

**TO: Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**  
**FROM: Karena Pushnik, Senior Transportation Planner**  
**RE: FY 2005-06 Section 5310 Grant Fund Applications**

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee and staff recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission:

Approve the attached resolution (Attachment 1) for the Section 5310 grant application scores confirming the scoring (Exhibit A) determined by the Regional Evaluation Committee and approved by the Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee.

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**BACKGROUND**

Approximately \$8.5 million is available for FY 2005-06 in federal Section 5310 funds. This grant program is administered by Caltrans and grant allocation decisions are made by the California Transportation Commission. The purpose of the grant program is to provide funding for capital expenditures to meet the transportation needs of elderly persons and persons with disabilities where public mass transportation services are otherwise *unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate*. Private nonprofit agencies are eligible for these funds. If private nonprofit agencies are not readily available to provide the proposed service or have not been approved by the State to coordinate services for elderly persons and persons with disabilities, public agencies are eligible. The grant provides 80% funding and requires a 20% match.

Due in part to past staff and local agency efforts, the allocation process for Section 5310 funds continues to be based on a statewide competition, rather than a formula-based allocation, ensuring that the most worthwhile, cost-effective projects are selected. There are discussions about changing allocations to a formula based on total or senior and disabled population. Santa Cruz County would be disadvantaged in this scenario and the RTC may be asked in the future to take a position on the issue.

**DISCUSSION**

The Process

The process for reviewing applications is as follows:

1. A local review committee convenes to jointly score the application.
2. The Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee reviews the local review committee score and makes a recommendation to the SCCRTC
3. The SCCRTC adopts, by resolution, the scores and forwards them to Caltrans.
4. Caltrans reviews and re-scores the applications.
5. Caltrans funds projects based on its updated scores up to their available amount of funding.

### Local Applications

Three applications were received this year from the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency/Community Bridges, the University of California at Santa Cruz and Imagine Supported Living Services, a public benefit corporation in Santa Cruz County providing services to adults with a range of developmental disabilities. The applicants are seeking new vehicles and communications equipment. Pertinent pages from each agency's applications are attached (Attachment 2).

As in years past, a Regional Evaluation Committee was formed to evaluate and score the applications. The committee consisted of: Andrea Smith representing the Commission on Disabilities; Steve Paulson representing the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District; Clay Kempf representing the Seniors Council; Michael Bradshaw representing the Central Coast Center for Independent Living; and Karena Pushnik representing the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (SCCRTC). The Regional Evaluation Committee met April 4, 2005 and used the state's quantitative criteria to score the applications based on project need, service effectiveness, ability of applicant and coordination with other transportation. Committee members were asked to review and score the applications in advance of the meeting.

### Elderly & Disabled TAC and Applicant Review

At its April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E/D TAC) reviewed and concurred with the Regional Evaluation Committee scores. The E/D TAC approved a recommendation for the SCCRTC to approve by resolution (Attachment 1) the scores for three applications (Exhibit A) as shown in the following tables.

<i>Community Bridges:</i>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Score</b>
Equipment (computers, related hardware, installation)	\$ 40,000	90

<i>Imagine Supported Living Services:</i>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Score</b>
Minivan (expansion)	\$ 41,000	79

<i>UCSC:</i>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Score</b>
Dispatch Equipment	\$ 40,000	78

All program applications meet applicable federal statutory and program regulations and will be noted as such in the Section 5310 (16) Certification and Assurance - Form 2 (Exhibit B of Attachment 1.)

### SUMMARY

The Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee and staff recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission approve, by resolution, the Section 5310 grant application scores for the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency/Community Bridges, Imagine Supported Living Services and UCSC.

- Attachments: 1. Resolution Adopting the Section 5310 Scores for Santa Cruz County  
Exhibit A: Section 5310 Preliminary Regional Priority List  
Exhibit B: MPO/RTPA Section 5310 Certification and Assurances  
2. Pages from Section 5310 Grant Applications