



MEETING MINUTES

**Executive Board
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 22, 2020
3:00 PM – Online ONLY**

***Members of the Public:* Please join us for a live stream of the meeting on the CYMPO YouTube page by clicking here or copying and pasting the link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_0DJsFnDysG1hbdUv5V-IA or Google “CYMPO YouTube Page”**

CYMPO Executive Board

Chair	Billie Orr, City of Prescott
Vice-Chair	Terry Nolan, Town of Dewey-Humboldt
Secretary/Treasurer	Kell Palguta, Town of Prescott Valley
Member	Craig L. Brown, Yavapai County Supervisor
Member	Mike Best, Town of Chino Valley
Member	Alvin Stump, ADOT Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairwoman Orr called meeting to order. Meeting was slightly delayed, waiting for all parties to sign in to the meeting. Deb Hernandez performed roll call. All members but Member Alvin Stump were present.

2. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

This item is to provide an opportunity for presentation of comments by the public on subjects ***not on the agenda***. Individuals wishing to address the Board will need to **submit comments in advance by email** or phone to christopher.bridges@yavapai.us or 928-442-5731 (EMAIL IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED). Any written comments received in advance of the meeting will be entered into the record for the meeting and be kept with the meeting minutes.

All public comments received related directly to Item 4, the Transit Implementation Plan, and will be shared at that time.

3. Discussion and Possible Action - CARES ACT AND CYMPO

*Chris Bridges, CYMPO Administrator
(Task #100)*

Mr. Bridges introduced Bethany Whitaker of Nelson Nygard. Ms. Whitaker and Mr. Bridges gave a brief explanation of the CARES Act and the funding available that could potentially be used for the Implementation of Recommended Transit Services. Jill Dusenberry, Arizona Department of Transportation, confirmed that 100% of the funds available could be used to start a new public transit system without needing a match contribution. She added, due to the unique opportunity, ADOT would be willing to become involved with the application process.

MOTION

Member Craig Brown motioned to approve the CYMPO staff to continue working with ADOT, NAIPTA and CYMPO member agencies to utilize the CARES Act funds. Vice-Chair Nolan seconded the motion.

VOTE

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

4. Discussion and Possible Action - TRANSIT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

*Chris Bridges, CYMPO Administrator
(Task #200)*

Bethany Whitaker, of Nelson Nygard, gave a brief over view of the draft Transit Implementation Plan Update which included service recommendations, routes, stops, hours of operations and costs.

Mr. Bridges shared that more than 50 public comments were received, all of which were in support of the Transit Implementation Plan and many encouraging CYMPO to seek funding from the CARES Act.

The Board acknowledged their appreciation for Ms. Whitaker’s hard work on this project.

MOTION

Member Craig Brown motioned to accept the Final Transit Implementation Plan Update as presented. Vice-Chair Nolan seconded the motion.

VOTE

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

5. Discussion and Possible Action - 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

*Chris Bridges, CYMPO Administrator
(Task #200)*

Mr. Bridges introduced Kate Bondy from AECOM. Ms. Bondy presented highlights of the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan and discussed the plan’s vision, goals, and the regional needs and objectives of this plan. She summarized Preservation, Modernization and Expansion needs, and informed the board of the numbers of public comments received.

MOTION

Member Craig Brown motioned to accept the Final 2045 Regional Transportation Plan as presented. Secretary/Treasurer Palguta seconded the motion.

VOTE

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

6. Discussion and Possible Action - TRANSPORTATION SAFETY / ANTI-DISTRACTED DRIVING CAMPAIGN

*Chris Bridges, CYMPO Administrator
(Task #301)*

Mr. Bridges noted the Professional Services Agreement with Sparklight expired February 29, 2020. He introduced Kurt Greeves, Regional Manager for Sparklight, and Becky Banks, Project Manager for CYMPO’s Distracted Driving Education Campaign. Mr. Greeves indicated that Sparklight was to very proud to be a partner in this campaign and was looking forward to a future partnership with CYMPO in order to continue educating the public of the dangers of distracted driving. Ms. Banks provided a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the demographics of the targeted audience and the goal of changing driving behaviors. She provided statistics of advertisements provided by Sparklight and the demographic that was reached beyond the CYMPO boundary to all of Yavapai County.

Secretary/Treasurer Palguta commented that we cannot measure the effectiveness on the streets, but knows more people are aware of Distracted Driving as a result of this campaign.

Mr. Bridges indicated the TAC's recommendation was to continue with the campaign. Upon approval, CYMPO would begin the process to obtain quotes for an advertising consultant to begin a new contract on July 1, 2020.

MOTION

Member Craig Brown motioned to approve the continuation of the Distracted Driving Education Campaign in FY21 and authorize re-advertisement for quotes. Vice-Chair Nolan seconded the motion.

VOTE

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

7. Discussion and Possible Action - FY 20/21 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

*Chris Bridges, CYMPO Administrator
(Task #100)*

Mr. Bridges explained that last year, ADOT implemented a new two-year Work Program cycle. CYMPO is entering the second year of the FY20-21 Program. CYMPO is awaiting the final carry forward balances from ADOT to make part of the budget, but this is an opportunity to review and discuss any potential changes to be processed as amendments to the existing document.

No changes were provided by the board.

8. Discussion and Possible Action - FY 20-24 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (MTIP)

*Chris Bridges, CYMPO Administrator
(Task #100)*

Mr. Bridges advised the board that MPOs were required to update their Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) at a minimum of every four years. Last year, CYMPO accepted its FY20-24 MTIP. This is an opportunity to review and discuss any potential changes to be processed as amendments to the existing document. Mr. Bridges also expressed that he would like to submit this MTIP to the TAC prior to the next Executive Board meeting for their recommendations and bring those recommendation back to the Executive Board for further discussion.

9. ADJOURNMENT 4:30 P.M.

CYMPO endeavors to make all public meetings accessible to persons in need of foreign language assistance or with disabilities. However, during these trying times, we will not be able to make those accommodations in person for this meeting but will provide any available information to those requesting it.

