



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY
REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION

Champaign County Rural Transit Advisory Group (RTAG)

Date: Wednesday, February 7th, 2024
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Place: Jennifer Putnam Room, 1776 E. Washington St., Urbana, IL 61802
Members: Tawanna Nickens, Wendy Hundley, Rick Williams, Ashley Richey, Martha Newton
Others: Rita Morocoima-Black, Debbie Peterik, Emma Woods, Evan Alvarez

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Introductions
- III. Audience Participation
- IV. Approval of Agenda
- V. Approval of Draft Minutes from the RTAG meeting of October 18th, 2023
- VI. New Business
 - A. Approval of revised 2024 RTAG Meeting Calendar
 - B. Approval of Wendy Hundley as RTAG Vice-Chair
 - C. Presentation and Approval of C-CARTS FY24 - 1st Quarter (July-Sep.) Service Report (Emma Woods)
 - D. Consolidated Vehicle Procurement (CVP) Grant Update (Emma Woods)
 - E. [Opioid Settlement Taskforce](#)/C-CARTS Service Update (Rita Morocoima-Black)
 - F. Rantoul Transportation Costs and Inequities Project Presentation (Evan Alvarez)
 - G. IL patient medical trip study survey (Rita Morocoima-Black)
- VII. Announcements
- VIII. Adjournment

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Champaign County Urbanized Area Transportation Study
A program of the Champaign County RPC

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Champaign County Rural Transit Advisory Group (RTAG)

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2023
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Place: John Dimit Conference Room
 Brookens Administrative Center
 1776 E. Washington Street, Urbana
Members Present: Tawanna Nickens, Wendy Hundley, Rick Williams, Ashley Richey
Others Present: Klentoria M. Lee-Clements, Martha Newton
Staff Present: Rita Morocoima-Black, Emma Woods, Evan Alvarez, Debbie Peterik

MEETING MINUTES

Subject to Review and Approval

- I. Call to Order
Ms. Nickens called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.
- II. Introductions
RTAG members and staff introduced themselves.
- III. Roll Call
The roll was taken by sign in sheet. A quorum was declared present.
- IV. Audience Participation
None
- V. Approval of Agenda
Ms. Hundley made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Williams seconded. Upon vote, the motion unanimously carried.
- VI. Approval of draft minutes from the May 10, 2023, RTAG meeting.
Ms. Hundley made a motion to approve the draft minutes from the May 10, 2023, RTAG meeting. Mr. Williams seconded. Upon vote, the motion unanimously carried.
- VII. New Business
 - A. Presentation and Approval of C-CARTS FY23 4th Quarter (April to June) Service Report

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Ms. Woods provided highlights of the Service Report:

- Personal, shopping, and social trips were areas in the demand response services that showed the most growth.
- Medical trips had a decrease.
- There were 1,337 senior trips, which is 61 percent of the demand response trips. 415 of those trips were using the lift.
- The Q4 systemwide service characteristics: 2,180 demand response trips, an increase of 8 percent and 3,807 fixed route trips, a total of 5,987 trips and 114 denials.

Ms. Hundley asked what some of the reasons were for the denied trips. Ms. Lee-Clements commented that most of the time the denials are because C-CARTS does not have enough drivers to facilitate the times that people want to travel. With the fixed route that C-CARTS services in Rantoul, there are four different routes and they run from approximately 5-8 a.m. in the morning. If someone wants to go somewhere between those hours, C-CARTS is not available to provide a ride. Service is picked up again at approximately 2:15 p.m. to provide the service in the afternoon until about 6:15 p.m. There are a lot of people that want to go different places between those times. A couple of drivers have been hired, but there are also two drivers on medical leave indefinitely.

Ms. Lee-Clements is in the process of hiring two new drivers, but a lot of C-CARTS time is spent in Rantoul because of those fixed routes. Discussion continued on the requirements and training of drivers. A CDL is not required, they need to have a clean driver record and be at least 21. Drivers are hired part-time and there are no benefits offered. There are four full-time drivers that receive benefits.

