more local collaboration.
 - Jonathan Feverston's group expressed that a lot of the work of organizations in this committee is specific and that bringing in an outside speaker on broader topics may be more helpful.
 - McKenna Kozak's group discussed webinars to bring in new ideas and information.
- Are there innovations or new practices you are hearing about that you want to learn more about?
 - Patrick Trouba's group talked about facial recognition technology to help detect driver expressions and fatigue.
 - Michael Soodjinda (The Whole Person) mentioned that transportation Medicare and Medicaid providers such as MTM provide the lowest rate. Understanding what the break-even rate is helpful make the service solvent. Michael also mentioned the

importance of dispatch center technology to make sure resources are used effectively.

- Lisa Womack mentioned that there are more commonalities between organizations and the chance to meet with a Medicaid broker from MTM or another organization to learn about rates and how to simplify the process may be insightful.
- Are there changes you are experiencing in your work that you feel the committee should discuss?
 - Patrick Trouba's group talked about the shift to community-based employment, the shift to smaller vehicles, and staffing issues.
 - Jonathan Feverston's group discussed staffing challenges and the opportunity to discuss an article or bring in an outside speaker to discuss staff retention.
 - McKenna Kozak's group discussed technology as it relates to transportation for seniors.
- Are we providing enough opportunities to allow agencies to share what they do and recent updates?
 - Patrick Trouba's group stated that the opportunities were adequate, as did Jonathan Feverston's group.
 - McKenna Kozak's group mentioned that additional opportunities in the form of moving organization sharing to the beginning of the meeting and a directory of organizations may help connect organizations and understand available opportunities to collaborate.

5. MAC Meeting Setting

Martin Rivarola provided an update on the meeting setting for this committee. Meetings have been remote for the past few years, and MARC is working to see what meeting setting work best for this committee moving forward. A link to a poll is below asking what setting works best for future meetings. Martin stated that usually virtual meetings get more attendance however in-person participation usually makes discussion easier.

<https://forms.office.com/r/1csaXGReMv>



Anne Miller mentioned that zoom is convenient, but you lose the dialogue and exchange of ideas.

Additional Business

6. MAC Membership Update

Jonathan Feverston provided information about the membership of the committee. The committee is composed of 11-20 organizations with one vote per organization. A quorum is 50% of the members. Attendance is required at 3 of 4 meetings per year. A meeting roster from 2022 was presented and committee members were asked to provide feedback of any changes that need to be made to the member roster. Two organizations have expressed wanting to join the committee. Jonathan Feverston reminded the committee that membership is voted on at the first meeting of the calendar year with a deadline to join at the fall quarterly meeting. Because there was not a quorum, voting to accept membership of the two organizations was deferred to the next meeting in June 2023.

Member	Organization	Alternate
Carroll Ramseyer	City of Olathe	Jessica Hotaling
Anne Miller	Don Bosco	Ann Van Zee
Ken Murphy	Eastern Jackson County Transit Alliance	Mike Larson
Roger Montero	EITAS	Ashley Barraza
Dana Chatlin	Farmer's House	Suzanne Zimmerman
Kim Greene	Full Employment Council	James Bryant
Rachel Ohlhausen	Jewish Family Services	Richard Odiam
Shaun Duffy	Johnson County Mental Health	
Lewis Lowry	KCATA	Pete Comer
Jim Huffman	Life Unlimited	Mark Bertrand
Sara Davis *	OATS	Judy James
Christine Daw	Platte County Board of Services	Heather Tremper
Stephanie Zaldivar	City of Shawnee	
Doshon Hunley	The Whole Person	Carla Norcott-Mahany
Irvin Jackson	Unified Government	Justus Welker
Terry O'Toole	WHC WW, LLC dba zTrip	Teresa Wolken
<i>Amy Stoll</i>	<i>Down Syndrome Innovations</i>	
<i>Lisa Womack</i>	<i>Johnson County Transit</i>	

-  Denotes Potential New Members
-  Denotes No Longer at Organization

Robert Montero (EITAS) requested in the chat to change their alternate.

Jonathan Feverston mentioned that this committee is looking for another co-chair.

7. Member Updates

Pete Comer (KCATA) shared that Iris on-demand ridesharing is launching in the Northland to start. It is app-based and there is a telephone number to call and request a ride. It is zone-based depending on the location and there is a cost for the service. Iris will be used during the NFL Draft. Martin Rivarola asked if Pete could share more about this with the committee. Pete agreed and will be able to share more at a future meeting. Sara Davis asked if Pete could share more information about the service via email. Anne Miller asked if this can be put on the June meeting.

Pete Comer shared that KCATA hired a new director of Mobility Services. Richard Cowart will be assisting with this committee in the future and will help KCATA with other mobility services.

8. 2023 Meeting Dates (all from 9:30-11:00)

- June 14
- September 13
- December 13

ATTENDANCE

March 8, 2023

Co-Chair: Sara Davis, OATS Transit

Other Attendees:

Kim	Blobaum	The Whole Person
Shaun	Duffy	Johnson County Mental Health
Rachel	Herbig	The Children's Place
Jim	Huffman	Life Unlimited Inc.
Hailey	Kellerstrass	City of Liberty, MO
Anne	Miller	Don Bosco Center
Roger	Montero	EITAS
Carla	Norcott-Mahany	The Whole Person
Terry	O'Toole	zTrip/WHC
Angel	Rose	City of Liberty, MO
Michael	Soodjinda	The Whole Person
Amy	Stoll	Down Syndrome Innovations
Laura	Uzzell	Inclusion Connections
Shannon	Weigand	Swope Health Services
Lisa	Womack	Johnson County Transit

MARC and KCATA Staff:

Ron	Achelpohl	MARC
Megan	Broll	MARC
Margaret	Brown	KCATA
Pete	Comer	KCATA
Jonathan	Feverston	MARC
McKenna	Kozak	MARC
Martin	Rivarola	MARC
Patrick	Trouba	MARC