

Local Demand Team - Final Report

1. Team makeup:

As one of the Rider Demand Assessment Teams (vs. Supplier Team) for the Yellowstone –Teton Regional Transportation Cooperative and to distinguish our focus from the Recreation and Tourism Demand Team, the Human Services and Commuter/Education/Industry Assessment teams were combined to be the “Local Demand Team”.

Their charge was to look at year-round demand and use of a Transportation Cooperative by local users for the feasibility study. Members were from all three states involved covering numerous local perspectives on travel and needs in the area.

Participants included:

- Tim Solomon, Regional Development Alliance, Idaho Falls, ID.
- Ken Bullock, Partners for Prosperity, Blackfoot, ID.
- Pierre Martineau, Mayor, West Yellowstone, MT.
- Matt Queen, Area 6 Agency on Aging, Idaho Falls, ID.
- Denise Myler, IMAP Dist 6 Coordinator, Ammon, ID.
- Tom Lealos, Low Vision Support Group, Powell, WY.
- Burke Webster, Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center, Idaho Falls, ID.
- Gay McDonald, Rural Transportation Voucher Manager, Wyoming Services for Independent Living, Lander, WY.
- Bob Cunningham, Transportation Mobility Coordinator, Wyoming Services for Independent Living,
- Deborah Swingley, MT Council on Developmental Disabilities, Helena, MT.
- Kyle Babbitt, Team Facilitator, Kyle Babbitt Consulting, Island Park, ID.

2. The team met 8 times since the July Roundtable: On August 6th in Idaho Falls; August 26th; September 9th; September 23rd; September 30th; October 6th; and November 3rd. They also continued work at the Roundtable on October 22nd in Cody.

3. The team looked at ways to collect data needed to determine demand and economic impact:

– Demand Model:

- a. Started with categories listed in “Workbook for Estimating Demand for Rural Transportation”.
- b. Much of this data is available through state social programs.
- c. Added groups/ audiences specific to this area to be more accurate.

– Economic Impact Analysis:

- d. IMPLAN DATA SETS – 2008 data became available at the beginning of November.
 - e. Idaho data sets were purchased and analyzed. Wyoming and Montana data would still need to be acquired to complete the area.
4. The member comments were compiled by topic to focus on the local perspective. The sheets were reviewed and revised between meetings by email. Final comment sheets were submitted for the Feasibility Study and put on the YBP website.
- a. The team determined that the Objectives for the Transportation Cooperative should be:
 - 1) To develop a more transit friendly system between the surrounding states.
 - 2) To have a more unified format to give consumers so that they are educated as to what is available and are able to utilize this transportation system.
 - 3) To develop new and functional networks to help with the growing needs of transportation.
 - 4) To have all providers in the system required to follow the transportation regulations in the Americans with Disabilities Act.
 - 5) To have trained providers who are educated and equipped to handle riders with accessibility needs.
 - 6) To have a thriving seamless transportation system with a coordinated effort.
 - b. Demand Model categories.
 - c. Trip Planning/ Ticketing System (ITS).
 - d. Needed routes/ connections.
 - e. Board Composition.
5. The team thought that the benefits of a transportation cooperative for the local user would include:
- a. More mobility for all within our area.
 - b. More accessibility for potential users.
 - c. Increased workforce potential.
 - d. New business opportunities for all sizes of providers to fill gaps and become new members.
 - e. Increased quality of life for residents and visitors in the Greater Yellowstone Area.
6. The members reviewed draft sections of the Feasibility Study that were available which pertained to the Local Demand Team.
7. This Final Report was completed as the final submission of the team's activities during this phase of the project.