Minnesota Regional Transportation Coordination Council Stakeholder Workshops, Round 2: Summary Highlights

MCOTA Meeting

August 25, 2016

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Stakeholder Workshops, Round 2

- June and July, 2016
- 107 participants completed feedback forms
- About half attended 2015 workshops
    - Rochester: Wednesday, June 1, 2016
    - Marshall: Monday, June 6, 2016
    - Bemidji: Monday, July 11, 2016
    - Duluth: Thursday, July 14, 2016
    - Mankato: Monday, July 18, 2016
    - Fergus Falls: Wednesday, July 20, 2016
    - St. Cloud: Thursday, July 21, 2016

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General Highlights

- Planning timeline
  - More than half considered a year-long timeline for planning the RTCCs too aggressive and unrealistic. Slightly less than half the participants liked the aggressiveness of the timeline.

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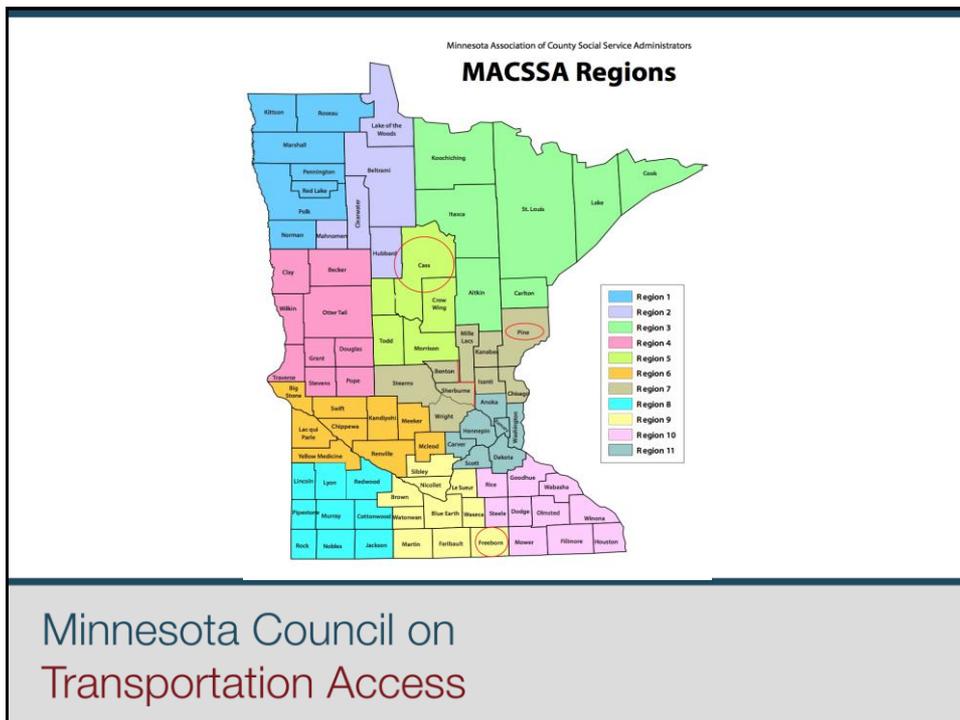Transportation Access

General Highlights

- Participants liked:
  - The non-profit organizational structure
  - The focus on end users
  - A statewide consultant for assistance with outreach and planning
  - Funding for dedicated staff
  - Uniform performance standards and measures (with some flexibility)

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General Highlights

- Participants liked:
  - Cooperation and collaboration with private and public transportation providers, counties, non-profits, etc.
- Concern:
  - How would RTCCs actually improve transportation services without creating another layer of bureaucracy?

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Potential Actions for PMT

- Clarify definitions:
  - Transportation providers, participation and membership in RTCC, local resources (staff or financial), quality

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Potential Actions for PMT

- Changes to goals and objectives
  - Obtain commitments from counties and providers as part of pre-planning activities
  - Add: Identify & mitigate duplicate efforts from existing agencies
  - Add goals related to accounting system (from St. Cloud discussion)

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Potential Actions for PMT

- Marketing/Outreach
  - Add a marketing plan for recruiting council members. What are "selling points" to attract council members?
  - Reach out to health plans, hospitals, public education, churches, and school transportation
  - Focus on community outreach: referring agents, employers, and the general public

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Other Ideas for PMT

- Include a memorandum of understanding as a governance structure option.
  - RDC structure and co-ops also suggested.
- Develop a way to promote equitable distribution of riders among a region's various providers.
- Set a 5-year goal for technology: e.g., Be able to communicate across the state in 5 years.

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Next Steps: Conceptual Timeline

- Fall 2016: Issue RFPs for statewide consultant, RTCC planning, and RTCC implementation grants
- Winter 2017: RTCC planning with consultant assistance
- Fall 2017: RTCC implementation proposals due
- Winter 2018: RTCC implementation begins

					2017			2018
Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Winter/Spring	Summer		Fall	Winter

Development of RFP for Statewide Consultant / Development of RFP for Regional Planning Grants; 2nd series Stakeholder Meetings; Development of Regional RFP for Planning - Both Consultant and Regions; RFP Selection for Consultant & Regions; Contract Award - Consultant & Regions; Consultant work with Regions and state departments thru planning process to Develop RFP for Implementation; RFP For Implementation Due Fall 2017; Contract Award for RTCC; Implementation of RTCC

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Thank you!

Questions?

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