Future Planning & Technology Committee Members
Rosalynn Bliss, Jack Hoffman, Robert Postema, Terry Schweitzer (Chair), Paul Troost
Citizen Members: Ryan Anderson, Dave Bulkowski

FUTURE PLANNING & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Monday, May 6, 2019, 8:00 a.m.

Rapid Administrative Office, 300 Ellsworth Avenue, SW

AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. MINUTES – March 4, 2019 Committee Meeting

2. DISCUSSION
   a) Wheels to Work – Presentation/Q&A (Debbi Coleman, Hope Network)
   b) Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) Consultant

3. NEXT MEETING – July 8, 2019
MINUTES OF

FUTURE PLANNING & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

March 4, 2019

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present: Rosalynn Bliss, Jack Hoffman, Terry Schweitzer, Ryan Anderson (citizen member), Dave Bulkowski (citizen member)

Committee Members Absent: Robert Postema, Paul Troost

Staff: Robin Crothers, Max Dillivan, Andrew Johnson (CEO), Asher Lockwood (intern), Nick Monoyios, Brian Pouget, Dina Reed, Conrad Venema, Mike Wieringa

Others: None

Mr. Schweitzer called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT – no public present

1. MINUTES – January 7, 2019 Committee Meeting

   Mr. Schweitzer asked for corrections to the minutes. None were offered. The minutes of the January 7, 2019 Future Planning & Technology Committee were approved as written.

2. DISCUSSION

   a) Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA)

   Mr. Venema introduced Max Dillivan, The Rapid’s new Senior Planner.

   Mr. Venema noted that the committee discussed the draft scope for the COA at their January 7 meeting and changes were made to the scope based on that discussion. More information was included to focus on home to work trips, social and environmental justice issues, high density transit populations, mobility integration, and interconnection of service options with new mobility options such as car share, bike
share anc others. Other minor changes were also made. He stated that he used information from other COA’s to assist in developing The Rapid’s scope of work.

Mr. Johnson mentioned that the COA will determine what we can do with existing resources with an eye toward positioning The Rapid for the future.

In response to a question from Mr. Schweitzer, Mr. Venema stated that there will be public engagement during the course of the study. The timing for public engagement will be determined as the study progresses.

Mayor Bliss asked about the consultant selection process. Mr. Johnson informed the committee that we will follow the standard procurement process. Evaluation criteria will be determined and an evaluation team will be formed including members of the Future Committee and staff. Proposals will be evaluated and selected consultant firms will be interviewed and make presentations.

Mr. Venema commented that the interview/presentation process is critical. He expects that several firms will submit proposals for the COA.

Mr. Bulkowski asked if the COA will include looking at The Rapid’s other existing services besides fixed route such as RideLink and Wheels to Work. Mr. Venema responded that the COA will look at all of our services.

Mr. Bulkowski stated that in addition to looking at what we are doing with existing resources and how to interconnect seamlessly, is there another perspective to consider using existing resources to determine how we could lead mobility. He commented on the need for understanding current and potential riders to determine why they choose certain mobility options, i.e. Uber vs. public transit.

Mr. Johnson explained that The Rapid wants to be the mobility coordinator. We would integrate all transportation options through a seamless network, however, a mobility network won’t work if people are not on board. Quality of service is key in decisions on mobility choices, along with impacts of geography and climate.

Mr. Anderson mentioned that the COA scope redefines mobility. He concurred with the changes that have been made to the document. He suggested that assumptions be developed regarding what we are looking for in a consultant.

Mr. Schweitzer indicated that there are resources in the community that a consultant could draw upon through the Grand Valley Metro Council and other resources. He noted that 70-80% of The Rapid’s ridership is employment related and asked if this was common in other areas. Mr. Venema responded that it depends on the area demographics.
Mr. Johnson stated that people want longer service hours, more frequent service and broader coverage. The consultant will determine what we can do and how we can do it. We need to figure out how to get people more comfortable to use The Rapid whether it's the bus or another mobility option. Mr. Anderson suggested that this language be included in the COA scope.

Mr. Anderson noted that people are willing to use mobility options if they serve their needs.

Discussion took place regarding the impacts of stakeholder relationships and current partnerships.

Mr. Johnson stated that the Present Performance & Service Committee will review the draft scope for the COA at their meeting on March 5. We should have a consultant on board by summer.

A motion was made by Bliss, supported by Hoffman, to approve the COA scope that was presented at today's meeting with. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Bliss stressed the need for other efforts in the community to be aligned with our projects, including the COA, Laker Line and TOD.

The COA should be completed within 12 months of implementation. The TOD project will take 12-18 months.

Mr. Schwéitzer requested that staff prepare information on the different service options operated by The Rapid for their May 6 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 a.m.

[Signature]
Robin Crothers, Board Secretary
The Year in Review
FY 2018

Total Trips Performed: 83,554
Service Hours: 20,713
Service Miles: 426,126
No. Participating Companies: 32

Unduplicated Individuals Served: 1,115
Trips per Revenue Hour: 8.2
Trips per Service Hour: 4.57
For a better way to get to work, have your employer call Wheels to Work Customer Care at 616.243.0876.

RideWheelsToWork.com
GET THERE (ON THE CHEAP)

Wheels to Work is all about helping you get to work—reliably and affordably. Our shared fare plan is designed so that you pay a small cost, and your employer does the same. You’ll be picked up at one of our community hubs and dropped off wherever you work. Sounds easy? You’d be right.

Talk to your employer about the Wheels to Work program. To get on board, have them call Wheels to Work Customer Care at 616.243.0876.

RideWheelsToWork.com
COMO LLEGAR A SU TRABAJO (Y BARATO)

Wheels To Work (Ruedas A Trabajar) trata de ayudar con transporte a su trabajo - fiable y barato. Nuestro plan de tarifas compartida está diseñado de manera que con un pequeño costo para ti, y con su empleador haciendo lo mismo. Usted será recogido en uno de nuestros centros de la comunidad y transportado dondequiera que trabaje. Suena fácil? Es lo cierto.

EMPEZAR ES TAN FÁCIL COMO 1-2-3.
1. Contacte a su Recursos Humanos (HR) y solicite una Wheels to Work (Ruedas A Trabajar) planilla.
2. Llena la planilla con la informacion pedida y presente la planilla a su HR y espere hasta que HR se ponga en contacto contigo con más información.
3. Si aprobado, aparece en su ruta de transporte asignado.

Hable con su HR hoy sobre el programa de Wheels to Work (Ruedas A Trabajar).