

ITEM 4

Capital Area RTCC Accomplishments Report_Draft November 9, 2010

The Capital Area Regional Transit Coordination Committee and its agency partners have made considerable progress improving public transportation in the region since the approval of the first Transportation Coordination Plan in 2006.

Coordination Plan Goal 1: Preserve and expand transportation services for the public, especially those services that meet the critical needs of the transportation disadvantaged.

Accomplishments Related to this Goal:

- Constructed Intermodal facility in downtown Round Rock and secured federal funding for implementation of commuter bus service to Round Rock
- Constructed Park and Rides and improved the ability of transit customers to transfer from Capital Metro to CARTS bus service
- Secured federal funding for vans, taxi vouchers, and other transportation services that will allow several area health and human services agencies to provide more mobility and access to their clients
- Launched a new bus route connecting Del Valle to Capital Metro service area
- Secured federal funding for computer equipment that will allow a local volunteer driver agency to provide more rides to seniors
- Constructed Georgetown Intermodal Station (CARTS)
- Launched daily commuter service from Bastrop and Smithville (CARTS)
- Completed plans for Manor Park and Ride, anticipated completion 2011 (Capital Metro)

Coordination Plan Goal 2: Maintain and improve the quality of transportation services for the public.

Accomplishments Related to this Goal:

- Launched *MetroRail* connecting Leander to Downtown Austin and secured federal funding which will support implementation of *MetroRapid* bus service in the S. Congress/North Lamar Corridor (Capital Metro)
- Launched Wi-Fi equipped bus services (Texas State University)
- Partnered with area cities to implement transit oriented development in the vicinity of MetroRAIL stations
- Launched RideCARTS fare card

Coordination Plan Goal 3: Secure formal State and local agency agreements to implement coordinated transportation in the Capital Area.

Coordination Plan Goal 4: Reduce the duplication of transportation services for the public.

Accomplishments Related to this Goal:

- Coordinated the services provided by CARTS and Texas State University within the City of San Marcos
- Streamlined the number of routes connecting to Leander and made other improvements to the efficiency of Capital Metro fixed route system.
- Developed and implemented Service Plan 2020, which streamlined Capital Metro fixed route bus services (Capital Metro)

Coordination Plan Goal 5: Increase efficiencies in transportation support services for the public.

Accomplishments Related to this Goal:

- CARTS began serving as the Medical Transportation Provider for the region, allowing for better coordination of Medicaid-funded and general community transportation trips

Coordination Plan Goal 6: Increase public awareness of mobility options and improve access to transportation services for the public.

Accomplishments Related to this Goal:

- Surveyed area case workers and other front line staff on their knowledge of transportation services and began to develop training curriculum designed to increase knowledge base.
- Increased the availability of transit data on Google and other websites
- Launched CapitalAreaRTCC.org and overhauled transit websites (Capital Metro and CARTS)
- Developed shared signage and materials cross-marketing transportation services and identifying connections between service providers
- Developed a comprehensive database of the family of transportation services in the region
- Shared information with the Regional 2-1-1 referral line and began discussing the role of public transit information in implementation of a Regional 5-1-1 referral line
- Made accessibility improvements to area bus stops and stations

Coordination Plan Goal 7: Address funding, regulatory, programmatic, and geographic barriers to providing seamless transportation services for the public.

Accomplishments Related to this Goal:

- CAMPO stepped into the role of overseeing selection of projects for funding with JARC/New Freedom Funding

- Hosted an urban transit forum where local elected officials and others participated in a facilitated discussion about urban transit funding and boundary issues
- Commissioned a study by the Texas Transportation Institute examining funding boundaries, and possible governance structures that could help overcome these boundaries.

Coordination Plan Goal 8: Further the State's efforts to reduce air pollution.

Accomplishments Related to this Goal:

- Replaced aging vehicles with low emissions vehicles
- Worked with the Community Action Network to explore Vehicle Miles Traveled as a "Dashboard" Indicator and to identify strategies for moving this indicator in the right direction