

Chariton Valley Transportation Planning Affiliation
Chariton Valley Planning & Development Council
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CVTPA - RPA 17 - FY22 PTP update

TRANSIT MEETINGS - SUMMARY OF ACTIONS NEEDED/COMPLETED



Provided By: Chariton Valley Planning & Development COG
308 North 12th Street
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2022 PTP Meeting Discussion Topics (SIT):

1. Amtrak Passenger Rail Service – Any changes, needs, etc.

Service is now available every other day due to staffing shortage by RR. Scheduled pick up is usually 8am but it is seldom on time. Creates a challenge if people wanted to use it as transportation for work.

2. Commercial Bus, Taxi Services, or local services – Any changes or additions in services available?

Greyhound Bus – 2010 West Clay St, Osceola
109 South Spruce Dr, Lamoni

“Osceola Cab”, 114 West Logan St, Osceola (Also serves Leon)

“Barbara’s Taxi Service”, 608 Main St, Bethany, MO serves Lamoni

Multiple private transporters are available for service for Amish families. Clarke County has approximately 200 Amish & have a growing population.

Osceola Foods providing transportation for workers from a Minimum-Security Prison in Des Moines & other metro locations for work.

Decatur County Hospital, Public Health, & Health Clinic have jointly purchased a van to provide own transportation services for patients with appointments. Free service that has been very successful & exploring the purchase of a 2nd van. Utilized COVID relief funds. This also resulted in a loss of ridership for SIT in Decatur County.

3. Transportation Network Companies – Options for Uber/Lyft, etc. in your communities?

(It was previously noted that it was available in Albia, Centerville, Osceola & Lamoni)

DART Rideshare currently offered in Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, & Wayne Counties

-Osceola Economic Development is in conversations with DART to provide regular route to/from Des Moines metro for commuting workers. Uncertainty with Ridership #s is concern. SIT believes it is not financially possible and driver availability is a problem with shift workers.

4. School Districts are struggling to recruit drivers – Is this going on in your area & how has the community adapted? Any impact on Public Transit Providers?

All local school districts struggling with. SIT’s greatest % of ridership is from Education transports. Large number of youth riders in Osceola after the school was forced to cut several city pick-up/drop off locations due to driver shortage. There was a discussion on how to possibly partner with school districts for more partnership & compensation.

5. Recommendations for ways to improve service or concerns.

Possible better partnership with local Veteran's Affairs Offices. 10-15 Transit provides free service (utilizing DOT funding sources, V.A. office contributions, & fundraising) but its counts are ridership numbers. VA once had a "Mobile Medical" unit that came to rural counties to provide care, but that was discontinued through COVID and has not been reinstated.

A discussion and plan was created to a similar Veteran's service in Decatur & Clarke Counties. Lessa will develop an estimated cost for a trip to Des Moines & a 7-day notice would be required. Both transit agencies will document their needs, estimated frequency, number of those needing it, & possibly create a questionnaire for residents to complete gathering said data. RPA 17 will draft donation letters and marketing pieces for VA directors to use. VA directors will speak to their respective boards informing of need & fundraising for the service. Other potential, immediate solutions would be checking with neighboring VA directors for a pickup as they pass through Decatur or Clarke County?

Potential partners to ask donations or drivers from for Veterans: Casino, Ministerial Alliance, United Way, Clarke County Development, Decatur County Development, Hospitals, Legion (John Sharpe in Osceola), and just getting an article in the newspaper can often time result in donations.

Decatur County Veterans Affairs no longer has any volunteer drivers for transport. Prior to COVID vets could catch a ride to Des Moines for about \$25, however, through the pandemic that service was forced to be eliminated. Now that transport could cost near \$200 & is beyond the VA's budget. Currently, there is a veteran receiving cancer treatment that needs a ride to Des Moines once a week & there are limited options for transportation.

Clarke County Veteran's Affairs has approximately 10 veterans in need of transportation service. Service is needed on a bi-weekly schedule. There are times that residents have been forced to miss medical appointments b/c of lack of transportation. Now, the VA director has begun requesting the VA hospital to release the patient for local medical care. There are a few doctors in Osceola that are also affiliated with the VA Hospital that have been providing care locally. The process is difficult but has been approved recently.

Consideration of using smaller, passenger vehicles for distant transports. SIT has several vans that are utilized for that. And have begun purchasing smaller buses that are 10 passengers so that it doesn't require a CDL (one of the challenges in recruiting new drivers) but meet the needs of student transport.

Transit Provider Specific Topics:

Any Changes in Rates?

No changes since 2019. Increasing fuel costs could impact rates in the future if they continue to rise.

Is it still difficult to find drivers?

Always a Challenge. Currently have 41 vehicles & only 21 drivers (30 employees)

Full Recovery from COVID?