Emails for public comment received as of April 22, 2020 Noon.

To date we have received 51 emails/letters of support for moving forward with public transportation and using the CARES Act funding to do so.

Below are the emails/letters we have received to date.

Please vote yes on the Transit Implementation Plan. The quad cities area is growing and moving farther out from city centers. There is a great need for transit to work, shopping, and to doctor appointments for the growing senior population. IMHO too many elderly are forced to drive when they shouldn't.

Also, I encourage the 4 jurisdictions to commit to developing the local match that can carry us beyond year 4.

Thank you,

Udelle Stuckey

Prescott

Dear Mr. Bridges;

I write in support of the plan that has been developed for the Central Yavapai Transit System, funded by the CARES Act.

I live in Prescott, am retired, and have the time to travel by public transit when I do errands or have medical appointments in Prescott Valley. Many of my neighbors need bus service because they can no longer drive. If the pandemic teaches area governments anything it should be that they must focus on improving access to community resources rather than waste their time grandstanding about partisan issues.

People move and stay here because they see the potential for a peaceful, positive community in which to raise children or retire. A much reliable public transit system is needed to tie us more firmly together as people of good will. If only our elected officials and their hires would work to unite us rather than divide us into us vs. them. I'm sure I'm not the only Prescottonian who is sick of our officials working for out-of-state interests instead of for the people who elected them and pay their salaries.

The funding from the CARES Act is a great opportunity that should not be missed. Please seize it.

Thank you,

Nancy Mattina

Prescott, AZ 86305

Atten: CYMPO Executive Committee

We are hoping that you approve the Transit Implementation Plan on the April 22 CYMPO agenda. Since many service providers cannot afford to live in Prescott, they must be able to have a car to go to work. In addition, the retired population (which includes us) and those with disabilities who are on fixed incomes are hard-pressed to access affordable transportation when unable to drive or own a car. Another reason to pass this plan is it will cut down on traffic which our roads are having difficulty handling. In Prescott, we have heard some people complain that an "unwanted element" would have access to our communities if there was a public transit system. Well, the transportation goes both ways!

We find it hard to believe that the city officials of Prescott, Prescott Valley, Dewey Humbolt, and the rest of Yavapai County would lack the foresight to take advantage of this opportunity of a three-year transit system project, supported by the CARE Act, that would not impact local budgets.

Please, approve the Transit Implementation Plan and pursue the CARE Act monies!

Regards,

David & Judy Kelch

4718 Budsage Ct.

Prescott, AZ 86301

Hi Chris and thanks for your work on this plan at this time. Greetings to all the executive committee.

My husband and I are from San Diego but have a home here. Covid is hitting harder there and they are really restricted from going outside so we feel blessed to be here.

But San Diego has some additional advantages such as ability to commute without a car or the ability to drive. It seems essential for this region to continue to develop it's public transportation capabilities in order to support current and to encourage future grow.

Sad the Covid is what would allow such a pilot project to be developed without a significant cost to the taxpayers. But since it is possible due to the CARES money then seems this is the perfect time to approve.

Why wait?? Please approve this plan.

Bonnie Rush

Yavapai Hills

brush4info@gmail.com

Chris:

I was disappointed when Yavapai Regional transportation bus service between Prescott / Prescott Valley and Phoenix ended a year or two ago.

This --or something similar--needs to be reinstated. Why?

1) existing private (Groome Transportation) Shuttle service is very expensive (nearly \$80 per round trip!) So those on fixed income / poor people can't afford this

2) folks who can't find employment in Yavapai County should have the option of riding a low cost bus to jobs in Phoenix / Maricopa County

This could be facilitated by at least one round trip per day from Prescott and Prescott Valley to a central location Phoenix --say a bus leaving Prescott

transportation center at 5:30 AM ==> arriving Phoenix by 7:30 AM; and returning to Prescott by 7:00 PM after a 5:00 PM Phoenix departure.

One only has to look to Pima County to see an example of such service:

the small community of Ajo in western Pima County is served by buses (departing several times daily) with end points in both Phoenix and Tucson.

The cost for a one way ride between Ajo and Phoenix when I last checked was \$4.00

3) No one knew about the previous Prescott to Phoenix bus transit offering. When it is reinstated it needs to be much better publicized than it was previously.

Thanks for communicating my comments to the CYMPO Executive Committee in timely fashion.

Sincerely,

Stephen Cook

910 Oak Terrace Dr

Prescott, AZ 86301

scook@projectworldview.org

Dear Mr. Bridges:

The Regional Transportation Plan you displayed at Embry-Riddle University earlier this year seemed to be well thought out to serve the citizens of the Quad Cities area. The various types of service and the specific locations (ie the ERAU campus) for pickup/dropoff will be a great asset to the transportation needs of the areas residents.

The fact that the CARES funding is available for such a project is nothing short of a windfall for the implementation of the plan. This seems to have removed what appeared to be a major hurdle to overcome to get this plan going.

I would urge the CYMPO's Executive Committee to vote in favor of both accepting the plan and to pursue the funding from the CARES Act to get the transportation plan implemented.

In addition, It would be an excellent time to improve the plan in favor of using vehicles which run on renewable fuel; electric powered buses or vans which could showcase to the citizens as well as tourists to the area the forward thinking of the members of the Executive Committee of the CYPMO.

Best regards,

James Stein

Hello Chris Bridges,

Please approve the Transit Implementation Plan and say "yes" to pursue the CARES Act's \$3.952 million in funds to greatly improve mass transit for Prescott, Prescott Valley, Dewey-Humbolt and the County.

Having these funds will increase mass transit routes and frequency of service for people to get to work and school in and between Prescott and Prescott Valley, six days a week. It will help people get to medical appointments and shopping. Accepting these funds is an unbelievable opportunity to serve the public, and it is critical to economic growth and environmental sustainability.

I also understand that for the first three years, there is no local matching funds required, so crucial initial investments can be made without financial impact on local governments. giving them time to plan for the future.

