

Welcome!



East Central
Regional Development
Commission

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COORDINATING COUNCIL DIRECTOR

East Central Regional Transportation
Coordinating Council
Advisory Board Planning Meeting #5

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Transitioning into Implementation
Qualifying for MnDOT Grant

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Meeting #5

Improving Mobility for *“Transportation Disadvantaged”*

Those who are: older adults,
individuals with disabilities,
individuals with low incomes,
and/or military veterans.

Mission Statement:

To Coordinate the Provision of Multimodal Transportation Services to Assure that Transportation is Convenient and Affordable and will Benefit those Residents facing Transportation Barriers throughout the East Central Minnesota Region 7E.

Time Line:

Completed:

- ~ ECRTCC structure organized, defined & approved
- ~ ECRTCC Advisory Board designated & approved by ECRTCC
- ~ Geographic region defined
- ~ Project described continuing efforts from local Human Services Transit Coordination Plan
- ~ By Laws created & approved
- ~ Mission Statement created & approved
- ~ 4 public meetings

Advisory Board:

- Area Agency on Aging
- Transportation Providers
- Private Transportation Providers *
TRY, LYFT, Taxi Services
- City Administration
- County Commissioners
- Human Services Agencies
- Veteran Service Organizations
- Health Care Systems
- Centers for Independent Living
- Political Representation
- Senior Service Administrators
- Workforce Development
- Home Health Aids
- Habilitation Services
- Tribal Government *

Updates:

1. Radio
2. Continued involvement with TRY
3. Participated in the quarterly statewide RTCC meeting,
4. Held ECRTCC public meetings
5. Participated on behalf of ECRTCC in Community Dialogue
6. Met with Amy Christensen of TriCAP
7. Met with Miranda Janssen, Field Representative of Congressman Pete Stauber,
8. Updated ECHO (East Central Housing Organization)
9. Discussed production possibilities of Transportation Mobility Center website
10. Met with Kathy Reid, representative from Pine Technical & Community College

Coordination Plans into Implementation

Coordination plan:

Identify the needs and strategies, goals, objectives, and actions.

Identify stakeholders and develop elements to deliver required actions for implementation phase.

Consider the 2017 Conclusions for Implementation:

- ~ Volunteer Driver Program/Rural Drivers*
- ~ Connectivity to other modalities, increasing hours of service*
- ~ Simplified centralized dispatch (minding the fact that many in the region are internet disadvantaged or unable to utilize technology)*

Implementation plan:

Specifically outlines steps required to implement the projects and incorporate the elements identified in the coordination plans.

Where do you lay within a specific interest?

Public Meetings:

Discovery

Our Goals:

Mobility Enhancement –

Volunteer driver program, rural drivers, private transit, public transit... - delivering affordable, efficient, uncomplicated service.

Operation and Administration –

Establish an effective and continuing organizational structure that will ensure financial self-sufficiency and ongoing operation.

Conductivity throughout region which reaches out to adjacent regions.

Implementation Phase Grant Requirements

**#1 Transportation Management Coordination
Center (TMCC)**

#2 Volunteer Driver Program Committee

#3 Vehicle Sharing

Transportation Management Coordination Center (TMCC)

A TMCC serves as a one-call or one-click service for transportation, providing customers with a single point of contact to learn about available transportation resources. This customer-friendly tool can empower travelers by providing information about, assistance with, and access to available services.

Begin with information & referral.

Develop website and look into building an APP,
Utilize collaboration,
Importance to include adjacent statewide RTCCs,
Reduce duplication of services,
Improving service delivery,
Computer software and training,
Data includes public/private systems, times/routes,
Management and implementation,
Continually update,
Transmission of information,
Data collection from users.

Reduce the barriers constraining the development of Volunteer Driver programs

(Used for short distances and for filling gaps in public transportation)

- Pursue legislation to update the Charitable Reimbursement Rate in order to entice and retain volunteers,
- Pursue legislation on the reimbursement limits for Volunteer Drivers triggering the need for an IRS form 1099,
- Consider No-Load miles in the conversation,
- Coordinate (an) Insurance Pool(s) covering Volunteer Drivers instead of raising personal insurance rates if the Paid Driver vs. Volunteer Driver can not be differentiated.

One item was brought to our attention that would be of significant value regarding the Volunteer Driver insurance issue...

Who is Paying Volunteer Drivers?

- Included in Membership Dues: 7 County Sr. Federation, choice when joining organization, added questionnaire. - Seniors only.
- Grant received by Lakes & Pines to fund rides for those who are disadvantaged. Disadvantaged only.
- Veterans: Part of Veteran Services – paid through Veteran Service Organization. Veterans only.

Vehicle Sharing

Vehicle sharing generally refers to:

- ▶ (a) one or more organizations operating the same vehicle at different times (time sharing) or
- ▶ (b) an human service provider using their vehicle to provide transportation for the clients of another organization (ride sharing).

Increased vehicle sharing is an objective among the government agencies and private organizations that fund transportation.

Figure 2. Cumulative Transaction Costs Outweigh Benefits of Vehicle Sharing

Reasons to Share



Reasons Not To Share



2017 Public Transit Human Service Plan Implementation Projects

Transit Centers

Address lack of prospects choosing to drive buses

Travel Training

(Regional Library) Access to Transit Efficiently - RELATE

Collaboration with the regional library system.