Ms. Hundley made a motion to approve the C-CARTS FY23 4th Quarter (April to June) Service Report. Ms. Richey seconded. Upon vote, the motion unanimously carried.

B. Presentation and Approval of C-CARTS FY23 Annual Service Report

Ms. Woods provided highlights of the Annual Service Report:

- There were 2,289 medical trips, up 14 percent since FY22.
- An increase of 59 percent in personal trips.
- An increase of 9 percent in shopping trips.
- The social trips had an increase of 905 percent, mostly from Circle of Friends.



- There were decreases in employment and education trips.
- These are all post-COVID changes.
- The systemwide service characteristics: 7,819 demand response trips, an increase of 29 percent from FY22. 16,187 fixed route trips which was down six percent, a total of 24,006, an increase of two percent, and a decrease in trip denials with 34 percent change.
- The annual demand response characteristics: 4,453 total C-CARTS senior trips, which is 57 percent of the total demand response trips with an increase of 71 percent from FY22. The use of the lift was 67 percent from FY22.

Ms. Morocoima-Black commented that as part of the requirement of the C-CARTS by-laws, the staff would be presenting the Annual Report to the County Board and is seeking approval from the RTAG members.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the C-CARTS FY23 Annual Service Report. Ms. Richey seconded. Upon vote, the motion unanimously carried.

C. Presentation and Approval of Rantoul Service Contract Renewal

Ms. Morocoima-Black commented that the agreement that was included in the packet is not the correct agreement. Ms. Morocoima-Black provided the members with two options: she could go through the changes that were made to the agreement and the group could approve, or if they do not want to approve the contract renewal today, it could be approved at the November 8 meeting. However, to clarify, the current agreement with the Village of Rantoul ends on October 31. The consequence of not approving the agreement is that there would be no service for eight days.

Ms. Morocoima-Black discussed the changes made to the agreement were as follows:

1. Three-year extension (used to be two-year Agreement)
2. Yearly Increases:
 - First Year (FY'24) \$9,991.00 per month 3.00% increase from (FY'23)
 - Second Year (FY'25) \$10,265.75 per month 2.75% from (FY'24)
 - Third Year (FY'26) \$10,522.39 per month 2.50% from (FY'25)

This helps account for a 4% COLA increase we are paying our Operators this year. The slightly reduced increases in the remaining years help some but won't cover the COLA adjustments. We will hope for a reduction in inflation.



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Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the Rantoul Service Contract Renewal as corrected. Ms. Richey seconded. Upon vote, the motion unanimously carried.

D. Approval of 2024 Meeting Calendar

Ms. Hundley made a motion to approve the 2024 Meeting Calendar. Ms. Richey seconded. Upon vote, the motion unanimously carried.

E. Call for RTAG Vice-Chair position nominations

The member who was the Chair is no longer on the committee. Tawanna Nickens, Vice-Chair will now become Chair. Ms. Hundley offered to be the Vice-Chair. Staff will put the approval of the Vice-Chair on the next meeting agenda.

F. Gather meeting topics

It was determined that the November 8 meeting was not necessary and would be canceled. Ms. Wood asked the members to let her know if they have any topics they would like to discuss at future meetings.

VIII. Announcements

A. Vehicle maintenance update and grant updates

Ms. Woods is working on the National Transit database forms and should be finished by the deadline of the 24th. Ms. Lee-Clements commented that we are waiting for four new vehicles and are maintaining the older fleet as much as possible until the new vehicles arrive.

