

**MARTIN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD FOR THE TRANSPORTATION  
DISADVANTAGED**

Martin County Board of County Commission Chambers  
2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL 34996

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(772) 221-1498

**Monday, June 5, 2023, at 10:00 A.M.**

**MINUTES**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – The Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB-TD) meeting of June 5, 2023, was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by Susan Gibbs-Thomas, Chair.
- 2. ROLL CALL**

**Members in Attendance:**

Susan Gibbs-Thomas, Chair, Indiantown Council Member  
Robert McPartlan, Vice Chair, Department of Children & Families Services  
Michael Northcutt, Florida Department of Veteran's Affairs  
Shameka Smith, Florida Division of Vocational Rehab  
Dalia Dillon, Department of Elder Affairs  
Phyl Weaver, Representative for Persons over 60  
Michelle Miller, Representative for the Economically Disadvantaged (FACA)  
Marie Dorismond, Florida Department of Transportation  
Ashman Beecher, Martin County Transit  
Mary Jo Pirone, Citizen's Advocate/Rider Rep  
Milory Senate, Agency for Persons with Disabilities

**Excused Members:**

Zachary Hoge, Florida Division of Vocational Rehab  
Joe Azevedo, Martin County Career Center  
Brenda Matheny, Local Medical Community

**Members Not in Attendance:**

Gayle McArdle, Representative for Persons with Disabilities  
Monique Coleman, Representative for Children At-Risk

**Staff in Attendance:**

Beth Beltran, MPO Administrator  
Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Planner  
Lucine Martens, Planner  
Alor Cadorna, Administrative Assistant

**Others in Attendance:**

Chris Stephenson, Senior Resource Association

Karen Deigl, Senior Resource Association  
Dana Elharintaragen, Stand Up for Independence (SUFI)  
Rogelio Gonzalez, Council on Aging Community Transit  
Larry Sofield

**A quorum was present for the meeting.**

### **3. APPROVE AGENDA**

**A motion was made by Phyl Weaver to approve the Agenda as presented. A second was provided by Robert McPartlan. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **4. APPROVE MINUTES**

- Regular Meeting Minutes – March 6, 2023

**A motion was made by Robert McPartlan to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2023. A second was provided by Mary Jo Pirone, the motion passed unanimously.**

### **5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None**

### **6. AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **A. QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Chris Stephenson of the Senior Resource Association (SRA) presented the Quarterly Performance Report. He presented to the members, the CTC Performance Report for the period covering July 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023, and was available to answer questions.

Robert McPartlan inquired if the SRA has sustainability since the trips have gone up to 24,000 and if they are going to get grant funding. Chris Stephenson stated that they have submitted an Innovative Service Development (ISD) Grant to the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged for the FY 23-24 that is going to start July 1, 2023 and they should hear back sometime this month. SRA also presented to the Board of County Commissioners in Martin County to get some additional local funding for overmatch. Robert McPartlan added if the Developmental Disability Transportation Program will continue. Chris Stephenson mentioned that they submitted an ISD grant, and they feel very good about it. Also, he mentioned that they received 5310 funds from FDOT for this program and the funds are available every single year.

Referencing a Medicaid eligible transportation recipient in Western Martin County, Bob McPartlan asked if the reason the Medicaid applicants were denied TD transportation is because they are on Medicaid. Chris Stephenson stated that it could be a partial eligibility because if someone is on Medicaid, SRA cannot provide their medical trips they have to use their Medicaid (medical) transportation provider to travel to medical related

destinations. They can, however, use Martin Community Coach for other life-sustaining non-medical related transportation.

**A motion was made by Robert McPartlan to approve the Quarterly Performance Report. A second was provided by Dalia Dillon, the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **B. FY23 COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR (CTC) EVALUATION**

Lucine Martens, Planner gave a brief overview of the FY23 Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) Evaluation. Each year, pursuant to Chapter 427, Florida Statutes and Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged Rule 41-2, Florida Administrative Code, the LCB-TD assists in the evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC). The CTC Evaluation Report package is complete, and she was available to answer questions.

