

PACTS

Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation Committee

Transit Committee Meeting Notice

**Thursday, April 12, 2007
10:30 a.m.**

GPCOG, 68 Marginal Way

Agenda

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Approval of Minutes from the last meeting (attached)**
- 3. Questions on Committee Reports**
- 4. Summarize Transit Portion of Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).** Policy Committee scoring sheet attached. PTC recommendation to Policy Committee will be an Action Item at the May meeting.
- 5. Technical Committee Appointee - Action Item**
- 6. Draft Work Plan (attached)** At the request of the Chairs it is time to update the Committee's work plan for the next biennium.
- 7. Information Sharing/Round Table Discussion/Check-In/What's Up**
- 8. Other Business**
- 9. Next Meeting Date (May 10 @ 10:15 a.m., at Saco City Hall), Agenda**
- 10. Adjourn**

PACTS Transit Committee Minutes
March 8, 2007
11:00 a.m. at Saco City Hall

Members Present: Tom Meyers, Chair, South Portland Bus Service; Sara Behr, MaineDOT; John Bubier, Biddeford; Catherine Debo, CBITD; Ed Clifford, ShuttleBus/ZOOM; Connie Garber, York County Community Action; Tom Gorrill; Ray Penfold, Private Operators; Patricia Quinn, NNEPRA; David Redlefsen, METRO

Members Absent: Jonathan LaBonte, MTA; Jon McNulty, RTP

Staff and Guests: Maddy Adams, GPCOG; Susan Davis, MNGRR; Steve Linnell, GPCOG; Tom Reinauer, SMRPC; Robert Wagner; Chris Small, MNGRR; David Willauer, GPCOG

1. **Call to Order.** Tom Meyers called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m.
2. **Approval of minutes from February 8th, 2007 meeting.** *Ed Clifford moved approval of the minutes of the February 8th meeting.* There was a correction on page 2 under the Information Sharing item– the sentence about the students being surprised they were riding on diesel buses should say biodiesel buses. *The motion was seconded with the above-noted change, and all were in favor.*
3. **Questions on Committee Reports.** There weren't any reports. Tom noted that if there is something that comes up at any of the Committee meetings that should be shared with the Transit Committee, then please send it along.
4. **Projects for Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).** Tom M. provided some background. In February, John Duncan notified the group that the UPWP was being prepared. It is a requirement that all projects to be funded are listed in the document in order to get FTA and FHWA funds. The deadline is March 16 for FHWA funds. A draft UPWP will be sent to MaineDOT on April 30th and it will be adopted by the Policy Committee in May. This Committee has received a number of documents including the prior UPWP, DT Strategies, Planning Committee recommendations, individual and regional studies and we also need to look at our own recommendations from the Regional Transit Study Committee. We need to determine what we want to do for planning for the next two years.

The Regional Transit Study Committee just met and determined four areas of focus from the Regional Transit Study. We should focus on the study as our highest priority. David noted that the Regional Route Study could be done with 5303 and PL funds. He can put together a scope of work for that study, if the committee so desires. The focus of the Regional Route Study would be interoperability between METRO, SPBS and the ShuttleBus/ZOOM as determined from the Crickelair report.

It was mentioned that there is another study going on with ShuttleBus/ZOOM and SPBS which is a “short-term fix”. The Regional Route Study will complement anything that is currently going on. The other study should be referenced in our scope. We need to avoid duplication and be sure the studies are complementary. David asked if it was possible to add METRO to the current study. Tom explained that the reason they are pursuing this study is to move things along – they wanted to get something done. Should there be more funds available to do a larger study, it might make sense but he doesn't want it to get too big and then have nothing get done. Ed added that the intricacies of the SPBS and BSOOB services may be lost if METRO is included in this phase of the study. They also hope to include the Sanford area in their study.

The Regional Route Study should also include interconnectivity to the Jetport, CBITD, Downeaster, etc. Robert asked about the east/west corridor. The studies need to look at the most cost-effective things we can do to relieve the transportation issues. Tom G. agreed that it is hard to look at transit without looking at it from a regional perspective. The group felt that it was important that the two studies be tied together and that

they should be done simultaneously rather than one after the other. Connie mentioned that the York County component to include WAVE from Sanford to Biddeford will be funded by JARC funds.

The Regional Map and Timetable was also listed as a #1 priority from the Regional Transit Study Committee. David mentioned that he submitted a JARC application for this last year. We have a scope which can be reviewed by the Committee. However, we are talking about many different services in one guide. Tom M. explained that what we want to do is take five or six different operations and timetables and put them on a regional map. He showed several examples of combined route maps (such as the Shoreline Explorer). Patricia volunteered to meet with the marketing directors from each of the agencies to determine whether this can be done. Essentially, we need to show the user how to get from point A to point B. Staff can put together a clearer scope of the tasks that we are looking at. We would not need to make a decision today if FHWA or FTA funds are not being used.

Tom asked about the carryover items from the current UPWP and the recommendations from the Planning Committee. It was mentioned that the UPWP can always be amended. David will pull the information together including the carryover tasks, and short-range and long-range planning. Additionally, if anyone has any individual studies that they would like to have done, please get that information to David today. Please reply to all if you have any comments on the information that David will be sending out.

