



**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**Monday, December 13, 2010**

**1:00 p.m.**

**MPC Arthur A. Mendonsa Hearing Room**

**112 E. State St.**

<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
<b>James Aberson</b>	<b>Chatham County</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Kim Anderson</b>	<b>CAT – Teleride (Veolia)</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Teresa Brenner</b>	<b>Interested Citizen</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>William K. Broker</b>	<b>Georgia Legal Service</b>	
<b>Wayne Dawson</b>	<b>Savannah-Chatham County Fair Housing Council</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Jan Elders</b>	<b>Savannah-Chatham Council on Disability Issues</b>	
<b>Jeff Felser</b>	<b>City of Savannah</b>	
<b>Yolonda Fontaine</b>	<b>Housing Authority of Savannah</b>	
<b>William Gardner</b>	<b>National Federation of the Blind</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Bob Habas</b>	<b>Living Independence for Everyone Inc. (LIFE)</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Timamu Hakim</b>	<b>Chatham Area Transit Authority</b>	
<b>Zoe Hardenbrook</b>	<b>GDOT District 5</b>	
<b>Kim Harrison</b>	<b>Savannah Council of the Blind</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Pat Heagarty</b>	<b>Interested Citizen</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Carol Hunt</b>	<b>NAACP-Savannah Branch</b>	
<b>Hunter Hurst</b>	<b>Georgia Infirmary Day Center For Rehabilitation</b>	
<b>McArthur Jarrett</b>	<b>Interested Citizen</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Robert Kozlowski</b>	<b>Kicklighter Resource Center</b>	
<b>Tom Lamar</b>	<b>Interested Citizen</b>	
<b>Jane Love</b>	<b>Metropolitan Planning Commission</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Patti Lyons</b>	<b>Senior Citizens Savannah -Chatham Inc.</b>	

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<b>Laurie Monroe</b>	<b>Economic Opportunity Authority</b>	
<b>Bill Oakley</b>	<b>Goodwill Industries</b>	
<b>Greg Schroeder</b>	<b>United Way of the Coastal Empire</b>	
<b>Clealice Timmons</b>	<b>Coastal Ctr for Develop't Services</b>	
<b>Terri White</b>	<b>Savannah Assn for the Blind</b>	<b>x</b>
<b><u>Voting Alternates</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
<b>Enoch Dumas</b>	<b>CAT (Veolia)</b>	<b>x</b>
<b><u>Others Present</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
<b>Jessica Hagan</b>	<b>MPO staff</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Tyrone Palmer</b>	<b>National Federation of the Blind</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Barbara Setzto</b>	<b>for the MPO</b>	<b>x</b>

## **Call to Order**

Mr. McArthur Jarrett called the meeting to order.

### **I. Approval of Agenda**

It was moved and seconded to accept the agenda as presented.

**ACAT Action: the motion to accept the agenda as presented carried with none opposed.**

### **II. Action Items**

#### **A. Approval of the October 25, 2010 ACAT meeting minutes**

Following the reading of the minutes it was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2010 ACAT meeting. Ms. Teresa Brenner requested that the minutes be corrected to include CAT/Teleride's agreement to hold a public hearing on the changes to the Teleride handbook.

**ACAT Action: the motion to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2010 ACAT meeting, as corrected, carried with none opposed.**

## **B. Review of revisions to the Teleride User Guide**

Ms. Jane Love reviewed changes that CAT had made to the Teleride User Guide. These were noted in the staff report sent to committee members. Changes to the Guide are:

- Teleride service description – the service is now curb-to-curb unless a user requests additional assistance when making the reservation.
- Groups allowed to use Teleride – Ms. Love read directly from the new Guide which states, “Teleride (paratransit) service is available to the following groups: 1. Persons who, due to their functional disability, are unable to board, ride or deboard from a fixed-route vehicle, regardless of ability to get to a bus stop or availability of accessible vehicles; 2. Persons who, due to their functional disability, need an accessible, local fixed-route vehicle and one is not available; 3. Persons who, due to their functional disability, cannot travel to a bus stop to board the fixed-route bus or cannot travel to their final destination after deboarding from the fixed-route vehicle.”
- Areas served by Teleride – this has been changed back to the entire county to be in line with the CAT Board decision of May 8, 2009.
- Reservation window – MPO staff noted to CAT and Teleride that the change that CAT made, “no less than 24 hours prior” should be changed back to “the day prior” in order to be in compliance with ADA regulations.
- Service priority – expanded the first come, first served basis with the phrase “except as outlined in the ADA Rules & Regulations