IX. Adjournment

Ms. Hundley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Williams to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

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Champaign County Rural Transit Advisory Group (RTAG)

2024 MEETING SCHEDULE

Unless otherwise indicated

Meetings will be held at **3:00 p.m.**

John Dimit Conference Room, Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana

ANY OTHER CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

Please contact Emma Woods at 217.531.8285 if further information is needed

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Champaign County Area Rural Public Transit System (C-CARTS)
FY2024 Quarter 1 Service Report

The quarterly report reflects the last completed IDOT fiscal quarter, Quarter 4, from July 1st, 2023 to September 30th, 2023.

Grantee: Champaign County
Subcommittee and oversight: Rural Transit Advisory Group (RTAG) and Champaign County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC)
Operator: Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD)

Trip type indicates the purpose of each trip. Note: a trip is classified by the purpose of the activity that preceded it. For example, if a rider takes the bus to a doctor’s appointment and then walks to a grocery store before boarding the bus again to return home, the first trip is classified as *medical*, and the return trip is classified as *shopping*.

Trips are one-way rides, counted each time an individual rider enters a vehicle. For example, a round trip counts as two trips.

Days are the number of business days (normally M-F, except on Federal holidays and closures due to inclement weather) operated during the quarter.

Average trips refers to the total number trips in the quarter divided by total number of operating days.

Lift refers to trips requiring ADA Lift equipment.

60+ refers to trips provided to older adults 60 years of age or older.

Denials are counted when a rider requests a trip that could not be accommodated.

Service miles are miles driven while riders are on the vehicle (excludes miles driven to and from the MTD garage).

Service hours are hours driven while riders are on the vehicle (excludes time spent driving to and from the MTD garage).

Note on fare structure: 5311 trips that begin or end in the rural general public service area cost \$6 each way. Riders aged 60 years and older are eligible for a \$2 one-way fare. Personal care assistants ride for free, and children aged 12 and under rider for \$1 each way. Trips that begin and end in Rantoul are \$2 each way, regardless of the rider’s age.

Demand Response Service Characteristics

	Trip Type						Days	Daily Average	Lift	60+	Denials
	Medical	Personal	Shopping	Social	Employment	Education					
July	160	112	82	166	174	15	21	34	116	419	60
August	166	103	97	193	205	33	23	35	157	459	109

September	189	93	85	163	177	44	21	36	145	411	83
Total	515	308	264	522	556	92	65	35	418	1289	252

Systemwide Service Characteristics

	DR Trips	FR Trips	Total Trips	Service Miles	Service Hours
July	709	1218	1927	19,494	1181.25
August	797	1503	2300	23,170	1140.25
September	751	1238	1793	22,287	1251.75
Total	2257	3959	6020	64951	3573.25

Note: DR = Demand Response | FR = Fixed Route

Grant Funding

	Project Income	Service Contract	Total Revenue	Expended Federal	Remaining Federal	Expended State	Remaining State	Total Expended	Total Remaining
Q1	11,094	29,100	40,194	238,238	67,062	4,457	780,229	242,695	847,291
Q2									
Q3									
Q4									

Note: Figures in this table are rounded to the nearest dollar amount.

C-CARTS Registered Riders

	Population (2010 Census)	Community	July New Riders	August New Riders	September New Riders	Total Served	% Population Served
DRZ1	22,171	Dewey		1		1	10.5%
		Fisher		1		1	
		Foosland					
		Gifford					
		Ludlow					
		Penfield		1		1	

	Population (2010 Census)	Community	July New Riders	August New Riders	September New Riders	Total Served	% Population Served
		Rantoul	14	19	12	45	
		Thomasboro					
DRZ2	17,317	Allerton					0.7%
		Broadlands					
		Homer		1		1	
		Longview					
		Ogden					
		Philo					
		Royal					
		Saint Joseph			2	2	
		Sidney					
DRZ3	12,317	Ivesdale					
		Pesotum					
		Sadorus					
		Tolono			1	1	
DRZ4	20,327	Mahomet			1	1	0.7%
		Seymour					
		Bondville					
MTD District	128,949	Champaign	2			2	0.6%
		Savoy					
		Urbana		3	1	4	
Outside County							
FY24 Q1 New Riders:							



Illinois Department of Transportation

Office of the Secretary
2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764
Telephone 217/782-6149

January 23, 2024

Champaign County
Ms. Emma Woods
1776 E. Washington Street
Urbana, Illinois, 61802

Dear Ms. Woods:

Congratulations on your successful submission for Consolidated Vehicle Procurement (CVP) funding, resulting in the award of three (3) vehicles for Champaign County.

