

**Northwest Regional Transportation Coordination Council (NWRTPCC) Meeting
Minutes for September 15 2022**

Call to Order – RTCC Coordinator Lynnell Popowski

Present: Jennifer Olson, Heather Everson, Dyana Dunigin, Stephanie Aasness, Marcia Haglund, Chuck Flage, Seth Nelson, Stacey Urbaniak, Darrel Johnson, Nathan Redland, Troy Schroeder, Lynnell Popowski, Michelle Lichtig, Tom Gottfried

Approval of July meeting minutes: Moved by Marcia Haglund, seconded by Darrel Johnson, motion carried.

MCOTA / MNDOT updates – Tom Gottfried and Michelle Litchig. Michelle introduced new staff who will be working with us in the future: Tim Sexton Assistant Commissioner; Mia Thor Program Manager Transportation Assistance Coordinator and Davin Simmons a transportation planner who works with the local coordination plans and assists with TCAP and RTCC projects. MCOTA will be presenting the work of the RTCCs and TCAPS at three conferences coming up: National Association of Development Organizations, St Louis County Human Service Conference and the Minnesota Association of Development Organizations.

Staff Updates: Volunteer Driver work team met and developed a marketing plan for the year. Holly Daniels from MAVA is scheduled to provide a lunch and learn for our volunteer driver programs. Free transportation was offered for the second year to the Be the Voice event in Thief River Falls. Meeting in Kittson County with representatives from the Living at Home Program, the Station (the senior center in Hallock), local clergy, and a County Commissioner to discuss NEMT. Working with the Removing Barriers work team (MCOTA) to ensure people with behavioral and accessibility challenges have meaningful access and are involved in the planning. Reducing barriers to sharing vehicles and identifying ways to improve the accessibility of rural transportation.

Emergency Management and Transportation – Jennifer Olson “Who Ya Gonna Call?” Jennifer presented slides describing the linkage between emergency management and transportation coordination. She described natural disasters, hazardous materials, terrorism, personal disasters and other situations where people’s regular mode of transportation may not be available and they may need to look for alternative solutions. She described a document we will create that will help people identify who they want to call in case of emergencies.

Triple Crown Topics: New Mobilities; Share Mobility Action Agenda, IRA – NCMM Book Club, “New Mobilities: Smart Planning for Emerging Transportation Technologies” by Todd Litman. Describes some trends: active and micro-mobilities like bikes and scooters, vehicle sharing, ride hailing and micro-transit (uber/lyft), electric vehicles, autonomous vehicles, public transit transforming from fixed route to on-demand, mobility as a service, tele-work, and mobility prioritization. Shared Mobility Action Agenda 2030 – focuses on livable communities, universal design and providing more transportation choices. Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) provides for expanded electric vehicle use through subsidies for their purchase and installation of charging infrastructure. The price of batteries has fallen, and their lifespan has increased. It does not, however, reimagine our city streets and neighborhoods to encourage walking and biking and it will not get us to the promised reduction in emission levels by 2030.

Adjourn