

Meeting Minutes  
11/17/22

- Approval of Meeting Minutes from 10/13/22 Council meeting
  - Ariel Thelander (*Chemistry & Biochemistry, D & I Chair*) made motion to approve
  - Kobby Van Dyck (*Biophysics, Academic Affairs Chair*) seconded the motion
- We had both major and minor quorum at this meeting
- Guest speaker, Dr. John Lubker, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs
  - Spoke about Grad 21
    - Part of the Your Research Matters - You Matter initiative
    - Designed to provide food assistance at no cost to graduate students & their families
      - For those who struggle obtaining regular, healthy meals
      - Or any short-term disruption in finances
    - Program is a partnership between UND Graduate School & [Cultivate Food Rescue](#)
      - A local South Bend organization whose mission is to meet the nutritional needs of the community.
    - Grad21 seeks to ensure grad students in need (& their families) are able to obtain three meals a day, seven days a week.
    - The program provides well-balanced, frozen meals
      - Can be anonymously taken
      - Reheated in any microwave
    - [More Information & FAQs](#)
- Guest speaker, Jeremiah Cox, Transit Planner, Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG)
  - CONNECT is a transit study for the MACOG region & will result in a 10-year plan for the future of transit in the region.
  - Project will focus on the existing Interurban Trolley & Transpo bus networks service areas in St. Joseph & Elkhart counties
  - Project will consider a range of transit service fixed-route options for more rural portions of the region
  - Two goals
    - Ridership Goal
      - Maximum access for the greatest possible number of people
    - Coverage Goal
      - Some service near everyone, a baseline level of access everywhere
  - Both goals matter
    - Ridership Goal
      - Maximum average access to opportunity
      - Lowest subsidy per passenger
      - Support dense and walkable development
      - Emissions reduction

- Reduction in vehicle miles traveled
  - Coverage Goal
    - Some service near every home and job
    - Baseline level of access available everywhere
    - Service to every member city or electoral district
- The tradeoff is unavoidable
  - But you CAN choose a deliberate balance point on the spectrum
    - “Devote \_\_\_% of our resources to the ridership goal and \_\_\_% to the coverage goal”
- Public response to Ridership & Coverage Concepts
  - The public has generally preferred the Coverage Concept for South Bend & Mishawaka
    - 52% prefer or strongly prefer the Coverage Concept
    - 31% strongly preferred the Coverage Concept
- Policy for Short-Term Network
  - Short-Term Network Goals
    - Transpo Board requested a draft network of 60% Ridership & 40% Coverage
      - The Short-Term Plan will be fairly similar to the coverage Network
- Draft Plan to be released December 5, 2022
  - Major website update with Draft Plan materials:
    - [www.connecttransitplan.com](http://www.connecttransitplan.com)
- Engagement Events
  - Virtual Public Meeting: December 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m., via Zoom & live streamed to Facebook
    - Sign up at [www.connecttransitplan.com](http://www.connecttransitplan.com)
  - In-Person Open Houses
    - South Bend: St. Joe library, Downtown Branch, Tuesday, Jan 10, 4-6 p.m.
    - See [website](#) for other dates
- Breakout Sessions
- New Business
  - Stipends were discussed with questions & concerns
    - Mimi Beck (*Director of Grad Life, Advisor to GSG*)
      - Let your Dean or DGS or Department Chair know what you need.
      - We have data on grad students who can't afford to eat
      - Data shows students are struggling
- Announcements
  - [GRAND Leader Applications Due](#) (November 30th deadline)
    - GRAND
      - The Graduate Resilience Alliance at Notre Dame is an initiative that pairs senior graduate students with small groups of first year

graduate students to build community, increase access to information & resources, & nurture resilience.

- Meeting Adjourned at 7:52 p.m.