Through the CVP program, the state provides accessible vehicles to support general public transportation as well as specialized transportation services for seniors and individuals with disabilities. As a recipient, Champaign County is an important piece of the transportation network supporting mobility, connection, and opportunity for Illinoisans.

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is most appreciative of the dedication and effort our transit partners have shown to maintain continuous service in the face of unprecedented challenges over the past few years. When supply chain issues and inflation sparked national vehicle replacement delays, agencies throughout Illinois worked diligently to extend the life of the vehicles already in their fleet. With this announcement of \$42,242,000 in CVP awards, IDOT is proud to offer our support for the important work you and your agency do every day for the people of Illinois.

The details of your agency's award are attached.

Please contact Zoe Keller, CVP Section Chief, at zoe.keller@illinois.gov with questions or for further information. And again, Congratulations!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Osman, Omer".

Omer M. Osman, P.E.
Secretary

Bcc: OIPI Director and Transit Staff

CY2022 CVP Application Determination for Champaign County

The table below represents your agency's entire CY2022 application request accompanied by the decision for each vehicle and the estimated cost of each awarded unit. Actual acquisition cost, funding program, grant numbers, and contract information will be included in the CVP grant agreement(s) which will be sent to your agency for execution closer to the time of delivery.

Vehicle Priority	Type Requested	Reason Requested	Type Replacing	Year Replacing	Mileage Replacing	VIN Replacing	Awarded?	Estimated Value
1	MDL	Replacement	MDL	2016	192,029	1FDFE4FSXGDC04251	Yes	\$ 120,000
2	MDL	Replacement	MDL	2016	192,456	1FDFE4FS1GDC04252	Yes	\$ 120,000
3	MDL	Replacement	MDL	2016	190,220	1FDFE4FS8GDC04202	Yes	\$ 120,000
4	MDL	Replacement	MDL	2017	115,302	1FDFE4FS2HDC70973	No	n/a

Explanation of Denial(s)

Vehicle Priority	Reason for Denial
4	1FDFE4FS2HDC70973 did not meet Criteria 1 or Criteria 2 for replacement at the time of application.

Estimated Delivery Timeline

In the past, production and delivery timelines were relatively predictable and were included in the award notice. Due to the current state of vehicle production, IDOT will instead share initial timeframes for each vehicle type once we receive that information from the vendors, and periodic updates will be sent to all recipients throughout the build.

Affiliation: _____

Specialty Unit: _____

Date: _____

Interviewer: _____

Interview Language: English Spanish

Patient Transportation Survey

Part I. Socio-demographic attributes

1. Specify your **age** group:
 Less than 18 years 18-24 years 25-34 years 35-44 years 45-54 years
 55-64 years 65 years or older
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other Prefer not to answer
3. **Marital status:** Single Married Divorced Separated Widowed Cohabiting
4. What is your current **address (Please write your zip code)**? _____
5. **Employment status:** Full-time Part-time Retired Unemployed Unable to work (on disability)
6. What best describes your **race**:
 Asian Black or African American
 Hispanic or Latino Native American or Alaskan Native
 White or Caucasian Multiracial or Biracial
 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 Prefer not to answer Other: _____
7. Specify your highest degree or **level of education**:
 High-school diploma or less Some college or bachelor's Graduate degree or more
8. Household Annual **Income:** less than \$10,000 \$ 10,000 - \$24,999 \$25,000 - \$49,999
 \$50,000 - \$74,999 75,000 - \$150,000 Above \$150,000
9. Is there a **family member who takes care of you** at home and assists with your daily tasks?
 Yes No
10. Have you typically **come to the hospital with a companion**? Yes No
11. Do **you** hold a **valid driver's license**? Yes No
12. Are you **physically able to drive**? Yes No
13. **Number** of household members with **driver's license (including yourself)**? # _____
14. **How many vehicles** are available for use in your household? _____ #Vehicles