I grew up in areas with good mass transit, and I can tell you it is a blessing in so many ways: reduces auto congestion, provides transit for those who are unable to drive or don't have cars, improves air quality, increases access to business, and reduces isolation.

This is truly a gift. I wholeheartedly urge you to approve this plan.

Judy Dunlap

Prescott

I would like the CYMPO Executive Committee to approve the fourth item on Wednesday's agenda - the Transit Implementation Plan. It will finance a three year implementation for Prescott, Prescott Valley, Dewey-Hukmboldt, and the county for a much needed transportation for Yavapai County citizens to assist people getting to work and job training/school, medical and social service appointments, and will help in the economic recovery once Covid 19 is over. Please approve this plan.

Suzy Campbell

1841 Forest Meadows Drive

Prescott, AZ 86303

Mr. Bridges,

I am writing about an issue before the CYMPO Executive Committee during its April 22 meeting, specifically the 4th agenda item (approval of the Transit Implementation Plan).

This plan gives the four jurisdictions (Prescott, Prescott Valley, Dewey Humbolt, and Yavapai County) a "pilot" project for a transit system for three years at no anticipated impact to their local budget.

This plan is a good one because it helps get people to work and job training/school as well as help get people to and from medical and social service appointments. These are goals for the CARES Act - getting to work and staying healthy.

I urge the CYMPO's executive committee:

- vote "YES" to accept the plan,
- vote "YES" to pursue the CARES Act's almost \$4 million to accomplish the start up, and
- "encourage" the four jurisdictions to commit to work on a plan to develop the local match that will be necessary to carry the system into year 4 and 5 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Linda Meigs

Prescott resident

256-509-9414

Dear Mr. Bridges:

I do believe the proposed plan is a good one, addressing getting people to work and to job training/school. Operating six days a week between Prescott and Prescott Valley will really reduce traffic impacts. More hours of mid-day service to get people to and from medical and social service appointments, including a "Dial A Ride" component to support people with disabilities, is very important.

This gives the four jurisdictions (Prescott, Prescott Valley, Dewey Humbolt, and Yavapai County) a "pilot" project for a transit system for three years at no anticipated impact to their local budget. That really makes sense.

Moreover, as the Chair of the Yavapai Climate Change Coalition, and as a citizen concerned with growth and sustainability, regional transit is just so important to our residents of this quad-cities region. Personal transportation by cars and small trucks contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions and pollution; thus, this transit plan, like CYMPO is proposing, is so important.

I would ask that the CYMPO's Executive Committee vote "yes" to accept the plan; and "yes" to pursue funding through the CARES Act to accomplish this start up. Further, I urge the four jurisdictions to commit to work on a plan to develop the local match that will be necessary to carry the system into years 4 and 5 and beyond.

How exciting! Thank you all for your good work.

Patrick Grady, Prescott Resident

Dear Chris,

I not aware of the need for available, low-cost public transportation in our area until my daughter who has multiple sclerosis became an advocate for the many people who cannot drive, do not have cars, or cannot afford taxis and yet still must get to appointments and the pharmacy. She reminds me that citizens who have been home bound before the corona virus and will still be after the stay-at-home order has been lifted must have access to public transportation. The grant that will allow us to develop and offer public transportation is a wonderful opportunity for Prescott, Prescott Valley, and the corridor to solve a long standing community need.

Thank you.

Paula Burroughs

1518 Talon Place

Prescott, AZ

Dear Mr. Bridges-

I am writing in support of the nearly \$4 million dollars of funding which could go towards creating a public transit system for our area. There has long been a glaring gap in public transit in our rapidly growing area. Many workers work in Prescott but live outside of town due to the high cost of housing. Getting to work or school shouldn't have to depend on owning a car. Also, many retirees could use public transit to get to appointments or shopping. This funding will cover the budget for 3 years and there is no match required. This is a win-win. This could be a great pilot project for building a viable public transit system for the Quad Cities.

Please urge the executive committee to vote YES to accept the plan, to pursue the needed funding and to enlist the support of the 4 jurisdictions to make this work, especially beyond the initial 3 year period.

Thank you for all you do for our town!

Sincerely,

Abby Brill

Prescott resident

Everybody's Hometown includes those without cars or the ability to drive. Now is the time to use available Federal support to call ourselves a responsible, responsive city and county and begin a structured public transportation system. Let us come together as tri-cities and provide necessary local funds to meet the needs of humans and environment.

Mary Steenhoek

Prescott Peacebuilders

Mr Bridges:

We support using CARES act money to support improved regional bus services, including Yavapai Regional Transit.

Regional transit is an important personal service for many residents in the sprawling quad-cities area.

Because personal transportation by cars and small trucks is one of the largest contributions to greenhouse gas emissions and pollution, enhancement of regional transit services are a useful step to mitigating climate change.

Gary Beverly, PhD

Chair, Sierra Club - Yavapai Group

PO Box 176

Chino Valley, AZ 86323

928-308-1003 (c)

gbverde99@gmail.com

Please vote yes on public transportation plan.

I am a community member, retired and fully support a public transportation plan here in the tri city area. I live in Willow lake estates and would love and use public transportation instead of the car to get me grocery shopping and downtown.

I encourage you to vote for the CARES act as a start up and encourage other communities to do the same. Let's do something important to the community and it's citizens, this is a start, it will help renew faith in our communities that our representatives are taking action to help its citizens.

Sincerely, Aleksandra Alexander

Sent from my iPad

To Members of CYMPO's Executive Committee,

This opportunity to develop a public transit system in Yavapai County is FANTASTIC!!! Lack of public transportation is the BIGGEST DRAWBACK to living in the Prescott area. This opportunity, which provides funding of almost \$4 million dollars for 3 years without any local matching of funds, would improve our community immensely.

Many more residents would be able to be gainfully employed, if there was public transportation, as they could expand the area to apply for jobs. This would increase their spending power, which in turn would increase the profits of local businesses. This is a win-win for all.

The plan is a good one, as it includes many hours of commute time service between Prescott and Prescott Valley, 6 day per week, and also includes mid-day service for medical and social service appointments. It also has a Dial-a-Ride component to accommodate persons with disabilities.

