

Meeting Date: July 21, 2016 1:30 – 5:00 pm

Meeting Attendees:

Department of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration

- **Greg Danis**, Equal Opportunity Specialist
- **Carolyn Flowers**, Acting Administrator
- **Betty Jackson**, Research, Demonstration, and Innovation Staff
- **Jamie Pfister**, Deputy Associate Administrator for Research, Demonstration, and Innovation
- **Bruce Robinson**, Acting Associate Administrator for Program Management
- **Marianne Stock**, Director of the Office of Transit Programs

Office of the Secretary of Transportation

- **Bryna Helfer**, Director of Public Engagement

Department of Health and Human Services

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

- **Carol Jimenez**, Deputy Director of the Office of Minority Health
- **Nancy Lee**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health
- **Jewel Mullen**, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health
- **Thomas Novotny**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health
- **Mary Worstell**, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Health

Administration for Community Living

- **Katherine Cargill-Willis**, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Program Analyst
- **Lori Gerhard**, Director of the Office of Consumer Access & Self-Determination
- **Jesse Moore**, Aging Services Program Specialist
- **Phantane Sprowls**, Grants Manager

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

- **Sheri Gaskins**, Technical Director of the Division of Benefits and Coverage
- **Michael Nardone**, Director of the Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group
- **Mike Smith**, Director of the Division of Community Systems Transformation

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

- **Eric Weakly**, Chief of the Division of State and Community Systems Development

Health Resources Services Administration

- **Diana Espinosa**, Deputy Administrator
- **Suma Nair**, Director of the Office of Quality Improvement

Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Transportation Program

- **Paul Perry**, Deputy Director of the Veterans Transportation Program

Department of Education

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

- **Marlene Simon-Burroughs**, Associate Division Director

Department of Agriculture

Food and Nutrition Service

- **Tony Craddock, Jr.**, Federal Partnerships Portfolio Manager
- **Yvette Jackson**, Associate Administrator for Regional Operations and Support

Department of Labor

Office of Disability Employment Policy

- **Nadia Ibrahim**, Public Health Analyst
- **Mike Reardon**, Supervisory Policy Advisor for Employment-Related Support Policy

Coordinating Council for Access and Mobility: Planning Meeting for Joint Action to Address FAST Act Requirements

Meeting Purpose:

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act requires that the Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM) develop and publish a Strategic Plan outlining their approach to strengthen interagency collaboration, address outstanding recommendations, and eliminate burdensome regulatory barriers. The CCAM convened on July 21, 2016 to:

1. Determine the initiatives that will be included in the Strategic Plan
2. Develop an implementation plan for the agreed-upon initiatives

Agenda:

1. **Welcome and Introductions: Carolyn Flowers, Acting Administrator of the Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation; Jewel Mullen, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health, Department of Health and Human Services**
 - a. Since its inception, the CCAM has worked to build ladders of opportunity across America by improving the availability, quality, and efficiency of transportation services for transportation-disadvantaged populations.
 - b. CCAM member agencies have worked together on the United We Ride initiative for over 10 years and have implemented many cross-agency transportation initiatives including, but not limited to:
 - i. **The Mobility Services for All Americans (MSAA) Initiative:** Initiative launched by the DOT Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office to improve transportation services through Intelligent Transportation Systems technology.
 - ii. **The Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative:** Collaborative effort among CCAM member agencies to increase collaboration among federal, state, and local agencies and organizations to address the mobility challenges faced by veterans and their families.
 - iii. **The Rides to Wellness Initiative:** Initiative developed by the DOT in coordination with its CCAM partners that increases access to healthcare, improves health outcomes, and reduces healthcare costs through inter-agency collaboration.
 - iv. **The National Center for Mobility Management:** Initiative developed by the DOT and its CCAM partners to help communities adopt transportation strategies and mobility options that empower people to live independently and advance health, economic vitality, self-sufficiency and community.
 - c. In the future, the CCAM will continue to improve the coordination of transportation services and connect people with limited transportation options to essential services.
2. **Outline of CCAM Requirements per the FAST Act: Bruce Robinson, Acting Associate Administrator of the Office of Program Management at the Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation**
 - a. The FAST Act requires the Council to publish a strategic plan within one year that:
 - i. Outlines the roles and responsibilities of each Federal agency
 - ii. Identifies a strategy to strengthen interagency collaboration
 - iii. Addresses any outstanding recommendations made by the Council in the 2005 Report to the President, including:
 1. A cost-sharing policy endorsed by the Council
 2. Recommendations to increase participation by recipients of Federal grants in locally developed, coordinated planning processes
 - iv. Works toward eliminating Federal barriers to local transportation coordination
 - v. Recommends to Congress changes to Federal laws that will eliminate Federal barriers to local transportation coordination
3. **Voices of CCAM Partners Panel**
 - a. **Lori Gerhard: Director of the Office of Consumer Access and Self Determination at the Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services**