Part II. Health condition

15. Do you have **health insurance**? If so, what type?
 Medicare Medicaid Employer-sponsored Military Obamacare None Others _____
16. Do you **have disability**? Yes No, If yes, please specify the **assistive devices** you use.
 Cane Wheelchair Motorized Wheelchair Motorized Scooter Crutches
 Dog Assistance Walker White Cane Hearing Aids Others _____
17. **How often** typically do you **visit the Doctors office**?
 Frequently (twice per week, weekly, or biweekly) Moderately (monthly or bimonthly)
 Occasionally (seasonal) Rarely (half-yearly or yearly) No fixed time
18. Do you have an illness that requires regular **follow-up**? Yes No
If yes, how often do you need to have follow-ups?
 Daily Weekly Biweekly (Every two weeks) Monthly Quarterly (Every three months)
 Semi-annually (Every six months) Annually (Every year) As needed based on symptoms
19. Have you ever **skip your medical trip**, In the last 6 months, because of transportation issues?
 Always Frequently Occasionally Rarely Never
20. How often did transportation issues cause you to **arrive late** in the last 6 months?
 Always Frequently Occasionally Rarely Never

Part III. Transportation Attributes

21. Do you typically **use a transportation service** for your medical trips? Yes No
If yes, please specify? ? _____
22. Does your **insurance cover transportation cost**, and if so, to what extent does it provide coverage?
Fully coverage (100%) Extensive coverage (76-99%) Significant coverage (51-75%)
Moderate coverage (26-50%) Limited coverage (1-25%) No coverage (0%)
I don't have insurance.
23. **How long** does it typically take you to get to the Hospital from home? _____hours
24. **How much** does transportation **cost** to get to the hospital (excluding private car)? \$ _____
25. **How** do you typically **get to the hospital**?
 Car (driven by yourself) Car (driven by a family member or friend) Pace Paratransit
 Taxi/Uber foot bike CTA bus/train, how many buses/trains do you use? _____
Hospital or VA provided transportation service, what is the typical wait time? _____
 Other, please specify: _____
26. **How** do you typically **get home**?
 Car (driven by yourself) Car (driven by a family member or friend) Pace Paratransit
 Taxi/Uber foot bike CTA bus/train, how many buses/trains do you use? _____
 Hospital or VA provided transportation service, what is the typical wait time? _____
Other, please specify: _____
27. What is the **main reason for you to use** what you use to travel between home and hospital?
I have no other choice It is the most convenient for me It is the cheapest.
It is the fastest Other, please specify: _____
28. Are you **satisfied** with your transportation **between home and hospital**?
 Highly Satisfied Satisfied Neutral Dissatisfied Highly dissatisfied
29. If you are not satisfied, what are **the reasons for your dissatisfaction** with your transportation?
(Check all that applies).
Too long a journey Service unreliable Infrequent service Long waiting time
No direct ride Too expensive Safety concern Driver training issue
Overcrowding on public transit Lack of adequate transit for patient close to residential area
 I need special accommodation for transportation, please specify: _____
 Other, please specify: _____
30. In your opinion, what are the **most critical challenges** faced by transportation services when it comes to transporting patients?

31. What **suggestions** do you have to make transportation to hospitals for non-emergency reasons more convenient for patients?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Your responses are invaluable in helping us understand the challenges and issues related to the transporting of people accessing medical care. Your input will contribute to potential improvements in transportation services in the future