Since it requires no local matching for 3 years, there is no adverse financial impact on the County budget. During this 3 years the communities can work toward the development of a plan to continue this system into future years, so Yavapai County can continue to have the great opportunity of a reliable public transport system.

I ask that CYMPO's executive committee vote "YES" to accept the Transit Implementation Plan and to encourage the 4 jurisdictions to commit to work on a plan to develop the local match of funds that will be needed to continue the system into years 4 & 5 and beyond.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this plan.

Rita Day

5320 Rainbow Cliff Place

Prescott, 86301

Please support public transportation. The Quad Cities need this.

Best,

Cindy Wagner

I'm writing in support of using the Cares Act money to fund urban bus service. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide support and service to those in our community in need of help to get to work, school, shopping and medical appointments. Additional hours to serve more people is smart. Continuing and improving the service is a wonderful boon to our community.

--

Susan Braverman

Over 30 years I have lived here and known the need for public transportation ---now is the time to pass this. Whatever parts of it you like or dislike clean them up but pass it. Please.

Barbara Jacobsen

Please voted this in as the community certainly needs it. Many people will benefit, including those going to school or work. Handicapped people would achieve a new level of independence. Bus service would reduce use of cars and help lower our smog level. Our population is growing, traffic is increasing, bus service would add a level of service to our communities.

Thank You,

Annette Olson, Prescott

CYMPO Executive Committee

We are writing to urge you to approve the Transit Implementation Plan that is on the agenda for the April 22 meeting.

Due to the dispersed nature of our communities, public transit is a necessity. Please act promptly to assure receiving the CARES act funds.

Thank you,

Pete and Heryl Kroopnick

2457 Desert Willow Dr.

Prescott, AZ 86301

April 19, 2020

To: CYMPO Executive Board

Fr: Maria Lynam

I recommend that you approve the Transit Implementation Plan on the 4/22 CYMPO agenda. Yavapai County has long been without any public transportation. It has been studied for the past 20 years with little action or traction. The money now available should give us a solid roll-out and matching money to follow up after the initial three year period.

This Transit Implementation Plan will get people to work and job training/school between Prescott and Prescott Valley, six days a week. There are more hours of mid-day service to get people to and from medical and social service appointments. It will include a "Dial A Ride" component in both jurisdictions to support people with disabilities. These are goals for the CARES Act - getting to work and staying healthy.

Prescott, Prescott Valley, Dewey Humbolt, and Yavapai County will now have a "pilot" project for a transit system for three years at no anticipated impact to their local budgets.

Please vote:

"yes" to accept the plan,

"yes" to pursue the CARES Act's almost \$4M to accomplish the start up,

and strongly encourage each of the jurisdictions involved to commit to work on a plan to develop the local match that will be necessary to carry the system into year 4 and 5 and beyond.

Thank you,

Maria Lynam

4875 Comanche Trail, Prescott 86301

20 year resident

April 19, 2020

COMMENTS TO: CYMPO Executive Committee Regarding the Transit Implementation Plan

FROM: Fritzi Mevis, Prescott Resident

- Having lived in Prescott for over 20 years, I have witnessed the constant struggle of our residents in the Quad-city communities due to the lack of public transit. Struggles and actual road blocks that often have prevented them from being gainfully employed to support themselves and their families and, often where they have to take on two jobs in order to provide that support. The limitation that this imposes is the opportunity for them to succeed and negates the belief that they are able to pull themselves up by their boot straps!
- Public transit would provide residents with the ability to access healthcare providers that is affordable and accessible. The COVID-19 pandemic has made this blatantly obvious and my hope is that this is not forgotten after we have gotten through this crisis.
- The plan that is before you is well-thought out and will provide each community a pilot transit system project for three years at no anticipated cost to their local budgets. This is a fantastic opportunity to enhance the health, financial stability and the quality of life of our residents. I ask you vote YES to accept this plan, YES to pursue the CARES Act's 4 million dollars to accomplish the pilot project and, I strongly encourage the four communities to commit to work together on a plan to develop the local match that will carry this critically needed transit system after the three years for subsequent years. May this be your vision and stated purpose as public community servants.

Thank you.

Chris,

I am asking the CYMPO's executive committee to vote YES to the CARES act plan.

The plan is a good one. It will address people's lack of access to transportation. I feel one of the biggest drawbacks living in this community is the lack of access to public transportation.

Recently my 2 children have come to live with me. The ability to navigate Prescott and the surrounding communities without a car is very challenging.

This plan will give us 3 years to figure out the best way to accomplish a solution for mass transit. It will allow the local community to have time to figure out the funding necessary to continue this option into the future.

Having this option will also decrease the many problems we are having with traffic in the Prescott area.

Again I am asking I am asking the CYMPO's executive committee to vote YES to the CARES act plan.

Julie Bender

1809 Short Line Ln

Prescott

I am urging that you pass the transit implementation plan. Also to go after the CARES funding. The Quad city area desperately needs public transportation. We need to be able to take care of the disabled, students, the elderly and those people that need to get to their jobs. It is a essential as we move forward and grow. This is the time to act.

Sent from my iPhone

Robert Lynne Jr

Please vote in favor of an extended public transit system in Yavapai County. The human and ecological benefits are numerous. Our area is growing rapidly. One way to reduce the burden on our roads is to economize how people move through using less single-driver vehicles.

Thank you,

Wendy Watson

Dear Mr. Bridges and CYMPO Executive Committee Members,

I am writing in support of the Public Implementation Plan to begin establishing a true public transportation system in the quad cities and I'm asking you to vote YES. As a resident of Prescott for over 20 years and an advocate for our homeless population and others, I understand how this will positively impact people's lives. I look forward to seeing the benefits of this system in our community.

Thanking you in advance for your vote!,

--

Margaret Drennan | Youth Advocate

Yavapai Family Advocacy Center

Phone: 928-775-0669

Fax: 928-759-0474

www.yfac.org

Dear Chris,

Thank you for sharing my voice on this!

