

**Public Transit Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Regional Committee Meeting**  
**Virtual Meeting**  
**Friday, January 15th, 2021**  
**10:00am – 12:00pm**

**Meeting Notes:**

**Attending:** Christine Howe (SeVT), Randy Schoonmaker (SeVT), Timothy Bradshaw (VTrans), Colin Bratton (WRC), Otis Munroe (SWCRPC),

**10/16/20 Notes Approval:** Notes from previous meeting approved with no changes

**Business:**

- Update on Fiscal Year 2021 Budget
  - Southeast Vermont Transit updated the committee on the status of the Fiscal Year 2021 budget.
    - Currently E&D program is on schedule for FY '21 budget
      - Covid continues to impact service
    - Bellows Falls Senior Center briefly opened, but has subsequently reclosed.
    - Rockingham Meal Site has reopened
      - Small uptick in ridership since beginning of covid.
    - Wilmington site remains closed.
      - In-home delivery of meals continues.
    - Shopping trips continue to run.
      - Ridership is down.
    - Social Trips have been made available but no trips have been taken.
      - Riders have been made aware of social trips however potential riders belong to vulnerable populations, many are limited activities due to covid.
    - 41% of budget used overall.
      - On schedule.
- Medicaid Opening.
  - Medicaid trips will resume in early 2021.
    - Costs for rides will be shared between E&D program and Medicaid.
      - Cost per trip will go down.
  - No indication Adult Day Centers will reopen in near future.
    - Very late spring or early summer at the absolute earliest
      - Likely at extremely limited capacity.
  - Large increase in ridership in Rockingham anticipated with reopening of Medicaid
    - SeVT is increasing staff and vehicles in preparation for increase.
      - Instituting new operating Medicaid compliant policies.
- Impact of Covid on ridership.
  - Ridership is down 40% from pre Covid numbers.
    - Most riders are severely limiting non-essential trips.
  - Ridership has remained consistent since beginning of Covid crisis.
    - ~300 trips per day in Rockingham.
- Updates from VTrans
  - Status of Vaccinations.
    - State is communicating with transit providers biweekly.
      - Currently transit workers in vaccination group 1B
        - Expect vaccinations for workers to begin by June.
    - State and Transit providers are coordinating to ensure vaccine sites are located on transit routes.

- Cares program will provide direct funding for vaccination trips.
  - State has received new round of Federal stimulus money.
    - Vermont received \$26.7 million for transit providers, E&D committee
      - FY '22
- Bylaws for Open Meeting Compliance.
  - Committee moves to adopt new bylaws in compliance with Vermont Open Meeting Law
    - Motion by Randy Schoonmaker, Second by Christine Howe.
      - Motion passes unanimously.
- Workplan Draft
  - Draft of committee work plan to be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Ridership survey follow up.
  - Committee will follow up with riders who expressed interest in last year's ridership survey
    - Phone Calls & Summary completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>
      - Draft of potential questions will be brought to next meeting February 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Motion to adjourn by Christine Howe, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim Bradshaw
  - Passes unanimously, meeting adjourned.
- Next Meeting:
  - The next meeting of the E&D Committee will be Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 10am.