Seize the opportunity to develop these hubs throughout other regions.

A place for autonomous cars, volunteer drivers, cabs, park & ride, private service providers.

Outdoor, free standing clearly viewable buildings – on library's site.

Buildings are Mobile



Renovated Shipping Containers

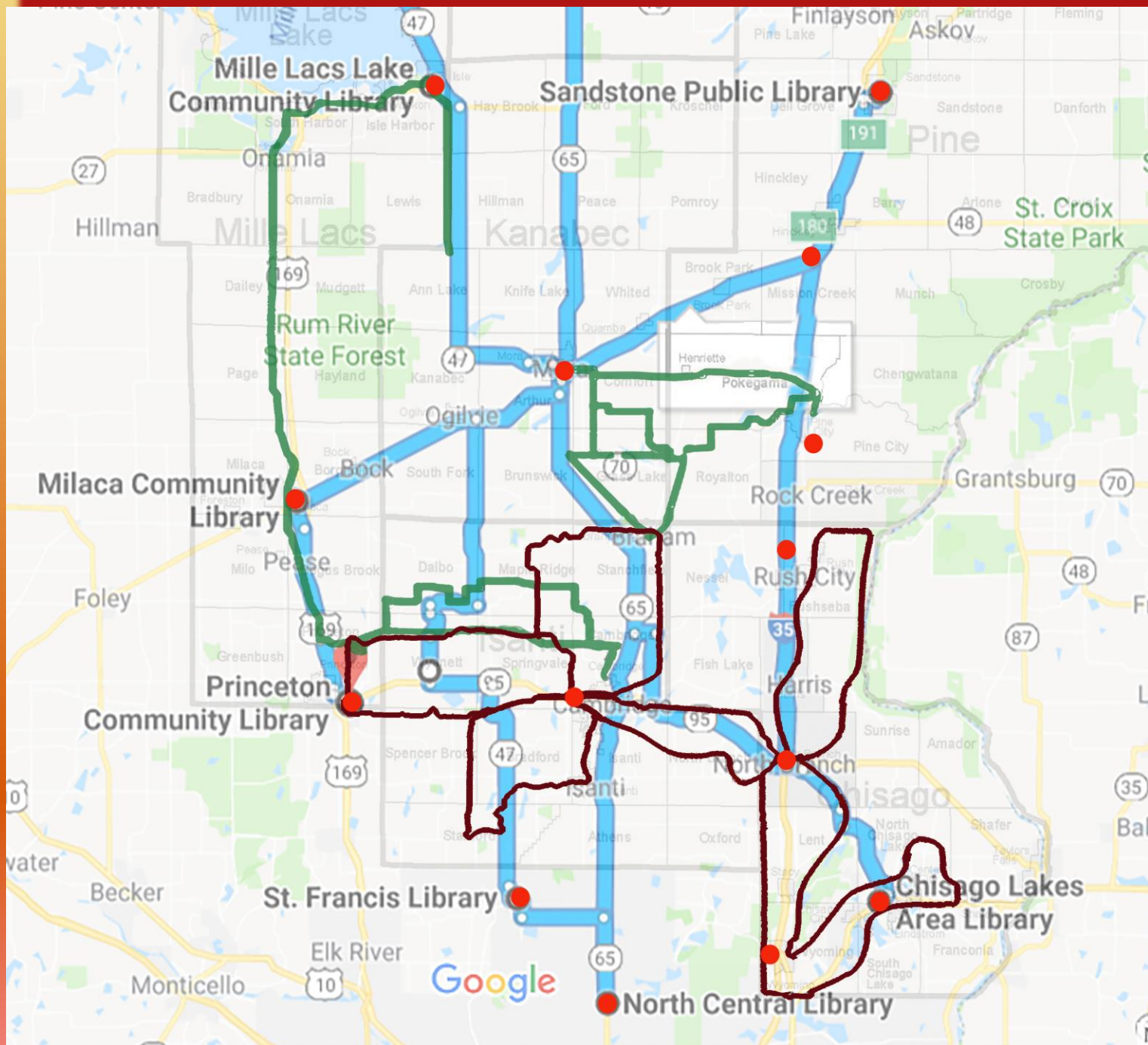


SPRUNG (Prefabricated)

*Concept that all facilities -
“CHUBS” are similar and fun.*

Utilize quarterly meetings of Statewide RTCCs to develop
MnDOT's Annual Transportation Service Plan.

Utilize CHUBS all over the state to connect & serve.



Address the lack of trained bus drivers, work towards resolution

Pay,

Extra work than just driving,

Hours,

The need for vehicle (bus) for driver's test taking – hired by one service provider and then moves on after qualifying for position.

Develop incentive for job searchers (for Veterans) to take driver tests, get qualified. There are positions with flexible hours & benefits!

Travel Training

Introduction to Mobility Services

Continual Monitoring & Involvement

Monitor the progress of connected and automated vehicles,

Rural Rides through a van service of county based transportation allowed to travel in rural areas of individual counties,

Monitor progress of NLX,

Pursue Uber/Lyft...

Additional
Concerns,
Ideas,
Topics?

Next meeting Thursday, April 25, 2019



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THANK YOU!

