



CHAPTER I

Introduction

The Cheyenne Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the City of Cheyenne contracted with LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc. to prepare a Comprehensive Five-Year Transit Development Plan (TDP) and Coordination Study for the Cheyenne Transit Program (CTP), specifically focusing on the City of Cheyenne urban area. This Draft Report presents the results of the planning process over the past several months. This document covers the elements of Snapshot, Structure, Shape, and Build based on the Cheyenne Comprehensive Plan. This was done in order to allow the transit plan to integrate with the Cheyenne Comprehensive Plan.



PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The purpose of this report is to analyze and recommend strategies for responding to changes in the community which will affect the delivery of public transportation services over the next few years. The plan describes the existing conditions in the City of Cheyenne related to public transit services, discusses service and other alternatives for meeting transportation needs into the future, identifies the locally preferred set of alternatives, identifies coordination strategies with human service transportation providers, and presents the implementation plan.

As in many regions, CTP is taking a close look at public transit services and is seeking to find the most effective means of providing those services. Public transportation is currently provided by CTP, which is a department of the City of Cheyenne government. The City of Cheyenne continues to grow, with increasing demands on the roadway system and the public transit system. One important step toward providing an integrated community-wide transportation system is involving key players such as the CTP staff, City and County Planning and

Engineering Departments, Housing Authority, college, school districts, human service providers, senior centers, and residents.

REPORT CONTENTS

This report contains four sections corresponding to the four elements of Snapshot, Structure, Shape, and Build. Each section is then broken down into chapters. The first section is Snapshot, which presents the existing community conditions and a review of transit services in the study area.

The second section is Structure, which discusses the public input from the surveys and the goals and objectives developed for the planning process. The third section is Shape, which presents the identified transit needs and alternatives. The last section is Build, which contains the preferred transit service plan and the recommended strategic implementation plans for the transit service now and into the future.



STUDY APPROACH

A key element of the plan is to clearly evaluate the unmet transportation needs of the local residents and businesses. The plan focuses on developing efficient and effective public transit services to meet the community's present and future transportation needs.

Stakeholders Committee

An important step toward providing an integrated community-wide transportation system is involving key players such as the CTP, Cheyenne City Council, Cheyenne Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT), planning staff from the area communities, human service agencies, and residents. Individuals from each key stakeholder group served as members of the Stakeholders Committee for this planning process. The Stakeholders Committee's input has been used in the development of the transit service alternatives. The Stakeholders Committee meetings have been conducted at key points throughout the planning process.

An initial kick-off meeting was held in the City of Cheyenne on July 12, 2007. The meeting was attended by the CTP, Cheyenne MPO, and other local agencies within the study area which have transportation concerns for the community. At this meeting, LSC and the Stakeholders Committee discussed the project goals, priorities, and timeline for completion of the final study. The Stakeholders Committee also discussed the other local stakeholders who would be critical in completing the transit study and who should be included in the meetings.

The second meeting was held in August 2007. The meeting was attended by the CTP, Cheyenne MPO, three human service providers, and one cab company. At this meeting, LSC and the Stakeholders Committee discussed the existing transit services/issues and conducted a work session regarding the possible transit service alternatives. The third meeting was held in October 2007, at which time the LSC team introduced the recommended transit service alternatives.

A steering committee (made up of LSC, CTP, Cheyenne MPO, and public works staff) met in December 2007 and January 2008 to review and refine the transit service recommendations. The recommendations were then introduced to the CTP Board in January 2008. The input from the CTP Board was then used to refine the preferred transit service plan. In February 2008, LSC, CTP, and Cheyenne MPO staff conducted combined stakeholders committee and public meetings to present the results of the preferred transit service plan and obtain input. The input from the February 2008 meeting has been included in this report.

Opportunities for Public Involvement

Public involvement throughout the planning process is key to the plan's success. At critical points during the planning process, public meetings were announced and held where citizen participation was openly welcomed and appreciated. Three public open houses were scheduled for August 2007 through February 2008.



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LSC conducted the first public meeting on August 30, 2007. At this open house, 31 individuals from the public participated. LSC reviewed the planning process and discussed Technical Memorandum #1. The public was allowed to voice their concerns, issues, and needs regarding transit service in the City of Cheyenne. The input from the public meeting is presented in Appendix A.

The second public meeting was held on October 10, 2007. At this open house, 17 individuals from the public participated. LSC reviewed the planning process and discussed Technical Memorandum #2. The public was allowed to voice their concerns, issues, and needs regarding the transit service alternatives and recommendations.

The third public meetings was held on February 5, 2008, At this open house, 23 individuals from the public participated. LSC reviewed the planning process and discussed the preferred transit service alternatives. The public was allowed to voice their concerns, issues, and needs regarding the proposed transit service.

As an element of the public involvement process, LSC also conducted two meetings with the CTP drivers to obtain their input regarding the existing transit services/ issues and the transit service alternatives.