

**BATTLE CREEK TRANSIT LOCAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
BATTLE CREEK TRANSIT
339 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE
BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN**

**January 14, 2020
1:30 PM**

Committee Members Present: Charles Asher, Jerry Sigourney, Mark Woodford, Rhonda Ostrander-Cook, Mary Frisby, Scott Cubberly (1:45), Andy Tilma, Paul Ecklund and Mallory Avis

Committee Members Absent:

Others Present: Fred Featherly, MDOT Program Manager

Staff Members Present: Victoria Houser, City Clerk: Marcel Stoetzel, Deputy City Attorney

Call to Order/Recognition of Quorum:

Mr. Asher called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM and recognized that a quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda of January 14, 2020 Meeting:

A motion was made by Mr. Sigourney, supported by Mr. Ecklund, to approve the agenda, as amended. All in favor, none opposed. Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes of December 10, 2019 Meeting:

A motion was made by Mr. Woodford, supported by Mr. Sigourney, to approve the December 10, 2019, meeting minutes. All yes, none opposed. Motion approved.

Communications to the Committee: None

Reports from Officers: None.

General Public Comment: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

A. **Review/Action on proposed FY 2021 Specialized Services Application Funding Allocation:** Discussed

Ms. Avis discussed the various funding options, noting Aequitas Mobility has temporarily suspended operations. Ms. Avis noted the columns presented the current percentage of funding and the existing FY 2020 Specialized Services Allocations, compared to the suggested FY 2021 funding percentages.

Committee members discussed the current status of Aequitas, questioning if it was appropriate to include the company in future funding allocations.

Ms. Avis stated the committee could readjust the allocations without Aequitas or approve the suggested funding, then reallocate funding at a later date based upon eligible services.

Mr. Cubberly discussed the recent actions of the Aequitas board of directors, noting difficulties arise due to delayed funding of services already provided, stating the board has temporarily suspended operations until they experience positive cash flow, noting the intent is to resume services as soon as possible. Mr. Cubberly confirmed Aequitas continues to receive calls for service.

Ms. Avis also confirmed that BC Transit had to increase hours and days for the BC Go program due to the loss of services from the temporary suspension of Aequitas, stating they receive a lot of workforce requests, also noting BCT has been denying about 50 rides per week.

Mr. Cubberly noted they experienced a large demand at 4am for workers 60+, also noting they had a wait list of 30-35 customers as they only have 3 vehicles.

A motion was made by Mr. Ecklund, supported by Mr. Woodford, to recommend the \$108,434 be allocated as presented: \$24,156 to Community Action, \$42,156 to Community Inclusive Recreation, \$13,156 to Marian Burch Adult Day Care, \$14,483 to Aequitas Mobility Services and \$14,483 to Battle Creek Transit, with an option to reallocate the funding if Aequitas does not resume services. All in favor, none opposed. Motion approved.

B. Review/Discuss Transit State Application – Discussed

Ms. Avis noted the New Freedom Operating Funds were being requested to cover the costs of expanded hours for the Demand Response service. As to Mr. Tilma’s concerns related to differences in the public notice and the application, Ms. Avis agreed to republish the public notice if necessary. Ms. Avis also provided information related to the Calhoun County Coordinated Mobility Pilot program, working with CA and Aequitas, stating the program was to look at ways to free up capacity to be more efficient to meet the community’s needs.

C. Discuss Timetable for MDOT – discussed – due to MDOT February 15, 2020

I. Transit Application - discussed

II. Specialized Services - discussed

III. 5310 Applications - discussed

D. Agency Updates

I. Battle Creek Transit: discussed

II. Community Action: discussed

III. Community Inclusive Recreation: discussed

IV. Marian E. Burch: discussed

V. Aequitas Mobility Services: discussed earlier

VI. Other: Mr. Tilma discussed the 1481 forms

Announcements:

A. Next Meeting: June 9, 2020 at BCT at 1:30pm

B. Committee Member Comment – Member comment took place.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:26: pm.