Numbers continue to improve & are just short of pre-pandemic #s

Any challenges with MCO's?

Only one MCO & procedure has returned to how previously worked. No issues.

What happened to the Inclusion Initiative that would result in the group home residents no longer needing transportation?

Not sure whatever happened to the group home resident's integration program that would take them away from Sheltered Workshops. Workshops are now open again & ridership has resumed. The only change is that residential group homes are now in charge of dispersing of transportation funds instead of it going directly to the transit agencies. Some residential homes have now chosen not to utilize the Trolley & eliminate that expense.

Population changes with non-English speaking residents or Amish increase/decrease?

Still a greater percentage of Spanish-speaking migrant workers in Osceola working at the Hormel plant. Promotional pieces are available in Spanish & are distributed throughout the county.

New promotional pieces or efforts?

Ongoing radio advisements, brochures & flyers in English & Spanish, and plan to resume promotions in local parades this summer.

"Summer Fun Bus" will continue this summer as a transportation option for local youth.

New Building Options?

A building is available in Osceola, but agency isn't interested in moving to a new community. There is land available in Creston to construct a new building. There is a NOFA 5339B Facility Grant Opportunity available. SIT is wanting to pursue this source. RPA 17 has approximately \$140K set aside for SIT that could you be used for a facility. Leesa is working with DOT to change use of funds from vehicles to facility if there is no need for replacement vehicles.

FINDING YOUR WAY...

With Rural Transportation



Please join us to discuss local Public Passenger Transportation options. What is available? Are there unmet needs? How can it be improved?!!

WHEN: Wednesday, April 20, 2022

Open House Forum 10:00am – 12:00PM

WHERE: Clarke County Courthouse, Conference Room
100 South Main Street, Osceola, Iowa

AGENCIES PRESENT: Southern Iowa Trolley, Leesa Lester
Chariton Valley Transportation Affiliation, Nichole Moore



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Thursday at 6 PM – 7:30 PM
BINGO

Categories

- Classics
- Comedy
- Crafts
- Dance
- Drinks
- Fitness & Workouts
- Foods



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2022 AT 10 AM – 12 PM

RPA17 - Transportation Public Meeting - SIT Transit

Clarke County Courthouse - Conference Room

Invite

Edit

Add a Few Final Details

0 of 2 steps completed

Completing this list could help your event attract more guests.

Start Discussion

Share in a Group

Details

- 1 person responded
- Event by Nichole Bradshaw Moore
- Clarke County Courthouse - Conference Room
- Duration: 2 hr
- Public · Anyone on or off Facebook

Public meeting to gather transit and transportation data and information for the Clarke and Decatur County area. Southern Iowa Trolley will be available to answer questions on how ... [See more](#)



Southern Area Trolley

Passenger Transportation Plan – TAG meeting CVTPA Region- RP417

Date: 04/20/22 Time: 10:00

Location: Charles & Authroad, Osceola

Name	Business Name	Address	Phone	Email
Heesa Lester	Southern Area Trolley	219 E Montgomery St. Oreston, IA 50801	641-782-6511	frandlir@Southernareatrolley.org
Samantha Schaff	Deerhi County Vehicles Affairs	207 N. Main Lea, IA 50149	641-446-7494	deecthysa@gmail.com
Christian Boehmer	Clarke County Engineer	100 S Main St Osceola, IA 50213	641-414-0813	clarkcountyeengineer@gmail.com
Tony Keller	Clarke County	188-235 5 th Ave 50243 100 S Main St Osceola, IA	641-340-0045	
Selena Humphrey	Clarke County Vehicles Affairs		641-342-2933	ccva@clarkcountyia.org

2022 PTP Meeting Discussion Notes for 10-15 Transit

1. Amtrak Passenger Rail Service – Any changes, needs, etc.

No Amtrak Stations in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe, Davis, or Wayne Counties

2. Commercial Bus, Taxi Services, or local service – Any changes or additions in services available?

“Ottumwa Quick Rides” in Ottumwa provides service to the region

Wayne County provides a “New Venture” van that transports Wayne County sheltered workshop residents to Centerville each day. (?recent addition of 2 new vans?)

Multiple private transporters are available for service for Amish families especially in Wayne & Davis Counties.

HyVee Warehouse provides transportation for workers from Ottumwa to Chariton. This is done through DART (Des Moines Regional Transit) Rideshare. There is local question & concerns on why DART is providing transit services in this region before it was offered to the designated transit provider. Follow-up will be made from the RPA & the transit agency.

“Reaching All People Together” still provide transportation?

East Penn still providing any transportation for workers?

10-15 Transit currently provides transportation for residents of a “halfway house” in Ottumwa to/from Albia for work.