Attention CYMPO Executive Committee,

I am very excited about the potential of the CARES act, manifesting in our county. Please vote in support of the Public Implementation Plan! This has been a long time coming, and it seems like there are only positives to consider here!

The plan is a good one: getting people to work and job training/school with many more hours of commute time service in and between Prescott and Prescott Valley, six days a week is a KEY PIECE to our community's health: economically, bodily, and psychologically.

Getting people to and from medical and social service appointments and including a "Dial A Ride" component in both jurisdictions to support people with disabilities will alleviate the already stretched-too-thin volunteer network that seems to have borne the brunt of this void.

It is awesome to think that the four jurisdictions (Prescott, Prescott Valley, Dewey Humbolt, and Yavapai County) may "pilot" a project for a transit system for three years at no anticipated impact to their local budget. This is truly the boost we need to get people where they need to go, and to begin to understand the impact of more mobility.

Please vote "yes" to accept the plan, "yes" to pursue the CARES Act's almost \$4M to accomplish the start up, and encourage the four jurisdictions to commit to work on a plan to develop the local match that will be necessary to carry the system into year 4 and 5 and beyond. Where there is a will, there is a way. Let's do this!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Salli Maxwell, M.Ed

Program Supervisor/Family Education & Support Services

Arizona's Children Association

928-443-1991 ext. 2040 (phone)

1055 Ruth St. Prescott AZ 86301

www.arizonaschildren.org

Stay Connected! Sign up for our e-newsletter: <https://www.arizonaschildren.org/news/>

Protecting Children, Empowering Youth and Strengthening Families

Chair and Members of the CYMPO Executive Board,

The Transit Implementation Plan is before you for discussion and adoption. I support the Plan and urge you to approve and adopt it in its entirety. The planning was professionally conducted and received extensive input and discussion from the Stakeholders Group. The Plan was designed to address the specific needs of the residents and the conditions of Central Yavapai County.

The operation of an urban transit system in conjunction with the Yavapai Regional Transit system is an investment in the economy of Central Yavapai County. This is especially important as Yavapai County rebuilds the economy that has been damaged by the pandemic.

Transporting people to government offices, to employment centers at the Airport and downtown Prescott and Prescott Valley, to health care at regional hospitals and the Northern Arizona Veterans Center, to the education campuses of Yavapai Community College and to shopping at retail centers in the metropolitan area will provide access to government services, employment, health care, learning new skills and bolstering local sales.

Please accept the funding made through the by the CARES Act and direct CYMPO staff to initiate the implementation of the Transit Plan through the required procedures with the Arizona Department of Transportation including the identification of an existing 5307 system to manage the funds.

The Plan intended that the first 3 years of operating an urban system would be done as a learning experience. Consequently, oversight and review by the jurisdictions served by the urban system will be critical to addressing necessary changes to operations and management in order to prepare for years 4, 5 and beyond.

The next 3 years can be used to build public and institutional support for transit that can be translated into financial support for the following years.

I thank the CYMPO Board and staff for their support of the consultant team in producing the Transit Implementation Plan.

John S. Jones, AICP

Dear Chris,

It was so nice to receive the update about the proposed Public Transportation Implementation Plan and to learn that the CARES Act will provide funding for the first three years! The work CYMPO, its partners and Nelson Nygaard have done over the past two (I believe it's been at least two) years has been paramount in developing a reasonable "start-up" public transportation system covering such a wide area. This has been a long time coming. It is a good plan addressing getting people to work and job training/school with many more hours of commute time service in and between Prescott and Prescott Valley, six days a week. The additional hours of mid-day service to get people to and from medical and social service appointments will be an incredible asset to our community members, including families with young children, who struggle just to access basic medical care. I know there have been many barriers to moving this work forward; thank you for your time and dedication. I enthusiastically ask that the CYMPO Executive Committee vote yes on the Public Transportation Implementation plan at your meeting on April 22, 2020.

Sincerely,

Lisa Blyth

Dear CYMPO Executive Committee and Christopher Bridges,

I hope you and yours are well in the midst of the pandemic our world is going through.

I earnestly ask that you and your team please vote in support of the Public Implementation Plan to begin establishing a true public transportation system in the quad cities. Our families are counting on you, especially in this time where financial and community resources are scarce. On behalf of Yavapai County's young children and families, I thank you!

With gratitude,

Allison L. Houtz, M.Ed.

Program Coordinator, Center for Nature & Place

Associate Faculty, Early Childhood Education

April 17, 2020

Mr. Chris Bridges

CYMPO Administrator

1971 Commerce Center Circle, Suite E

Prescott, AZ 86301

Dear Chris,

I'm writing to offer my support of the Transit Implementation Plan as presented.

As you know, the people we serve are older, vulnerable adults who often have no access to healthcare or related services because they no longer drive. Leaving the responsibility of transporting these adults to such tremendous, yet overburdened, organizations such as People Who Care and New Horizons doesn't solve the problem of transportation that is accessible to everyone. We need an integrated public transportation plan that serves the whole area. This may very well be the time and this may be the Plan to make that happen.

For the people we represent, the Dial-A-Ride component of the Plan will be a big help. The Plan will also serve individuals who need to get to appointments at the Dept. of Economic Security offices and of course, for people wanting to work but have transportation challenges that keep them from doing so.

As I understand it, the Plan, as shown, presents a unique opportunity for the Quad-Cities to cooperate and collaborate on a project that clearly benefits the greater good with no anticipated impact to their local budget for three years.

I encourage the CYMPO executive committee to vote yes to accept the Plan and to pursue the CARES Act's almost \$4M to accomplish the start up. Additionally, I enthusiastically look forward to all leadership within the Quad-Cities making a commitment to work on a plan to develop the necessary local match that will carry the system into years beyond the first three.

Sincerely yours,

Bert Elizabeth Ijams

Executive Director

Madam chair and board members,

My name is Richard Hernandez and I am the Director of the Regional Economic Development Center (REDC) at Yavapai College. Thank you for this opportunity to address you regarding the Transit Implementation Plan. The REDC has participated in the development of the TIP since day one. We have provided input, data, and support. While we did this we also learned. We learned of the huge need for this service in our community. We heard from so many that do not have the luxury of jumping into their car anytime they want. We heard that many in our community are taken for granted and while we can continue to ignore the need I believe we have an obligation not to.

