

**MORRIS AREA PARATRANSIT SYSTEM
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Hybrid meeting**

September 1, 2022

CAC Members Present

Maria Isaza
Stephany Maldonado
Marc Molde
William Schuldt
Nancy Toolen

Staff Present:

Kasey Errico Department Head
Christine Hellyer- Director of Special Transportation
Marcy Merola- SR Transportation Mt. Olive
Pat Petrillo- Aging
Diane Pezzuti - Pequannock 5DAR

Guests

Jeff Bash
Stephanie DiPetrillo
Christina Brino

I. *Call to Order:* The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am by *Christine Hellyer*, and she announced the meeting is being recorded, followed by roll call.

II. *Approval of Minutes*

June 2, 2022

Motion: J.S. /M.I.

III. Staff Report- Christine Hellyer

- The Lyft program is doing well. In July we had 43 rides. This program is growing, and we hope NJ Transit will extend it to 2023.
- The NJ Transit compliance review was completed late August. Although we did not receive preliminary feedback, it appeared we were in good standing.

We made many changes this past year:

- Purchasing of vehicle tablets
- Addition of shopping trips
- Not prioritizing medical trips

IV. New Business

- SCDRTAP 2023 application funding is due September 23, 2022
- The MAPS public Hearing is scheduled for October 13, 2022, 10am, 1 Medical Drive.
We ask the Dial-A Rides and MAPS CAC members to attend in person.
- Voter registration is moving forward, that allows MAPS riders register to vote. We are in the process of obtaining signage/posters. We also allow current riders the opportunity to register also, and also update their information.
- Ride United Transportation is a partnership between United Way and 2-1-1 worldwide currently running through 2022.
 - It offers/provides up to 3 (three) free or discounted round trip via Lyft rides for eligible individuals who have transportation challenges.
 - Rides can be scheduled for: medical, employment, food, education, legal, housing, and financial services
 - Eligibility: all NJ residents 18 years of age and older in need of transportation for one of the areas listed above where Lyft service is available.
 - Ambulatory riders only.

Maria: What determines if it is low cost or free? Is there a registration process?

Christine: I will request that information.

Working with Lyft, it's probably the cost of the ride up to a certain amount is free, and if over that will be the amount due.

- MAPS is partnering with the AGING department in September to distribute free reusable grocery bags for riders. The bags will include COVID 19 safety and booster information.

V. Old Business

Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan update: Stephanie DiPetrillo
We are in the data collection phase of our work. This phase is expected to be completed by the fall and will be developing draft recommendations. We are undertaking three activities:

The Transportation provider survey, which will be wrapped up in the next couple of weeks. This is for organizations that provide transportation services or support clients with transportation.

- *If you have completed it thank you*
- *If you received a request from me or Christine, please complete it.*
- *If you haven't received a request but think you should, please contact me.*

Christine suggested that William Schuldt request a survey and provide his perspective.

We want to hear the positive and negative views from individuals. We want to know what is working well and what they would like to see continued and where we can make improvements.

This survey is not limited to the population we serve. It looks at other areas besides where MAPS and Dial-a-Rides service.

Community outreach: We held a session at DAWN cil event, and two sessions with seniors at Morris County nutrition sites. We will be hosting a community listening session in November (details to follow).

Jeff added that transportation should be for a the needy in the County to access employment.

We also have an online portal for collecting "Morris County Transportation Stories". Please share:

www.vtc.rutgers.edu/morris-stories

Christine added the MAPS Rider website is not completed yet.

We do have brochures available with step- by- step instructions.

We also have a one-page flyer with the same information that will be included with the voter registration forms mailed out to individuals. All of which will be readily available at the same time.

To use the MAPS site, you must be an EcoLane user. So we will pilot program first then expand it to the Dial-a-Rides.

Maria Isaza who helped test the site said her mom who is 85 years young and her brother who is disabled find it very easy to use.

Announcements-

Marc Molde for DAWNcil will hold their annual picnic September 17, 2022, from 12pm-4pm, at Hedden Park in Randolph. He will forward Pat the flyer to send to all.

Requested NJ Transit report.

Adjourned : 10:42am

Motion: J.S./N.T.

Next meeting: November 3, 2022