Champaign-Urbana Urbanized Area Human Resources Transportation Plan and Champaign-Urbana Age-Friendly Transportation Working Group

Notes from October 2, 2019 Meeting

Attendees: Amy Brown, Evan Alvarez, Jonathan Woods, Nicole Dowling, Mervet Adams, Kristen Gisondi, Rita Morocoima-Black, Debbie Peterik

A. Discussion of Transportation Initiatives

Since there had not been a meeting since April, Ms. Gisondi discussed the context for the working group:

- The University runs the Age Friendly Champaign-Urbana group. There is a transportation sub-committee that aligns with the Urbanized Area HSTP.
- All the goals that were made for both plans were developed through meeting with each community partner through surveys and some of the unmet needs that were determined by these individuals.
- Goals that were set for year which started in April of this year. Goals from now until April of 2020:
  - Develop and send out surveys
  - Update the transportation directory bi-annually
  - Conduct travel trainings as needed
  - Conduct regional driver trainings each year
  - Apply for One-Call One-Click Center funding
  - Solidify a scope for a passenger assistance or Bus Buddy program
- Ms. Gisondi presented details of the goals and the progress of the three-year plan to the working group.

Mr. Alvarez commented that MTD met with CU-Fair last week because at Unit 4; their English Learner Coordinator is organizing life skill classes. They thought about doing something with non-English speakers as part of travel training. Is that something that scope-wise is similar to this? There would be unique challenges. Ms. Morocoima-Black commented that this is not in place, at least for that, we can do some trainings already in Spanish.

Ms. Brown commented that the Champaign Community on Aging Group would be open arms about working with the group on travel training. The group meets on the third Tuesday at 11:30.

B. Discussion of Local Transportation Coordination Issues

Ms. Dowling commented on the seniors in Rantoul that would like to get to Champaign. They don’t want to use C-CARTS, they are looking for more of a personal touch. Using C-CARTS is not in their comfort zone.

Mr. Woods commented there are people in the Garden Hills area looking for after-hours transportation when there are events in Unit 4 and work Carle is doing. There is more
emphasis on having events at the schools, but the program doesn’t work if people can’t get home.
Mr. Alvarez commented that there is a large comprehensive system analysis being completed for MTD, looking at the route structure and timing. There is a survey being done to collect feedback as they design the new system. He will send out the link to the survey.
C. Discussion of 2020 Schedule
Ms. Gisondi proposed that the group meeting quarterly and presented the 2020 schedule, with the group meeting the first Wednesday of the month unless otherwise indicated. The group decided to meet at 3:00 p.m.

The next meeting is January 8, 2020

Adjourned 3:30 p.m.