- Late trip cancellation – removed any reference to a monetary penalty.
- No-shows – no apparent change from the old Guide to this new one.
- Seat belt usage – changed it from mandatory to “strongly recommended”.

Members of ACAT took exception to CAT claiming to the CAT Board that ACAT had approved these changes. ACAT members were expecting a public meeting before these changes would be approved and implemented. There was a difference of opinion as to whether public meetings were promised or are necessary. Ms. Kim Anderson reported that a public notice was issued regarding the availability of the new User Guide at the CAT central office. Committee members noted that public announcements should be in prominent places, such as the Savannah Morning News, and well in advance so that schedules can be worked out.

Mr. Tom Thomson spoke about ACAT’s position in relation to the CAT Board. ACAT approval is not required for the CAT Board to take action on this or any issue. Mr. Thomson questioned whether CAT had an adopted written process for making policy or service changes, and does that process conform to FTA standards. Mr. Thomson suggested that CAT make it part of their policy to present changes of this sort to ACAT, as they are a part of the CORE MPO, and gather comments and an endorsement from ACAT (and the CORE MPO), though ACAT’s endorsement to CAT is not necessary.

Mr. Wayne Dawson moved that a letter be drafted by MPO staff and signed by the chair of ACAT addressed to the Chairman of the County Commission (with a copy to Kevin MacDonald at CAT) calling for a public forum on these changes and asking that they not be implemented until such a public forum has occurred. Mr. James Aberson seconded the motion.

Discussion followed. Mr. Enoch Dumas said CAT is aware that ADA guidelines must be met and that any changes made to comply with ADA guidelines are not negotiable.

Ms. Pat Heagarty asked if everyone needed to be re-certified. Ms. Anderson responded that only those who had been in-active participants for 6 months or more would need to resubmit an application. She also confirmed that a service provider may complete Part B on behalf of the applicant.

Committee members repeated their request that CAT issue public notices in major publications, particularly Savannah Morning News and that enough notice be given so the public can arrange to attend the public meeting.

**ACAT Action: The motion that a letter be drafted by MPO staff, and signed by the chair of ACAT, to the Chairman of the County Commission (with a copy to Kevin MacDonald at CAT) calling for a public forum on these changes and asking that they not be implemented until such a public forum has occurred carried with none opposed.**

### **Status Reports**

No status reports at this time.

### **Agency Reports**

#### **A. Teleride**

Ms. Kim Anderson distributed her statistical report for the past four months of Teleride service. For the four-month period of August through November, reservations were at a high in September at 7,954 and actual rides were also at a high in September at 6,275. Ms. Anderson also recited the figures for on-time trips, late trips, cancellations, no-shows, and missed trips.

Ms. Heagarty asked when a confirmed pick-up time would be fixed at the time of appointment and the night-before calls stopped. Mr. Dumas stated that this was part of the package of changes to the user guide and will go into effect when all the changes go into effect. Mr. Aberson pointed out that this particular change has no direct impact on the riders and could be implemented immediately, if CAT so desired.

## **B. Chatham Area Transit**

Mr. Timamu Hakim was not present, but he sent a written statistical report for the fixed-route service which Ms. Love briefly reviewed for the committee.

## **V. Other Business**

There was no other business at this time.

## **VI. Public Participation Opportunities**

No public comments at this time.

## **VII. Announcements**

Ms. Love will confirm the date for the February 2011 ACAT meeting and notify the members.

## **VIII. Other Non-agenda Information for Reference**

No items.

## **IX. Adjournment**

There being no other business to come before the Committee, the December 13, 2010 committee meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Love  
Transportation Planner