

TDP Subcommittee Meeting - Notes

Project: 2035 Transit Development Plan – Space Coast Area Transit

Subject: TDP Subcommittee Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 7, 2024

Location: Addison Village Club (8150 Stadium Pkwy, Viera West, FL 32940)

Attendees: TDP Subcommittee Members

The purpose of this meeting is to collaborate and understand the transportation-related needs across the region for consideration in the Transit Development Plan (TDP). This will be an interactive meeting, allowing for working group members to comment and provide feedback on the different TDP scenarios themselves.

Agenda

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Project Recap
- 3) Existing Conditions
- 4) Public Involvement
 - a) Rider Survey Infographic - Comments
 - i) Update the infographic to show the average number of times a rider transferred from bus to bus to get to their destination.
 - ii) Include the number of respondents, both for Riders and Non-Riders.
 - iii) For Non-Riders, what are their perception of riding the bus?
 - iv) For Non-Riders vs Riders, what does the data show regarding the expansion or improvement of the existing system?
 - b) Stakeholder Interviews - Comments
 - i) There was some discussion about clarifying some of the overall inferences from these interviews, and to ensure that the project team is identifying those inferences from each stakeholder.
- 5) Scenario Planning - Interactive Session
 - a) Preliminary Results - Comments
 - i) Service Area Comments (Applies to all scenarios)
 - (1) Space Coast Area Transit may need to increase/add service in the rural (unurbanized) areas due to population growth.
 - (2) All scenarios show West Melbourne area losing service compared to the existing network. The Subcommittee members agreed that the Project Team should review existing scenarios to examine how to minimize this result. Specifically, areas west of Wickham Road lose service under most scenarios.

ii) MOD Comments/Questions

(1) Workforce vs Tourists. Who would be riding this?

(a) The Subcommittee members suggested that workforce would use MOD, not only tourists and for the Project Team to explore adding MOD zones.

(i) Potential MOD Expansion: Cocoa, West Melbourne, Barefoot Bay. How can these areas be served by MOD? The Project Team will review these areas further.

(b) The Subcommittee is leaning towards MOD serving rural areas/workforce rather than only beach areas.

(2) MOD should bring the rider to a transfer station if the destination is outside the MOD zone.

(3) How much MOD can be implemented if routes are shortened and/or loops are removed?

(a) The project team will review this further in the next iteration of scenario planning.

(4) How can MOD zones be implemented? Are routes removed first?

(a) Any MOD zones or new routes are developed/implemented in a phased approach to ensure that there is accurate service coverage.

iii) General Comments/Questions

(1) There were several comments about how express services could be utilized throughout Brevard County.

(a) Express services on I-95? This could be supported if there was more Commuter Van interest, Transit staff noted that ridership on this service is generally low.

(b) Several scenarios currently model express service on US1, but could these be expanded to go beyond the County lines?

(i) Potential Counties: Volusia, Indian River, Orange, & Osceola

(2) There was a comment about the service to the airport, as only one line is modeled in each scenario. The project team will look again to see if additional routes can be added.

(3) There was a comment about the difficulty in removing routes for customers. The project team will review the existing network to ensure that proposed route removals are minimized.

(4) There was a comment that housing, social services, and employment centers are factors that should be reviewed again to ensure there are no significant gaps.

- (a) Several areas where low-income housing and affordable housing is located were provided by the Subcommittee for additional review by the Project Team.
- (5) There was a comment that the construction of bus shelters should be for high-priority locations/transfer locations.
- (6) There was a comment that for the upcoming public meetings, it would be helpful to determine the non-rider perception/stigma/risks/negative events to why they are not currently riding Transit.
- (7) How do the scenarios take into account the future land use for the County and the areas outside the County?
 - (a) This is currently modeled within the scenario planning software, Remix.
- (8) How is the future intermodal station take into account?
 - (a) All proposed scenarios included a route to this upcoming station.
- (9) Do any transit agencies in Florida offers service outside of their respective county?
 - (a) Tri-County Transit offers county to county transportation was provided as an example.
 - (b) Lake and Orange Counties have a transfer station.
 - (c) In the future, Brevard County could provide service with Indian River County and Volusia County.
 - (i) Indian River County and Volusia County in the future will be developed at their county lines.
 - (ii) Space Coast Area Transit receives requests to Indian River County for residents to go to their medical appointments.

6) Next Steps

- a) To avoid conflicting MoD service areas, the Space Coast TPO decided not to include the MoD scenarios within the TDP. The TPO has undertaken a separate MOD Study that will identify potential services areas. The TDP will focus on various fixed transit routes scenarios. The importance of the MoD will be mentioned in the appropriate sections of the TDP. In order to pursue funding, MoD will have a line item in the financial section of the TDP.
- b) Project Team will meet internally to develop one updated scenario based on the TDP Subcommittee members comments and feedback.
- c) The final TDP Subcommittee Meeting is tentatively scheduled for early to mid-June.