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- i. **Past CCAM Collaboration:**
 1. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) has partnered with the Federal Transit Administration to enhance the coordination of Federal resources for human services transportation as part of its broader mission to maximize health, well-being, and independence for people with disabilities and older adults.
 2. The ACL has been an active partner in United We Ride since its inception.
- ii. **CCAM Future Vision:**
 1. Focus on the consumer experience
 2. Continue to improve the way that we engage with our consumers
 3. Leverage the network of local transportation providers
 4. Embrace a “no wrong door” policy wherein community members are connected to the transportation they need regardless of how or where they enter the system
 5. Improve non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) to reduce unneeded admissions to emergency rooms
 6. Increase the flexibility of federal funding, allowing the consumer to determine the allocation that best meets their needs
- b. **Yvette Jackson: Associate Administrator for Regional Operations and Support at the Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture**
 - i. **Past CCAM Collaboration:**
 1. The Food and Nutrition Service administers the Summer Food Service Program, which provides summer meals to children from low-income families.
 2. The National Center for Mobility Management provides technical assistance to Summer Food Service Program grantees to ensure that children have access to the program’s summer meal sites.
 - ii. **CCAM Future Vision:**
 1. Interact at the state and local level
 2. Improve access to nutritious food, particularly in rural areas
 3. Break down the barriers that silo federal resources (funding, vehicles, etc.)
 4. Gather information on transportation coordination best practices and share at the local and state level
- c. **Mike Nardone: Director of the Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group within the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services, Department of Health and Human Services**
 - i. **Past CCAM Collaboration:**
 1. The Federal Medicaid program requires States to ensure eligible, qualified Medicaid beneficiaries can get to and from providers. However, every State's Medicaid program is different.
 2. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services issued various guidance documents outlining Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation benefits and the principles applicable to that coverage.
 - ii. **CCAM Future Vision:**
 1. Improve access to healthcare, particularly in rural areas
 2. Encourage coordination efforts with states and local partners
 3. Assist in highlighting Medicaid regulation flexibility in delivering non-emergency medical transportation
 4. Assess the need for a refresh in medical transportation guidance
- d. **Paul Perry: Deputy Director of the Veterans Transportation Program in the Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs**
 - i. **Past CCAM Collaboration:**

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1. The Veterans Health Administration has participated in the United We Ride and Rides to Wellness Initiatives since inception.
2. The Veterans Health Administration manages the Veterans Transportation Program and the Veterans Transportation Service, which offer transportation services for veterans traveling to and from VA health care facilities.
3. The VA participated in the Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative, which awarded \$64 million in competitive grants to help veterans connect to jobs and service in their communities.

ii. **Future CCAM Vision**

1. Incorporate disruptive technologies into transportation services
2. Adopt value-based metrics to evaluate program outcomes
3. Leverage existing state and local programs rather than creating new duplicative programs
4. Coordinate healthcare and transportation planning
5. Develop mobility management certification programs

4. **Emergent Themes**

- a. The Council identified the following themes to be considered in the CCAM Strategic Plan:

i. **Access to Services**

1. Improve access to jobs
2. Improve access to healthy food
3. Improve access to medical care
4. Improve transportation in rural communities
 - a. Partner with USDA Rural Development
5. Consider seasonal transportation challenges and opportunities
6. Provide comprehensive access rather than focusing on single destinations

ii. **Information Sharing**

1. Educate state and local partners on best practices and available resources
2. Share information across federal departments
3. Use aging and disability resource centers to share information with the public
4. Develop and leverage a nation-wide network of transportation resource centers to share information
5. Develop and share case studies highlighting federal/community partnerships

iii. **Collaboration**

1. Share vehicles and other resources across programs
2. Build and leverage a network of mobility providers
3. Recycle transit vehicles
4. Coordinate transportation planning
 - a. Integrate transportation planning into healthcare planning
5. Clarify the roles and responsibilities of Federal agencies with respect to transportation coordination
6. Coordinate non-emergency medical transportation programs across Federal agencies
7. Coordinate with existing state and local programs
8. Understand each agency's transportation needs

iv. **Cost-Sharing**

1. Develop a cost-sharing policy
2. Improve the availability of resources
3. Create flexible spending accounts
4. Leverage unused funding

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5. Reevaluate funding requirements to break down barriers to resource sharing

v. **Innovation and Technology**

1. Harness the power of innovation and creativity
2. Utilize emerging and disruptive technologies in transportation services
3. Incorporate on-demand transportation technologies

vi. **Person-Centered Transportation Services**

1. Allow for trips with multiple stops, purposes, and riders
2. Develop creative access services and programs that are not “one size fits all”
3. Include the consumer in transportation decisions
4. Continue to support and advocate for mobility management
 - a. Develop training for mobility managers
5. Consider specific targeted populations such as women and families, the disabled, rural communities, low income families, etc.

vii. **Changes to Federal Laws and Regulations**

1. Eliminate unnecessary eligibility and funding restrictions and simplify eligibility requirements
2. Consider the unintended consequences of well-intentioned policies and regulations
3. Simplify documentation requirements
4. Streamline federal programs and requirements to eliminate duplicative programs and restrictive requirements

viii. **Program Evaluation**

1. Use value-based metrics to evaluate programs

5. Prioritized Strategic Initiatives

- a. **First Level Priority:** Access to Services Work Group
- b. **Second Level Priority:** Federal Laws and Regulations Work Group
- c. **Third Level Priority:** Innovation and Technology Work Group
- d. Themes that will run through the above work groups:
 - i. Person-Centered Service
 - ii. Collaboration and Coordination

6. Next Steps

- a. CCAM to meet prior to January
- b. CCAM to establish regular quarterly council meetings
- c. DOT to reach out to CCAM partners not in attendance to brief them on meeting outcomes and identify representatives for future CCAM meetings
- d. DOT to develop draft CCAM Strategic Plan
- e. DOT to organize agreed-upon CCAM Working Groups