**A motion was made by Robert McPartlan to approve the FY23 Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) Evaluation. A second was provided by Phyl Weaver, the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **C. TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED (TD) PROGRAM FY23/24 ALLOCATIONS FOR MARTIN COUNTY**

Lucine Martens introduced the agenda item and informed the committee that this is an informational item. The Florida Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) has provided the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) staff with the funding allocations for the FY23/24 Trip & Equipment Grant (\$294,412) and the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Planning Grant (\$24,540) for Martin County. The Trip & Equipment Grant Agreement is between the CTD and the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC). The TD Planning Grant Agreement is entered into annually between the MPO and the CTD. She was available to answer questions.

#### **D. FY23/24 COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR (CTC) TRIP RATE MODEL**

Lucine Martens gave a brief overview of the agenda item. Senior Resource Association (SRA), the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) must submit an updated Trip Rate Model to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) prior to the execution of the Trip and Equipment Grant Agreement. The Rate Model displays the FY 23/24 projected transportation rates (Ambulatory rate= \$39.11, Wheelchair rate= \$67.05).

Susan Gibbs-Thomas inquired if the rate is the same, increased, or decreased compared to last year. Chris Stephenson stated that the rate did slightly go up. The ambulatory rate went up to \$5 and the wheelchair rate went up to \$10.

**A motion was made by Robert McPartlan to approve the FY23/24 Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) Trip Rate Model. A second was provided by Dalia Dillon, the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **E. TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED SERVICE PLAN (TDSP) MINOR UPDATE**

Lucine Martens introduced the agenda item. Florida State requires that a Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP) be developed jointly between the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) and the Designated Official Planning Agency (DOPA), which is the Martin MPO, under the guidance and approval of the Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB-TD). The TDSP should be developed every 5 years. The DOPA must annually review and make any minor updates to the TDSP. Updates included eligibility criteria, transportation operators schedule, FY 23/24 Trip Rates.

**A motion was made by Phyl Weaver to approve the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP) Minor Update. A second was provided by Marie Dorismond, the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **7. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Robert McPartlan mentioned that he received a complaint about a month ago from a Medicaid eligible lady in Indiantown who was not being transported to her medical appointments. He also sits on Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) and they talked about the transportation issues for pregnant women who are morbidly obese. He asked, "Who is more transportation disadvantaged than the people that are on Medicaid?" He serves on the LCB-TD in Indian River County and he spoke with their consultant that mentioned that there is going to be a regional type of board that covered these MTM brokers (Medicaid transportation providers), and they need to be held accountable for this population because they are getting tax dollars and they are not providing services for these truly transportation disadvantaged people. Karen Deigl stated that with SRA if someone is on Medicaid and they are needing a trip, they need to know who is responsible for that trip. People call SRA and unless they know that they are on Medicaid, they end up providing the trip and using TD funds which takes away trips from another person. The Medicaid, which is a long-term managed care company is getting capitative dollars for them to transport Medicaid eligible patients, but instead they are keeping the money in their pockets. There have been situations where the Medicaid clients themselves are not comfortable with taking trips through the Medicaid transportation provider because they sometimes send unmarked cars, almost like an uber situation, while SRA have buses that are marked and all the transportation providers that they use have marked vehicles.

**8. NOTES**

- Transportation Disadvantaged Planning Grant Progress Report


**9. NEXT MEETING**

- Public Workshop and Regular Meeting; September 11, 2023, at 9:30 am (Commission Chambers, Administration Bldg.)


**10. ADJOURN 10:39 A.M.**


**Prepared by:**

  
Alor Cadorna, Administrative Assistant

  
Date

**Approved by:**

  
Susan Gibbs-Thomas, Chair

  
Date