

**RTA CUSTOMER ADVOCACY GROUP
MEETING MINUTES**

April 13th, 2017

8am - 9:30am

Wright Stop Plaza – 2nd Floor Multipurpose Room
4 South Main St., Dayton, OH 45402

ATTENDING: Sally Brown (RTA), Melody Burba, Laura Estandia (Bike Miami Valley), Nozipo Glenn, Kjirsten Frank-Hoppe, Pat Kelly (RTA), Tonya Mathis, Nikol Miller (RTA), Jessica Olson (RTA), Nathan Owens (RTA), Eric Sauer, Wanda Slone, Sandra Speed, Cordell Williams, and Michelle Zaremba

UNABLE TO ATTEND TODAY: Brenda Alexander, Bruce Barceló, Jean Denney, Andrea Harker, Laura Heitz, and Keith Steeber.

HANDOUTS: Feb 2017 CAG Minutes and April 13th CAG Agenda

WELCOME

- CAG Vice-President, Tonya Mathis, welcomed the group to the April CAG meeting.

UPDATES & REPORTS

- Safe Routes to Parks – CAG member Eric Sauer, of Fiver Rivers MetroParks spoke to the CAG group regarding safe routes to public parks and possible opportunities for RTA to better access MetroParks for customers. He gave a PowerPoint presentation with maps of area parks, park entrances, and current routing. The presentation is attached to minutes.

The maps show the RTA bus routes and stops, the Five Rivers MetroParks locations and various sized and colored dots that represent the distance between the closest bus stop and the entry point of the park. The key gives the distance ranges, but used a city block of 500 feet, ¼ mile, ½ mile and a mile. What the main map shows is an overall idea of how well the parks are connected to the system and the detail maps provide areas for discussion about how improvements could be made jointly to create better accessibility.

It was suggested to look into a few possible easy solutions first. Some parks entrances are fairly close to existing bus stops. Some examples would be Wesleyan park on James H. McGee, Cox Arboretum, and Eastwood Park.

Opportunities for CAG to look into as possible action items to take on in 2017:

- Map – web and/or print version showing how to connect to parks via RTA.
- Identify stops that could be relocated to allow better ADA access to parks.
- Sell RTA passes at Fiver Rivers MetroParks.
- Shuttles – expand shuttle partnership to and from park events.

- River Trails – look
- Five River MetroParks branded bus stops. Stop would identify park access.
- Getting routes and buses into parks themselves.
- Identify accessibility barriers at park entrances that would prevent ADA access.

Challenges – like any service suggestion, the challenge will always be looking to see what service schedule needs would be. Michele Conley, of the RTA planning department, said it would be done on a case by case basis. Moving forward, CAG members can look to identify next steps. The other challenge will be to make sure that all partners are working together (i.e. Fiver Rivers MetroParks, RTA, MVRPC, and jurisdictions). Eric Sauer stated that RTA’s CAG group is the first stop on a tour of partner groups.

Bruce Barcelo said that he could look into getting Public Health to participate if needed. Access to parks is in line with a lot of what Public Health does.

NEW BUSINESS

- No new business reported.

ACTION STEPS

- Please email Bruce at BBarcelo@phdmc.org to share contact information of any nominations that you have for individuals to invite to join the RTA Customer Advocacy Group.

NEXT MEETING DATE

8:00 am - 9:30am on Thursday August 10th, 2017

Please share any corrections/changes/updates with the RTA CAG representative, Nathan Owens, in the absence of RTA CAG Communications Coordinator, Sandra Speed.