We produced data and subsequently heard from real people that transportation to and from work was a challenge. We also produced reams of data confirming a workforce shortage in Yavapai County compounded by transportation issues.

I've heard the naysayers and respect their opinions but the reality is there's almost no place on the planet that progress has not touched. Progress unchecked, unmanaged, unplanned can be a detriment, but managed, well thought out and executed progress is a value to society. There has never been a time where more Federal funding has been available to help us and I believe we should pursue all funding support available to us in support of this endeavor.

While the TIP is a good start, I also believe there is opportunity to expand over time and eventually connect the east and west sides of the county.

I believe the TIP is a well thought out and good plan. I ask that CYMPO's executive committee vote "yes" to accept the plan, "yes" to pursue the CARES Act's almost \$4M to accomplish the start up, and, "encourage" the four jurisdictions to commit to work on a plan to develop the local match that will be necessary to carry the system into year 4 and 5 and beyond.

Madam chair, sometimes doing the right thing is just that; doing the right thing.

I thank you for your time

God Bless,

Richard Hernandez

4976 Cactus Place
Prescott, AZ 86301
April 20, 2020

Chairwoman Orr and Members of the Executive Board
Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization

Dear Chairwoman Orr and Members:

Five years ago I came to a CYMPO meeting and said I was committed to working on public transit in this region so there would be additional transportation resources for me to use when I could no longer drive. I am now five years older and that much closer to giving up my driver's license. I came to Prescott from a career in passenger transportation, including over three years as the operations manager of a rural transit system in Washington state, six years managing a division of the tenth largest transit system in the US and as a transit user for over twenty-five years. I retired as the Transit Manager at Yavapai Regional Transit six months ago. I know that a more robust public transit system in this region would positively affect its economic growth, enhance mobility and give greater independence to residents. I have worked to help make that happen.

This past year CYMPO has led a planning process that was thoughtful, inclusive and created a realistic plan to bring more public transit to this area. It drew a large body of stakeholders to the discussions and review of recommendations. The plan is a great place to start. The proposed service plan will not meet everyone's needs but it addresses key issues of length of service days, more service days, connections to major employment centers, training, medical services, school, as well as connecting to more recreational opportunities for visitors and residents. It addresses accessibility for those who may have a disability that creates a challenge to use transit. It connects with Yavapai Regional Transit, giving Chino Valley residents even more travel options.

We couldn't have predicted the allocation of the \$3.6M in funding from the CARES Act to CYMPO that would provide the funds to run the system as designed for approximately three years with no local match requirement as we previously talked about how to fund the system. Now we have this great opportunity. It makes total sense to adopt this "shovel ready" project, accept the funds and get started on the implementation. It gives our region a chance to test the model, grow ridership and support for the system and develop future funding models without the immediate pressure of finding local dollars.

Since our local jurisdictions are faced with difficult decisions related to rebuilding the economy to pre-pandemic levels, having a reliable and expanded transit system paid for by funds that are already allocated to the region seems like a key component for getting people back to work. It creates jobs to run the bus system and gets workers to jobs in other businesses. It gets people to school and training to enhance growth and recovery. It is well known that one dollar invested in public transit brings four dollars back to the local economy. This opportunity makes that investment possible for the Quad Cities.

I urge the Executive Board of CYMPO to adopt the Central Yavapai Transit Implementation Plan and to access the FTA CARES Act funding allocated to the CYMPO region. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this issue.

Sandy Stutey

Dear CYMPO Executive Committee and Christopher Bridges,

I hope you and yours are well in the midst of the pandemic our world is going through.

I've been a lifelong resident of the Quad cities; I was born at YRMC and I am raising my family here now. I earnestly ask that you and your team please vote in support of the Public Implementation Plan to begin establishing a true public transportation system in the quad cities. Our families are counting on you, especially in this time where financial and community resources are scarce.

Thank you!

Abby Yost

Associate Faculty

Curriculum Design, Writing Workshop

Good afternoon

As one who has lived in Prescott Valley for nearly twenty-three years and as one who has also sought public office, please know that I salute all of you for being so brave, for your commitment to public service, and for your desire to make our community better..

In the two forums I attended it seemed like most of the questions and comments given in response to the questions from the moderators focused on 'business' and 'developers' and less mention of 'resident.' I am a strong supporter of economic growth and development, but I am equally concerned about the needs of the everyday person in Prescott Valley , a great many of whom are elderly, disabled, and/or poverty stricken.

For a great many years there have been studies and committees debating and discussing the merits of public transportation in the area. I understand that cost is a factor and that the town may not have the funding now, but I would hope that all of you place a much higher priority on public transit when the economy improves because the cost will continue to increase and the need will become even greater.

- The Benefits Of Public Transportation - Public Transportation ...

This fact-filled report provides an overview of the benefits public ...

www.publictransportation.org/reports/asp/pub_benefits... - Similar

- [PDF]

The Benefits of Public Transportation

The Benefits of Public Transportation. 1. Ensures Safety. ▪ Public transportation continues to be one of the safest modes of travel in the United States

www.gocmrta.com/content/pdf/Benefits%20of%20Public%20Trans... – Similar

James Kimes

04/21/2020

Dear Executive Committee,

As the Executive Director of U.S.VETS and facilitator of the Prescott area Collective Impact Partnership to end homelessness, I would like to affirm my position and request for expanded transportation services within Central Yavapai County a priority. Limited access to transportation has been identified as a key barrier to housing in the Quad-city area. As the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO) considers approving its transportation plan, I would like to emphasize the importance of implementing a robust transit system to move the Quad-cities in a healthier direction to support stable housing.