3. Transportation Network Companies – Options for Uber/Lyft, etc. in your communities?

(It was previously noted that it was available in Albia/Monroe Co, Centerville/Appanoose Co, Osceola/Clarke Co & Lamoni/Decatur Co)

DART Rideshare is advertised as available in Lucas & Wayne Counties. Uncertain why it does not state Wapello County as the van for HyVee sits at the mall & originates in Ottumwa.

HyVee Warehouse provides transportation for workers from Ottumwa to Chariton. This is done through DART (Des Moines Regional Transit) Rideshare. There is local question & concerns on why DART is providing transit services in this region before it was offered to the designated transit provider. Follow-up will be made from the RPA & the transit agency why this service imposes on the region and if offers had been made to 10-15 Transit to accommodate such service.

4. School Districts are struggling to recruit drivers – is this going on in your area & how has the community adapted? Any impact on Public Transit Providers?

Ongoing Challenge throughout the region.

10-15 provides some transportation services for school districts. Mostly Davis County b/c the school does not provide bus services in Bloomfield so parents schedule rides for children to/from school.

5. Recommendations for ways to improve service or concerns.

There is a lot of uncertainty of how school districts will continue to provide transportation for students. There is a national school bus driver shortage that also has local impacts as well. There was a brief discussion on how this may impact the future of transit services in our rural region.

Although he couldn't attend the PTP meeting, CVPD had a private resident stop in the office to discuss the challenges with veteran's transportation. Appanoose County Veteran's Affairs officer struggles to get drivers, as well as have funds to cover the demand of transporting. This individual is a member of the Veteran's association & past board member. CVPD informed him of the service now available through 10-15 Transit providing free service to veterans.

The 10-15 Transit Board of Directors made the decision to provide better transit services to area veteran's. They used local funds to establish the pilot program of providing free transportation to any veteran. Fiscal Year 2021 was the first year of service and provided an approximate \$27,000 donation (but includes a 'gas price break' so actual expense for service could be nearly doubled) to veterans. As the program gains popularity, the transit director is now establishing program guidelines and will begin more promotion. The transit agency hopes to continue this service by establishing a 501c3 branch to accept donations – privately & through fundraising. There are current plans for a golfing fundraiser in Ottumwa in the fall of 2022. RPA 17 could collaborate to also host one for this region utilizing "The Preserve" at Honey Creek. Partnerships with local Chamber of Commerce, Veteran's Affairs directors, County BOS, etc. RPA provided information on potential grant funds through Iowa Tourism to cover some event expenses.

Other discussions included ideas to partner with Indian Hills Community College media division to reduce expenses. Promote the photos of the "Veteran's Van" that is wrapped in an American flag. 10-15 Transit's goal is to have one flag-wrapped van in each county providing service.

Centerville/Appanoose County lost their only newspaper and CVPD shared that the new contact is the "The PITCH" providing online & print press with local news and advertisements.

Transit Provider Specific Topics:

Any Changes in Rates?

None

Is it still difficult to find drivers?

Drivers are frustrated with mandatory mask mandates & wanting to quit

?Still have an "intrastate driver" that can cross into Missouri to return patients (i.e. Wayne Co)?

10-15 Transit has changed business approach to accommodate rising gas prices, client's preference of individual/small group transport, and less restrictions for driver requirements. Thereby, making it easier to hire drivers needing only a chauffeur license. All passengers' cars (not ADA accessible) are purchased with local money.

Difficulty remains to find drivers willing to get a CDL license that allows the transport of more than 15 people. 10-15 Transit has 3 tiers of drivers pay scale: bus, van and car.

Jay is concerned about the employee totals in the future as the business continues to grow. Currently the agency is below 100 employees and does not have to abide by federal mandates. This could be a challenge should they exceed that threshold.

Full Recovery from COVID?

Numbers are close to pre-pandemic rates and may even be better than that for ridership.

Any challenges with MCO's?

There is only one major -- ACCESS TO CARE. This agency has grown tremendously and had some 'growing pains' along the way as practices got developed.

What happened to the Inclusion Initiative that would result in the group home residents no longer needing transportation?

Some residents were merged into individual homes and many group homes closed. This resulted in the loss of ridership in several counties and others significantly reduced. For example, Centerville went from filling a bus down to transporting 5-6.

Population changes with non-English speaking residents or Amish increase/decrease?

10-15 has a dispatcher that is BI-lingual and otherwise utilize "Language Link" for interpretation.

Lucas County drivers transport Amish workers to/from Schumacher's in Des Moines M-F for employment. There is little transport provided to Amish in Wayne County. 10-15 reports quick a bit of Amish transport in Davis County- especially in the winter for teachers, students & other workers.

New promotional pieces or efforts?

2 follow-up commercials promoting rides open to the public

Van wrapped with American Flag to promote free rides for Veteran's & frequently use in parades.

