

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's
Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee
Social Service Transportation Advisory Council
Paratransit Advisory Council Meeting

Draft

MINUTES

Tuesday, January 11, 2005 ~ 1:30 pm
SCCRTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Downtown Santa Cruz

Members Present: Lisa Berkowitz (CTSA – Community Bridges), Michael Bradshaw (Social Service Provider – Disabled), Richard Camperud (Courtesy Cab), Lois Connell (Persons of Limited Means), John Daugherty (Metro), Clay Kempf (Social Service Provider – Seniors), Michael Molesky (County Social Service Provider – Disabled), Robert Pesce (1st District), Bob Yount (MASTF)

Alternates Present: James Monroe (Private Operators)

Others Present: Sharon Barbour (MASTF, Private Operators), Tom Crain (Electric Bike Program), Sam Storey (CTSA – Lift Line)

Staff Present: Karena Pushnik

Excused Absences: Sandra Coley (4th District), Link Spooner (CTSA – Lift Line), Adam Tomaszewski (2nd District)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Michael Molesky called the meeting to order at 1:37 pm.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Karena Pushnik circulated two flyers: one for the American Red Cross Out-of-County Transportation Services and the other for the AARP Driver Safety Program (Attachment 1).

4. Additions and Deletions

There were none.

5. Consent Agenda (Daugherty/Yount - unanimous with discussion noted in italics)

5.1 Approved Minutes of October 12, 2004 E/D TAC meeting

- 5.2 Accepted Transportation Development Act fund projections as of December 2004
- 5.3 Accepted Highlights from October, November and December 2004 RTC meetings
- 5.4 Accepted Final and Draft minutes from the 9/15/04, 10/20, 11/17 and 12/15/04 Paratransit Coordination Task Force meetings
- 5.5 Accepted 2005 Meeting Schedule
Karena Pushnik reviewed the schedule noting that it had changed from meetings on the even months to the odd numbered months.
- 5.6 Accepted Application for E/D TAC membership for Tom Crain (roster also attached)
Karena highlighted the positions open. Tom Crain was nominated as the alternate for 2nd Supervisorial District, unless another position was became vacant. Bob Yount noted that Jeff LeBlanc should be the alternate for MASTF.
- 5.7 Accepted Announcement for March 7 Workshop sponsored by Caltrans titled Coordinating Human Service Transportation: A Mobility Summit
Clay Kempf highlighted this workshop. Karena Pushnik said that she was interested in attending and encouraged others attending from Santa Cruz to carpool.
- 5.8 Accepted Web article regarding 511 services
- 5.9 Accepted San Francisco Chronicle article titled Public Transit Access is ADA Success Story
- 5.10 Accepted RTC Staff Contact information
The contact list was distributed and will be posted on the web site (www.sccrtc.org).
- 5.11 Accepted Agency Updates (other than items on the regular agenda)
 - 5.11.1 Volunteer Center
 - First Quarter FY 04-05 Report
 - 5.11.2 Private Operators
 - 5.11.3 Consolidated Transportation Services Agency
 - 5.11.4 Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District
 - 5.11.5 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
 - Highway 1 Widening Project Alternatives Public Meeting 1/20
Kim Shultz reviewed the purpose of the public meeting and the alternatives to be discussed.
 - Future Revenue Sources

6. Legislative Agenda

Kim Shultz reviewed the Regional Transportation Commission's proposed 2005 state and federal legislative agenda, highlighting items of special interest to the E/D TAC. The bottom line is that funding is especially tight. State Assembly member Laird chairs the Budget Committee which may work to Santa Cruz County's advantage. By consensus, the E/D TAC supported the following:

- Support of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Equity Act if it, in fact, is beneficial for accessible

pedestrian funding

- Replace the word “overmatch” with “current allocation” under state transit issues.
- Add similar language to the federal agenda as shown in the state agenda to provide increased federal funding for the Titles III and VII of the Older Americans Act.
- Require the inclusion of bicycle education (helmet laws, etc.) in health safety courses in high school

In addition, the group requested that more information about accessibility on Greyhound and bicycle licensing/education be brought to a future meeting.

7. Community Bridges Report

Link Spooner was not able to attend, so Sam Storey presented the memo from Community Bridges regarding Transportation Development Act (TDA) funded Taxi Scrip and Medical Voucher programs. The intent of reviewing these two programs is because TDA funds are extremely limited and there is a need to provide services to those most in need.

Concerns were expressed about the benefit of eliminating the waiting list since it shows that there is a need and can be used to justify requests for more funding; raising the threshold age from 60 to 70; how changes affect unmet needs and transitioning services from people currently receiving services; an expiration date of one year.

Other ideas to consider for the programs include: having categories similar to ParaCruz such as transitional, conditional, emergency use, etc.; setting a percentage of rides for those who absolutely have no other ride sources and cycling the others through a revolving waiting list; not using the term ‘ineligible’ but rather ‘inactive’; a way for people to mail in expired coupons for new ones; sell taxi scrip to Yellow Cab for \$20 and let them sell it to qualified customers for \$15; do a major overhaul and recertify everyone on the program (including MSSP) due to abuse; and consider eliminating coupons for the Medical Voucher program.

Community Bridges was requested to provide more information at the next meeting about geographical use both for those purchasing taxi scrip and rides taken using scrip; ideas for tracking mechanisms; proposal for how to keep the lists current; how any of the proposed changes would affect the roster of those eligible; and goals for number of rides to be provided.

This discussion will continue at the next meeting. It is hoped that the summary of the revamped programs will be brought to the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) in April or May when the RTC will consider the Community Bridges claim.

8. Metro Report

John Daugherty distributed two items for discussion. The first was a memo about information requested about bus stop improvements ([Attachment 3](#)). There is no funding allocated for either FY2004-05 or 2005-06. Perforated metal panels are replacing plastic panels removed due to graffiti.

The second was a monthly ParaCruz status update provided to the Metro Board in their December 17, 2004 packet ([Attachment 4](#)). ParaCruz staff are working on the recommendations made by the

Paratransit Coordination Task Force.

9. Section 5310 Grant Local Review Committee – Karena Pushnik

Karena Pushnik noted that there was no interest in the pre-application for the Section 5310 Grant, so the item may be moot. Community Bridges indicated that they may submit an application for equipment, but not vehicles. They will contact Caltrans staff directly to express their interest.

Action (Kemp/Connell w/ Berkowitz abstaining): The E/D TAC approved the staff recommendation to request the following agencies to review Section 5310 Grant Application scores: Metro, Central Coast Center for Independent Living, Seniors Council and the Commission on Disabilities.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 pm.

Prepared by: Karena Pushnik, SCCRTC Staff

Attachments:

1. American Red Cross Transportation Program brochure
2. AARP Driver Safety Program Schedule
3. Memo from Metro Staff regarding Bus Stop Improvements
4. 12/17/04 Metro Staff report regarding status of ParaCruz