Please remember, Yavapai County continues to have the second highest incidence of homelessness in the entire balance of state continuum of care. Access to affordable housing must be a priority in all community planning efforts, especially transportation systems. With the recent COVID-19 threat, we know now more than ever the importance of housing and having a home, not just for those experiencing homelessness, but for the health of the entire community at large. When everyone has a home to safely shelter in, our whole community is safer. By linking our local cities and towns with frequent and reliable transportation options, we will increase housing affordable opportunities that will enable our citizens to make connections to jobs, schools, and healthcare services, thereby improving the quality of life for all those living in our communities.

Finally, with the CARES ACT, there is a potential for significant funding, up to three years, for an urban bus services that does not require a local match. Accessing this funding would mean that our municipalities and the County will not be obligated for their local match for potentially the first three years of implementation. The plan before you was carefully thought out and created with robust community input. This plan will vastly increase transportation opportunities for our community members in need to access the needed services for health, education, and employment.

I thank you for your time and consideration of this request and urge you to vote “yes” and approve the Transit Implementation Plan presented before you today. I also urge you to vote “yes” on allowing CYMPO to pursue the CARES Act urban transit funding.

Sincerely,

Carole L. Benedict, M.Ed, LPC
Executive Director
U.S.VETS – Prescott
1040 Whipple Street #400
Prescott, AZ 86305
Phone: 928-583-7678
Fax: 928-778-0409
cbenedict@usvetsinc.org
www.usvetsinc.org/prescott

Chris

I hope my comments aren't too late for your needs.

This is in support of the Central Yavapai Transportation system development. There is a need which is growing. My area of Prescott is the Antelope Hills neighborhood. That includes the Antelope Hills golf course, the airport and the massive new developments to our west and north towards Chino Valley.

Our development alone has 125 homes and a high elderly population. All of these components together point to a transportation need to take those who cannot or should not be driving to various essential services from the mundane trip to Wal Mart or Fry's or Safeway to the more essential trip to a doctor or therapist or to a movie theater. We don't need a survey to project the transportation need; the need is obvious.

Thank you and best wishes.

Art (Atonna)

Prescott

As a member of Prescott area Collective Impact Partnership to end homelessness, I would like to affirm my position and request for expanded transportation services within Central Yavapai County a priority. Limited access to transportation has been identified as a key barrier to housing in the Quad-city area. As the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO) presents its transportation plan, I would like to emphasize the importance of implementing a robust transit system to move the Quad-cities in a healthier direction to support stable housing.

Access to affordable housing must be a priority in all community planning efforts, especially transportation systems. With the recent COVID-19 threat, we know now more than ever the importance of housing and having a home, not just for those experiencing homelessness, but for the health of the entire community at large. When everyone has a home to safely shelter in, our whole community is safer. By linking our local cities and towns with frequent and reliable transportation options, we will increase housing affordable opportunities that will enable our citizens to make connections to jobs, schools, and healthcare services, thereby improving the quality of life for all those living in our communities.

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I thank you for your time and consideration of this request and urge you to vote “yes” and approve the Transit Implementation Plan presented before you today. I also urge you to vote “yes” on allowing CYMPO to pursue the CARES Act urban transit funding.

Robert Tencer, LCSW

Grant per Diem Liaison

NAVAHCS

928-445-4860 ext. 5272

Mr. Bridges,

As the Executive Director of the Yavapai Justice and Mental Health Coalition and a member of the Prescott area Collective Impact Partnership to end homelessness, I would like to affirm my position and request for expanded transportation services within Central Yavapai County a priority. Limited access to transportation has been identified as a key barrier to housing in the Quad-city area. As the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO) presents its transportation plan, I would like to emphasize the importance of implementing a robust transit system to move the Quad-cities in a healthier direction to support stable housing.

The Yavapai County Detention facility screens people as they are booked into detention asking for risk factors. We track the risks, connections to services, and recidivism rates of people in the criminal justice system. People who disclose that they have no housing and no employment are booked at an extremely high rate compared to the general population. Supporting our community with transportation provides the ability to work and support stable housing – which in itself can be a form of crime prevention.

Access to affordable housing must be a priority in all community planning efforts, especially transportation systems. With the recent COVID-19 threat, we know now more than ever the importance of housing and having a home, not just for those experiencing homelessness, but for the health of the entire community at large. When everyone has a home to safely shelter in, our whole community is safer. By linking our local cities and towns with frequent and reliable transportation options, we will increase housing affordable opportunities that will enable our citizens to make connections to jobs, schools, and healthcare services, thereby improving the quality of life for all those living in our communities.

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I thank you for your time and consideration of this request and urge you to vote “yes” and approve the Transit Implementation Plan presented before you today. I also urge you to vote “yes” on allowing CYMPO to pursue the CARES Act urban transit funding.

Sincerely,

Beya Thayer, MSW

Executive Director

Yavapai Justice & Mental Health Coalition

928.554.8820

Beya.Thayer@Yavapai.US

<https://justicementalhealth.com/> #YavapaiStrongerTogether

Dear Mr. Bridges,

As a resident of the greater Yavapai County over the past 30+ years, I am taking a moment to urge you to vote "YES" to the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization's (CYMPO) transportation plan that will serve the greater Quad-cities. This is a good plan as it addresses getting people to work and job training/school with more hours of service for six days a week.

In my present position with West Yavapai Guidance Clinic, I am a member of the Prescott area Collective Impact Partnership to end homelessness. I would like to affirm my position and request for expanded transportation services within Central Yavapai County a priority. Limited access to transportation has been identified as a key barrier to housing in the Quad-city area. As the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO) presents its transportation plan, I would like to emphasize the importance of implementing a robust transit system to move the Quad-cities in a healthier direction to support stable housing.

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I thank you for your time and consideration of this request and urge you to vote "yes" and approve the Transit Implementation Plan presented before you today. I also urge you to vote "yes" on allowing CYMPO to pursue the CARES Act urban transit funding.

