

TRANSIT Equity ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING Minutes 12-17-15

Call to Order: meeting called to order at 4.30 PM by Roberta

****ATTENDANCE**

TEAC Members; Andre, Roberta, Ana, Hannah, Dylan, Scotty, Holly, Judi, Nicole, Julia

Staff: John Gardner, Jake Warr, Ryan McBee, Shelley Devine, Dr. Bethel

Guest: Orlando

Icebreaker: something on your mind not work related

NEW MEMBERSHIP: discussed the procedure for adding new members to TEAC, one potential member is Rebecca and other is Holly

Rebecca: from Multnomah County

Holly: from JOIN

NEW Member Process: have interested individual submit bio and attend one TEAC meeting, then TEAC deliberates at the following meeting

Roberta said she would like to have binders for TEAC members, to keep notes and necessary TEAC related documents

Scotty said binders would increase TEAC's organization and productivity, and would allow for documents to be referenced as needed

MOTION: to bring Holly and Rebecca as TEAC members

Discussion:

Hannah said Holly, who represents homeless population, would be a great addition

Roberta said Rebecca can bring a great depth of information to TEAC, and the East County representation is great

VOTE: All in favor of adding Holly to TEAC, 7, 0, 1, motion passes

Vote: to add Rebecca to TEAC, 7, 0, 1, motion passes

WE have two new members of TEAC!!!

Julia asked how many open spots are available for TEAC? Jake said there are two

****TEAC Housekeeping:** Updates from Jake, Roberta and Judy

TEAC CO-CHAIR one on ones: Judy and Roberta will be emailing each member to set up appointments

City of Portland Mayoral candidate Ted Wheeler would like to attend a TEAC meeting, Jake and John said that Title Vi plan will be discussed at the next meeting

Andre said we should invite other candidates as well

John said that candidates coming are either going to give us their thoughts, or ask for ours, but it is not to become a campaign event

Scotty said we could use the January meeting to discuss this idea

Jake said he would follow up with Wheeler's staffer, and would want to know what the purpose of the meeting would be, and then TEAC could prepare for Wheeler's appearance at TEAC

EFARE and TITLE VI Analysis

A draft report has been written and was sent out to TEAC members

this report must be approved by the TRIMET board to comply with the FTA

Jake said this committee should be a part of the presentation of this report to the TRIMET board

Andre asked how the report will be presented? Teac either agrees or diverges with the report findings

Jake said TEAC could either respond to the policy, or respond to the report's analysis

Roberta asked about demographic statistics, Jake said not all groups collected that data
Roberta asked if survey respondents were transit riders? Jake said TRIMET wanted to have transit riders specifically

Julia asked about age demographics? Jake said a general description could be given

Jake said document TEAC is looking at now does not include the appendix in report, the staff label is for CBO Staff, not Trimet staff

Jake said we should define what TEAC says about the policy

5 General issues of Policy

Auto loading with a bank card: TEAC did not discuss this category

Contactless bank card payment: TEAC did not discuss this category

\$5 Minimum load: contract with retailers is that nothing less than \$5 can be put on card, Jake said there may be some flexibility with other EFARE participants, but not retailers

Holly asked about social service agencies paying the minimum loading cost institutions can load products, but if an agency used cash to load on client's cards, they would count towards the fair cap

Nicole asked if discounts would be provided for people using EFARE? Jake said early on there was a discussion about differential fare for EFARE and cash, decided not to because it would make unfair burden for cash payers

Card Cost-one card per rider: Teac members suggested the idea that an individual's first card comes preloaded with one fare, so that the card is \$2.50 for fare, and \$2.50 for the cost of the card, which totals \$5, as opposed to a total of \$8

Nicole said many transit dependent people have the fare for just the day, and that initial EFARE card cost a barrier, and Scotty said that \$5 minimum may box Trimet in with Title VI

Jake said \$5 minimum was not a major concern to the CBO's, they understood the cost

Scotty said Trime't's goal is to get people to use EFARE, maybe each card should come preloaded with one ride, but still cost \$3

Andre said there should be an incentive to join EFARE

Family Fare was suggested by many TEAC members,

Card Registration: concerns about giving personal information away

Paper Tickets: Scotty said his concern is the timeline of when paper tickets will be phased out?

AT this point, it seems like some random time. John said Teac should work to create a defined end date for the elimination of paper tickets

Jake said any decision to remove cash transfers would require a high market penetration of eFare, and that a title Vi analysis would need to be conducted before tickets are gone

Scotty asked about inequities of registration, and a Title Vi analysis should be done

Jake said data from outreach on registration is the best we have, but registration itself may not be a Title VI consideration since it does not affect the cost of the fare

Scotty said it could affect disproportional benefits

RETAIL Network and potential for deserts: *Andre* asked about retail network, and that without retail network, EFARE won't happen

do you have a minimum number retailers on board? If you mess with minimum load, do you jeopardize your proposed retail network?

Jake said that the GIS department has looked at where the gaps are within the retail network, the advantage is that by applying those gaps, they can invite new retailers into the program

Roberta said employers could sell the EFARE cards to their employees

Dylan asked about current retailers? Jake said adding retailers can be done by vender, or by

TRIMET

Andre asked if there must be a certain number of retailers to be considered successful? A large number of retailers doesn't mean anything if there is a lack of access to them

Jake said he would look into the process of retailer membership, ensuring process of retailers in specific locations

Roberta said retailers could be at places of worship

Connect with culturally specific retailers, and eliminate language barriers so that access is increased

Signage and posting of EFARE locations should be similar to posting of EBT card information

Ryan suggested that a map of retail locations be available for the public, perhaps an internet link for a list of participating retailers

final Thoughts: Jake said that report will be finalized the first week of January, but you can send him feedback between now and then

Dylan suggested having a google account for communication

Dylan said the process for EFARE needs to be transparent, Hanah said we must focus on reasons for people to switch to EFARE

TEAC liked having the discussion, and felt that this benefited TEAC and will help us give a thorough report to the board

Nicole said she likes EFARE overall, but has concerns; she asked "how much is TriMet willing to eat?", in that Trimet may have to change their existing policies to accommodate low income and minority riders, the goal is to get people to use EFARE, Trimet may have to offer incentives for people to begin using it

Dr. Bethal reminded TEAC that every decision has consequences, that changing one component of EFARE may effect another component
Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM