

**Capital Area RTCC Annual Work Program (May 2007-May 2008)
November 20, 2007 Progress Report (DRAFT)**

Focus Area # 1: Involve stakeholders and the public in public transportation coordination.

Relationship to Plan: Plan calls for continued involvement by stakeholders and the public in all implementation and coordination activities.

Methods:

- Quarterly RTCC Meetings
- RTCC Website
- E-Notification to Stakeholders Database
- Press Releases
- Speakers Bureau
- Articles in Newsletters
- Contact information through RTCC website

Point of Contact: Stevie Greathouse, CAMPO

Activities Completed to Date:

- RTCC held 2 quarterly meetings (5/31/07; 8/14/07)
- RTCC Technical Subcommittee met 4 times (6/28/07; 7/13/07; 8/3/07; 11/9/07)
- Community Action Network hosted focus groups with health and human service providers (July 2007)
- Community Action Network and CAMPO co-hosted a forum targeted to non-profits and human service agencies to discuss transportation coordination and JARC/New Freedom Grants (7/27/07)
- CAMPO provided e-mail notification to approximately 800 organizations regarding RTCC, annual work plan, and how to get involved. (8/16/07)
- Capital Metro and CAMPO staff worked with CAN to maintain RTCC website; and are exploring possibilities for more robust site.
- TxDOT Austin District hosted workshops and meetings for input on Section 5310 grants (3 public meetings, 2 advisory committee meetings as of 8/28/07)
- CARTS, ARCIL and others worked to print 2,000 copies of transportation services guide.

Focus Area # 2: Consider and Recommend Mechanisms to Overcome Jurisdictional and Boundary issues.

Relationship to Plan: Plan identifies this as Action Item #1; (GIS analysis is also covered under Action Item #14.)

Methods:

- Analyze existing conditions through:
 - Review of data gathered during 2006 planning process
 - Agency Interviews
 - Regulatory and Fiscal Research
 - GIS Analysis and Mapping
- Identify possible solutions based on existing conditions
- Develop a report for endorsement by RTCC

- Identify strategies for follow-up/implementation

Points of Contact: Stevie Greathouse, CAMPO; Sean Moran, CAPCOG

Activities Completed to Date:

- CAMPO and CAPCOG entered into an interlocal agreement to fund an intern at CAPCOG dedicated to providing staff support to conduct research and develop reports under this goal.
- CAPCOG hired an intern to serve in this capacity.
- CAPCOG staff developed and refined a specific scope of work for this effort in consultation with CAMPO, CARTS, TxDOT, and Capital Metro staff.

Focus Area # 3: Investigate Feasibility of Single Point Consumer Access

Relationship to Plan: Plan identifies this as Action Item #2; (Ride sharing and flexible trip scheduling is identified under Action Item #15.)

Methods:

- Investigate feasibility of 511 service
- Continue to explore the feasibility of other tools including Google Transit
- Coordinate with "Green Ride" Program
 - This customer-focused ride matching website is being developed for the Austin-San Antonio area in cooperation with AACOG, and would provide an easy ride-matching service for users that could be expanded to include employment site portals, and access to fixed route transit information.
- Develop a report for endorsement by RTCC with specific implementation actions.

Points of Contact: Dave Marsh, CARTS; Edna Johnson, CARTS;

Activities Completed to Date:

- "Green Ride" consultant reported progress of River City Ride Share Implementation to RTCC and group explored possibilities for coordination. (8/14/2007)
<http://www.rivercityrideshare.com> has been launched.

Focus Area # 4: Expand Network of Shared Stops, Transfer Points, and Park and Ride Opportunities

Relationship to Plan: Plan identifies this as Action Item #3.

- As transit expands in the region, Capital Metro will coordinate ongoing and future planning processes with CARTS, Texas State, and other transit providers.
- Identify opportunities for shared stops as they arise.
- Utilize quarterly RTCC meetings for identifying additional prospects for coordination.
- Explore opportunities to offer access to future facilities for transit providers

Point of Contact: Meredith Highsmith, Capital Metro; Dave Marsh, CARTS;

Activities Completed to Date:

Focus Area # 5: Coordinate Formal Rural Transit and Intercity Bus Interline Relationships
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Relationship to Plan: Plan identifies this as Action Item #5.

Methods:

- Plan for launch of an intercity bus project in June 2008 that will interline two new CARTS intercity routes to the national intercity network. One route will connect Marble Falls, Burnet, Liberty Hill, Leander and Cedar Park to Round Rock interlining with national intercity services there, with intermediate connections to the Capital Metro Leander Park-n-Ride facility. A second route will operate on the IH35 corridor from the CARTS Georgetown Station to the CARTS San Marcos Station with intermediate service to the Capital Metro Tech Ridge facility, CARTS Round Rock Station, the Austin Greyhound Station, and Kyle-Buda. Passengers riding these routes, or shipping freight or packages, would be able to purchase one ticket from points on the route to anywhere in the United States the national intercity network travels.

Point of Contact: Dave Marsh, CARTS; Edna Johnson, CARTS

Activities Completed to Date:

- CARTS has prepared a work plan for this task, and has negotiated an interline relationship. Initial project implementation anticipated June 2008.

Focus Area # 6: Select projects to be funded with Job Access Reverse Commute/ New Freedom funding available to urbanized area
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Relationship to Plan: SAFETEA-LU (Federal Transportation Authorization) requires that projects for these programs be "derived from" the regional transportation coordination plan.

Methods:

- Develop a competitive selection process, grant application, and instructional materials with input from RTCC
- Provide special information and outreach to potential applicants through RTCC, Speakers Bureau, and events such as a CAN-sponsored forum
- Work with Capital Metro to finalize a grant application and process that meets all applicable federal guidelines and issue a call for projects in August
- Develop a ranked list of projects based on scoring
- RTCC develops a recommendation
- Present ranked project list and RTCC recommendation to CAMPO Transportation Policy Board

Point of Contact: Stevie Greathouse, CAMPO.

Activities Completed to Date:

- CAMPO Board approved resolution recommending Capital Metro as the "designated recipient" for JARC/New Freedom funds in the urbanized area.
- CAMPO staff worked with RTCC Technical Subcommittee to develop selection criteria.

- CAMPO issued a call for projects for 2006-2007 JARC and New Freedom Funding (8/14/07)
- CAMPO held 3 pre-application workshops (8/23/07-8/31/07)
- CAMPO established a review team comprised of staff from TxDOT, CAPCOG, and CAMPO to review the applications.
- 3 agencies applied for urbanized area JARC/New Freedom Grants.
- CAMPO staff worked with applicants to clarify budgets and application materials.
- CAMPO and Capital Metro staff attended statewide meeting to discuss better coordination of rural and urban calls for JARC/New Freedom projects.

Focus Area # 7: Identify Additional Issues For Legislative Consideration

Relationship to Plan: Several action items called for under the plan relate to constraints that may require action at the state level.

Methods:

- Identify barriers and constraints that require state level action
- Compile list of barriers and constraints for submission to TxDOT-PTN

Point of Contact: Stevie Greathouse, CAMPO.

Activities Completed to Date:

- CAMPO staff has asked TXDOT, Public Transit Division staff to develop a statewide process for soliciting these comments, so that our region's comments would be part of a statewide presentation.