GMT NextGen Public Hearing – Lamoille County

Date: December 6, 2017
Time: 5:00pm – 6:30pm
Place: Copley Hospital, Stevens Conference Room
Staff Present: Chris Loyer, Public Affairs Coordinator
Consulting Staff: Eryn Rosenblum, Planning Associate, Nelson Nygaard

Public Present:
David Yacavone – House of Representatives – Morrisville
Penny Walker-Reem – Central Vermont Council on Aging
Leah Hollenberger – Copley Hospital
Dan Noyes

5:05 Mr. Loyer calls meeting to order

5:07 Roundtable of Introductions

5:11 Ms. Rosenblum begins NextGen Powerpoint presentation

6:07 Ms. Rosenblum completed the NextGen Powerpoint presentation and opened the floor for questions.

6:22 Mr. Loyer closed the meeting

Comments and Questions:

• Would west branch apartments be eliminated?
  o Scenario 1 – Yes to discontinuation of West Branch
  o Scenario 2 & 3 - No West Branch Apartments would continue to be served.

• Ms Hollenberger stated that Stowe family practice reported Westbranch residents are using GMT services to get to medical apts.

• Copley Terrace – survey of residents responded heavily favor bus service
  o Not clear who conducted the survey or if the information was shared with GMT staff

• *Attendees asked to ensure that GMT is listening to the request to continue service to Copley Terrace Apartments.

• According to Mrs. Walker-Reem & Ms Hollenberger Copley Terrace residents cannot make the walk to Washington Highway in inclimate weather.
Will more E&D money be needed if deviated fixed route service were changed to fixed route with a complimentary paratransit service to fill in the gap for non-medical trips?

How much outreach is done to Copley Terrace & Lamoille View?
  - Property managers do ensure residents are aware of services when they are moving into the facilities according to Ms. Hollenberger

Attendees felt the Paratransit question NEEDS to be answered before fixed route vs deviated fixed route determination could be made

Route 108 Mountain Road Shuttle – Added service this year
  - Will Vail open satellite lots in Waterbury to help with demand management in the future as congestion on Mountain Road is at the heart of the issue.

Mr. Noyes stated: “Interesting that GMT is running increased bus service to richest town in the county but not poorest community of Johnson”
  - Mr. Loyer cited local funding and utilization as significant factors in determining service

Mr. Yacovone stated that this Public hearing was “helpful” and other attendees agreed