Ellen Siegfried-Dodd

Manager, Clinic Housing and Transportation

642 Dameron Drive

Prescott, AZ 86301

Tel: 928-445-5211 ext. 2068

As a member of Prescott area Collective Impact Partnership to end homelessness, I would like to affirm my position and request for expanded transportation services within Central Yavapai County a priority. Limited access to transportation has been identified as a key barrier to housing in the Quad-city area. As the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO) presents its transportation plan, I would like to emphasize the importance of implementing a robust transit system to move the Quad-cities in a healthier direction to support stable housing.

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I thank you for your time and consideration of this request and urge you to vote “yes” and approve the Transit Implementation Plan presented before you today. I also urge you to vote “yes” on allowing CYMPO to pursue the CARES Act urban transit funding.

Jay

Rev. Dr. Jay Wilcher

First Congregational Church

216 East Gurley Street

Prescott, AZ 86301

928-445-4555

jayfccprescott@gmail.com

April 21, 2020

To whom it may concern,

As a member of the Prescott area Collective Impact Partnership to end homelessness, I would like to affirm my position and request for expanded transportation services within Central Yavapai County a priority. Limited access to transportation has been identified as a key barrier to housing in the Quad-city area. As the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO) presents its transportation plan, I would like to emphasize the importance of implementing a robust transit system to move the Quad-cities in a healthier direction to support stable housing.

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I thank you for your time and consideration of this request and urge you to vote “yes” and approve the Transit Implementation Plan presented before you today. I also urge you to vote “yes” on allowing CYMPO to pursue the CARES Act urban transit funding.

Sincerely,

Jessi Hans, Executive Director

Coalition for Compassion and Justice

Good afternoon Chris

I was ecstatic to hear the Quad Cities will be voting on moving forward with a Transit Plan. I urge the committee to please vote yes on this Plan. Public transportation is vital to the health of the community by supporting transportation to jobs, medical appointments, groceries, recreation and social gatherings. I am in full support of the plan!

Thank you for your continued efforts in this process,

Heather Klomparens

As a member of Prescott area Collective Impact Partnership to end homelessness, I would like to affirm my position and request for expanded transportation services within Central Yavapai County a priority. Limited access to transportation has been identified as a key barrier to housing in the Quad-city area. As the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO) presents its transportation plan, I would like to emphasize the importance of implementing a robust transit system to move the Quad-cities in a healthier direction to support stable housing.

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I thank you for your time and consideration of this request and urge you to vote “yes” and approve the Transit Implementation Plan presented before you today. I also urge you to vote “yes” on allowing CYMPO to pursue the CARES Act urban transit funding.

Tasha Kankaanpaa

Program Assistant

U.S.VETS – Prescott

1040 Whipple St.

Prescott, AZ 86305

Phone: 928-583-7204

tkankaanpaa@usvetsinc.org

www.usvetsinc.org

In Prescott we now have a concentration of affordable housing, yet we are sorely in need for public transportation. I strongly support the proposed plan.

Tom Benson

tombenson@cablone.net

Hello Mr. Bridges:

As a member of Prescott area Collective Impact Partnership to end homelessness, I would like to affirm my position and request for expanded transportation services within Central Yavapai County a priority. Limited access to transportation has been identified as a key barrier to housing in the Quad-city area. As the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO) presents its transportation plan, I would like to emphasize the importance of implementing a robust transit system to move the Quad-cities in a healthier direction to support stable housing.

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I thank you for your time and consideration of this request and urge you to vote “yes” and approve the Transit Implementation Plan presented before you today. I also urge you to vote “yes” on allowing CYMPO to pursue the CARES Act urban transit funding.

John Morris

Chief Adult Probation Officer

Yavapai County Adult Probation

255 E. Gurley Street, 2nd Floor

Prescott, AZ 86301

(928) 777-7190



Mission Statement

The Yavapai County Contractors Association's mission is to foster and promote the construction industry through education, safety, political action, services and networking for the benefit of our members and our communities.

Y.C.C.A.

Yavapai County Contractors Association

professional & profitable members

April 22, 2020

sent via e-mail

Christopher.bridges@yavapai.us

Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization
Chris Bridges, CYMPO Administrator
Executive CYMPO Board

Re: CARES ACT Transit Implementation Plan

Dear CYMPO Leaders,

First and foremost I want to tell you that you are all such a vital and effective force in the great growth of Yavapai County. So many of us in the community are grateful to you for the public service you perform.

YCCA is honored to add our expression of support in the development a of transportation plan through the CARES ACT funding and add our gratitude for your sincere and devoted efforts to make the dream become a reality. We are here to assist.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Sandra Griffis".

Sandra Griffis
Executive Director

Good Afternoon,

As a member of Prescott area Collective Impact Partnership to end homelessness, I would like to affirm my position and request for expanded transportation services within Central Yavapai County a priority. Limited access to transportation has been identified as a key barrier to housing in the Quad-city area. As the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO) presents its transportation plan, I would like to emphasize the importance of implementing a robust transit system to move the Quad-cities in a healthier direction to support stable housing.

Access to affordable housing must be a priority in all community planning efforts, especially transportation systems. With the recent COVID-19 threat, we know now more than ever the importance of housing and having a home, not just for those experiencing homelessness, but for the health of the entire community at large. When everyone has a home to safely shelter in, our whole community is safer. By linking our local cities and towns with frequent and reliable transportation options, we will increase housing affordable opportunities that will enable our citizens to make connections to jobs, schools, and healthcare services, thereby improving the quality of life for all those living in our communities.

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Our Mission at Goodwill is Empowering Individuals, Strengthening Families and Building Stronger Communities. Our Prescott Career Center provides immediate no-cost job assistance services to anyone in need of help finding employment. This includes connections to companies hiring now, resume and mock-interviewing help, as well as access to computer training recognized by employers and top universities. We need our community to have access to expanded transportation so they can invest in themselves and have the ability to enhance our region's economic stability.

I thank you for your time and consideration of this request and urge you to vote "yes" and approve the Transit Implementation Plan presented before you today. I also urge you to vote "yes" on allowing CYMPO to pursue the CARES Act urban transit funding.

Respectfully,

MAYRA RIOS

Employer and Community Engagement Partner

Goodwill of Central and Northern Arizona - Yavapai County