6. **Technical Committee Appointee.** Deferred to next meeting.
7. **Information Sharing/round Table Discussion...** Deferred to next meeting.
8. **Other business.**
 - On March 21st at noon, GPCOG will host an ITS Chapter meeting.
 - AAA Mobility Workshop is scheduled for April 13
 - Dick Doyle, FTA Administrator, is retiring. He has been a major advocate for public transportation.
9. **Next Meeting Date.** The next meeting is scheduled for April 12th at GPCOG, following the Regional Transit Study Committee meeting.
10. **Adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Score sheet for March 15th PACTS Policy Committee work priorities workshopBike/Ped

Draft April 3

Analyze connectivity between other modes and service areas	190
Develop regional commuter bike routes - safety/security/standards	80
Increase regional bike/ped trail planning funding	10
Revisit bike/ped plans	0

Funding

Explore ways to increase funding	690
Assess PACTS MPO funding model - is it broken ?	400
Look at how PACTS/DOT allocates funding -	360
Investigate impact fees and developer funding for transportation	310
Direct more state funding directly to towns	280
Continue to explore earmark funding process	270
Consider the addition of more toll roads	250
Assess the regionality of invested funds and how to improve it	220
Develop a policy to limit use of TIP funds to resolve growth-induced traffic needs	170
Explore private/public partnerships	90

Process

Streamline the LAP process and project delivery process	480
Focus on how we restructure PACTS and how it can be accomplished- may require legislative approval	340
Review other MPO governance and programming structures	230
Explore impacts of PACTS becoming a TMA after next census	200
Increase our working relationship with legislators - education/marketing & outreach	190
Use PACTS planning funds to finance aerial photos of whole region every three years	170
Enhance PACTS capacity as a single source provider of data services/funding	130
Develop a proactive PACTS effort to encourage multi-municipal polices	80
Create a library of PACTS "best practices" and use it as a marketing tool in seeking funding	80
Explore alternative fuel use	80
Establish monthly task list/time table for upcoming yr - time table for goals	10
Develop a proactive regional sustainable approach in context of climate change	0
Enhance relationship between Turnpike & Towns	0
Review regional ITS opportunities	0
Map project proposals for the TIP	0

Technical/Highway

Improve collector paving and road funding selection process	340
Collaborate with MEDOT on design standards for collector paving	280
Review application of DOT design standards	240
Study Travel Demand Management (TDM) on a regional basis	140
Participate actively in proposed east-west highway and land use study	130
Study impact of Turnpike planned spurs	120
Explore regional approach to corridors, and multi-municipal agreements	80
Look at increasing overlay projects - increasing maintenance and less construction	80
Increase traffic signal coordination	80
Improve access to Turnpike and create Turnpike regional toll free zone	70
Improve safety and preserve mobility of I-295	60
Develop a regional interstate master plan	50
Look at % of funding and life span of roads	40
Perform extensive work on access management	10
Identify/list PACTS roads that meet MEDOT overlay standards	0

Transit

Implement 2007 transit coordination study	420
Develop guideline to incorporate transit planning into municipal comprehensive planning process	180
Look at more transit hubs	180
Plan/ design & implement a regional map & time table for public use	160
Develop methodology to implement a regional fare system	120
Plan and encourage transit oriented development	70
Prioritize roads on transit routes	30
Explore opportunities at Thompson Point Portland	10
Coordinate health care facilities needs in public transit planning/investments	0
Increase transit use to alleviate parking pressures	0
Study signal preemption opportunities for transit and emergency vehicles	0
Expand radio inter operability	0
Increase generator back-up to fuel vehicles	0

Draft Timeline for the PACTS Transit Committee

Agenda Item # 6

Fiscal Year 2005:

April 2005 Adopt UPWP
May
June Evaluation of the Committee (first year)

Fiscal Year 2006:

July 2005 Begin development of Allocation Formulas
August *Completion of Destination Tomorrow Report*
September
October Adopt Performance Based Allocation Formula
November FTA Budget announced (tentative)
December Provider information (ridership, miles, etc.) due
January 2006 Submit recommendation to Policy Committee for FTA Section 5307 funds
February – June
June Annual evaluation of Committee (year 2)

Fiscal Year 2007:

July 2006 Review criteria for submitting STP proposals
August 2006 Submit STP proposals to staff for ratings
October 2006 Adopt STP proposals for submission to Policy Committee
January 2007 Operators submit requests for planning functions and funding
February Draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) submitted and first review
March Review UPWP
April Complete recommendations to Policy Committee re: UPWP
May
June 2007 Annual evaluation of Committee (year 3)

Other tasks:

- Provide assistance and coordination for implementing Destination Tomorrow and associated studies and plans
- Determine level of involvement of the Committee wishes to have in ongoing studies such as:
 - Peninsula Transit Study
 - Maine Narrow Gauge RR Extension Study
 - Other future studies
- Begin orientation of what it will mean to be a part of a Transportation Management Area
- Respond to Policy Committee requests for action, information or recommendations as needed