

02/11/2025 Morrow County Transit Advisory Committee Agenda and Minutes. Meeting recording available upon request.

1. Call to Order and Welcome
2. Introductions
  - a. Steve Davis MCPT Manager - *Steve Davis introduced himself and shared transit and professional background*
  - b. Members Present, Term Start and expiration, Representation - *Each member provided an introduction including who they represent and how long they have been a member of the committee*
3. TAC Bylaws and Positions - *Discuss the requirements and importance of committee representation for the county*
  - a. 5-9 Members representing
    - i. Low Income
    - ii. Seniors 65+
    - iii. Persons with disabilities
    - iv. Public Transit Provider
    - v. Spanish Speaker
    - vi. Social Equity
    - vii. County Representative
  - b. Terms - *Discussed the current bylaw term requirements and shared the committee will be conducting a review of the bylaws in the near future*
    - i. End in June
    - ii. Max 2 Terms
  - c. Meeting Schedule - *Discussed the bylaw requirements for meeting schedules and agreed to continue to meet every other month to ensure committee members and staff stay aligned with our mission and purpose to support the residents of Morrow County*
    - i. Required 2x per year
    - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Every Other Month
    - iii. Meeting Time
  - d. Community Involvement
    - i. Representation from community members who aren't on the TAC but participate in conversation and getting the word out.
4. MCPT Report
  - a. Ridership - *Shared second quarter Demand Response and Fixed Route ridership data. Data is available at Morrow County Public Transit - The Loop (<https://www.co.morrow.or.us/theloop>)*
  - b. STIF Approval – *Discussed STIF submittal to ODOT*
  - c. Facebook - *Discussed the relaunch of Morrow County Public Transit - The Loop Facebook page. Requested committee members to follow the Facebook page to expand our current reach within the community*
  - d. Connexionz - *Discussed moving forward with the previously discussed Connexionz contract after receiving Board of Commission approval.*

- e. Events – *Planned events include - Family Night at AC Houghton on March 4<sup>th</sup> and St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Heppner on March 15. Additional events were discussed for future attendance and community engagement.*
5. Operational Changes – Information will be posted and shared with public upon Board of Commissioners Approval. The TAC was very supportive of upcoming service changes and
  - a. March 31, 2025 – *New Fixed Routes will begin. The routes include 3 new circulars, a boardman circular route and two North and South Morrow County connecting circular routes. The routes were designed to provide residents of Morrow County the opportunity to connect and have choice when seeking essential services*
  - b. Service area – *Morrow County, Good Shepherd Hospital, Hermiston Wal-Mart, Veteran services in surrounding counties*
  - c. Routes – *Discussed in section a*
  - d. Public Notice – *Once changes have been approved by the Board of Commissioners’ we will be holding open houses to share information on the service changes and help educate the public on how to use public transit*
  - e. Radio/ Facebook/ Events – *New radio ads are in rotation to gain ridership*
  - f. Animal/ Pet Policy – *A Service animal policy was established. MCPT does not currently have a policy*
6. Signage – *Working with our city partners to establish posted bus stop signs to expand ridership and transit awareness*
  - a. Use existing infrastructure where possible
  - b. Get time point stops identified
7. Kayak Partnership – *Kayak is now operation to the Port of Morrow in support of MCPT services, not competition*
  - a. Buses are running into Boardman through the Port.
8. Office Move
  - a. March Move to County Building behind Sinclair