

Attachment 2

Commission on Disabilities

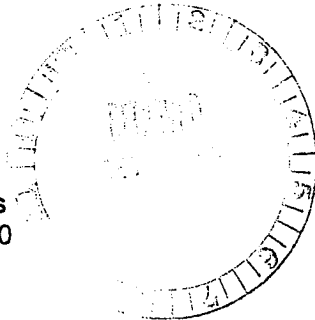


County of
Santa Cruz

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December 8, 2003

Ellen Pirie, Chairperson
County Board of Supervisors
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060



Dear Chairperson Pirie:

On behalf of the Commission on Disabilities, I would like to urge the Board to support the formation of a community-wide summit meeting with the goal of re-visioning local para-transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities in Santa Cruz County. It is our understanding that the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) is currently recommending that all para-transit services be consolidated under the Santa Cruz Metro District. We feel that a decision of this magnitude should be studied with further community input, before any action is taken.

Members of various community organizations, as well as individual community members, have approached the Commission on Disabilities with their concerns regarding the gradual fragmentation of para-transportation services in our County. The system has become what one community member described as "funder friendly and user hostile".

A summit would allow for a community-developed vision to guide the restructuring of our current para-transit system. In addition, a Task Force of stake holder's could assist the SCCRTC in developing a feasible, compassionate, legally and financially-sound system to meet the needs of the maximum number of citizens who need these services to remain active participants in our community.

We thank you in advance for your consideration of this important request and for your continued support of persons with disabilities in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Ferr".

Thomas Ferr, Chair
Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

cc: SCCRTC

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