Building/Facility News?

Additional lots, shop, & recent land purchase will be for in-house auto body repairs & painting

OTHER

Current RPA 17 inventory includes:

- Appanoose County – 11 drivers & 11 vehicles
- Davis County – 1 driver & 2 vehicles (short 2 drivers)
- Lucas County – 5 drivers & 6 vehicles
- Monroe County – 3 drivers & 3 vehicles
- Wayne County – 1 drivers & 1 vehicles

10-15 Transit is wrapping up an audit with the State Auditors Office reviewing all financials. This resulted from a public petition. Minor concerns were discovered and will be corrected with simple adjustments.

10-15 Transit has filed a lawsuit against the City of Ottumwa for not issuing budgeted funds for Ottumwa Transit rides. The funds are distributed by federal and state resources for the sole purpose of transit. The question was asked if this could be resolved by the Ombudsman's office, but participants were uncertain of the answer now that the suit has been filed.

Transit flyers & brochures were reviewed and updated.

FINDING YOUR WAY...

With Rural Transportation



Please join us to discuss local Public Passenger Transportation options. What is available? Are there unmet needs? How can it be improved?!!

WHEN: May 4, 2022

Open House Forum 10:00am – 12:00PM

WHERE: Chariton Valley Planning & Development Office
308 North 12th Street, Centerville, IA

AGENCIES PRESENT: 10-15 Transit Director, Jay Allison

Chariton Valley Transportation Affiliation, Nichole Moore



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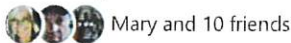
Wednesday at 10 AM - 12 PM

RPA17 - Transportation Public Meeting - 10-15 Transit



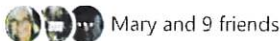
Thursday at 1 PM - 4:30 PM

Centerville Housing Assessment Workshop #3



Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 1 PM - 4:30 PM

Centerville Housing Assessment Workshop #4



Recommended Events

[See All](#)

Saturday at 10 AM - 2 PM

Healthy Kids Day at RLA YMCA



WEDNESDAY AT 10 AM - 12 PM

RPA17 - Transportation Public Meeting - 10-15 Transit

Chariton Valley Planning & Development Council of Govern...

Invite

Edit

Promote your event

Get the word out and engage your community about your event.

1 of 3 steps completed

Add Cover Photo

Choose a personal photo or one of the images provided

Start Discussion

Build excitement by getting a conversation going

Share in a Group

Surface your event to more people by posting it to a related group

Details

24 people responded



Event by Nichole Bradshaw Moore

Chariton Valley Planning & Development Council of Governments

Duration: 2 hr

Public Access - Staff Feedback

Chariton Valley Transportation Planning Affiliation

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**Chariton
Valley
Transportation
Planning
Affiliation**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FY2022 CVTPA PASSENGER
TRANSPORTATION PLAN (PTP) MEETING MINUTES – RPA 17**

WHEREAS governmental bodies in the seven-county region have established the Chariton Valley Transportation Planning Affiliation (CVTPA-RPA 17); and

WHEREAS the Chariton Valley Transportation Planning Affiliation was organized by the seven-county (7) region to fulfill the requirements of the FAST ACT and subsequent legislation by granting greater public participation in the planning and programming of transportation projects; and

WHEREAS the Chariton Valley Transportation Planning Affiliation has held Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP) meetings and completed notes/minutes for FY2022; and

WHEREAS the Federal Highway Administration makes funds available for the purpose of carrying out the transportation planning process and the Federal Transit Administration provides a portion of funds for transit planning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CHARITON VALLEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AFFILIATION.

1. To approve the FY22– Passenger Transportation Plan meeting minutes.
2. To authorize CVPD to file all necessary work documents required by U.S. DOT and Iowa DOT and to sign all necessary work program documents and grant agreements.

Considered on this 16th day of June, 2022 in Appanoose County, Iowa.

It was moved by Boelmer and seconded by Selby the Resolution be adopted by the Technical Advisory Committee. The motion Passed/Failed.

Todd W. Felt
Technical Advisory Chairperson – CVTPA

It was moved by Robins and seconded by Bride the Resolution be adopted by the Policy Board. The motion Passed/Failed.

Sherrill Smith
Policy Board Chairperson -CVTPA

Acknowledgment: Nichole L. Moore

**Chariton Valley Transportation Planning Affiliation – RPA17
FY2022 PTP update**

**Submitted to:
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010**

**Submitted By:
Chariton Valley Planning & Development Council of Governments
Nichole L. Moore, Executive Director
308 North 12th Street
Centerville, Iowa 52544**

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The RPA17 FY2022 PTP update was prepared on behalf of the member counties, cities, and transit agencies with assistance of the Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Board. Further review and approval by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Iowa Department of Transportation.