

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

Final

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 8, 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), Tom Crain (Potential Transit User – Disabled), John Daugherty (Metro), , Michael Molesky (County Social Service Provider – Disabled), Robert Pesce (1st District), Adam Tomaszewski (2nd District), Bob Yount (MASTF)

Alternates Present: Sandra Coley (4th District), Steve Paulson (SCMTD), Camille Pierce (Potential Transit User – Disabled)

Others Present: Jody Evenson, Corinne Hyland (Community Traffic Safety Coalition), David Scott (Doran Center for the Blind), Sam Storey (CTSA – Lift Line)

Staff Present: Grace Blakeslee, Karena Pushnik

Excused Absences: Clay Kempf (Social Service Provider – Seniors), Link Spooner (CTSA – Lift Line)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Michael Molesky called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Karena Pushnik announced that she attended an informative conference in Sacramento on March 7 titled “United We Ride” with information about specialized transportation issues.

4. Additions and Deletions

There were none.

5. Consent Agenda (Yount/Daugherty - unanimous)

5.1 Approved Minutes and materials distributed at the January 11, 2005 E/D TAC meeting

- 5.2 Accepted Transportation Development Act fund projections as of December 2004
- 5.3 Accepted Highlights from January and February 2005 RTC meetings
- 5.4 Accepted Final minutes from the 1/19/05 Paratransit Coordination Task Force meeting
- 5.5 Accepted approval of Tom Crain for the member position representing Potential Transit User - Disabled
- 5.6 Accepted updated Rules and Regulations for the Regional Transportation Commission including the Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee's Bylaws (*distributed at the meeting*)
- 5.7 Accepted announcement for March 7 Workshop sponsored by Caltrans titled Coordinating Human Service Transportation: A Mobility Summit (*enclosed separately*)
- 5.8 Accepted January 2005 article from the National Safety Council titled Federal agencies work to expand transportation options for seniors, disabled
- 5.9 Accepted agency Updates (other than items on the regular agenda)
 - 5.9.1 Volunteer Center
 - Second Quarter FY 04-05 Report
 - 5.9.2 Private Operators
 - 5.9.3 Consolidated Transportation Services Agency
 - 5.9.4 Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District
 - 2/25/05 Board packet item regarding Paracruz Program Monthly update distributed (Attachment 1)
 - 5.9.5 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
 - Public Hearings: 1) Regional Transportation Plan and Environmental Impact Report at 9:30 am on March 17 at the Watsonville City Council Chambers 2) Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report for Recreational Rail between Capitola and Aptos with an extension to Seascap

6. Community Traffic Safety Coalition

Corinne Hyland presented an overview of the Community Traffic Safety Coalition's (CTSC) programs including the Pedestrian Access Report, Neighborhood Pace Car and School Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety presentations. She noted that the committee is always interested in recruiting new members.

Ms. Hyland also discussed a new CTSC program to enhance senior driver safety through car fitting demonstrations at three senior sites.

It was requested that the CTSC look into the issue of electric wheelchairs/scooters that use the street, including bike lanes, rather than the sidewalk.

E/D TAC attendees noted whether they would like to be included in the email distribution list for CTSC information.

7. Regional Transportation Plan

Grace Blakeslee provided an overview of the 2005 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) process, noting that this is considered a minor update of the 2001 RTP. Copied of the draft document and program level environmental impact report are available on compact disk or in hard copy. A public hearing on the draft RTP and EIR would be held in Watsonville on March 17 and the deadline for comments is April 1. Attention was drawn to the project lists, specifically specialized transportation projects.

8. Community Bridges Report

Sam Storey reviewed the Taxi Scrip and Medical Voucher memo included in the packet, emphasizing that the ride totals are shown for half the year. He corrected the total for Taxi Scrip to be 1,464 for the second half of 2004. Included was a discussion about the current system structure, as well as the proposed structure. Clay Kemp, although unable to attend the meeting, provided a memo with his comments on the proposal (Attachment 2). Members requested that people still be able to qualify for multiple programs and that they not cancel each other out. A subcommittee of Michael Molesky, Clay Kempf and RTC staff was formed to work on this before the next meeting. Mr. Storey will return to a special meeting of the E/D TAC to be held on April 12.

Mr. Storey, provided an update of the ride situation to Elderday. He noted that the agreement made when the agency transferred to Salude Para La Gente, was to maintain Community Bridges transportation services. However, Elderday has now contracted with the for-profit business based out of county called Tri County. There was no process, competitive bidding, nor government oversight in the selection of the new operators or the provision of service. The Community Bridges Board has authorized staff to "take all necessary measures" to re-secure provision of transportation services to Elderday. Lift Line has taken taxi rides in-house to avoid layoffs.

9. Paratransit Coordination Task Force Update

Karena Pushnik noted that the Paratransit Coordination Task Force had finalized their short and long range recommendations for improving specialized transportation in Santa Cruz County. The recommendations will be presented to the Regional Transportation Commission at their April 7 meeting. Materials will be available on the RTC website on the Monday before the meeting. There are specific recommendations regarding the RTC's advisory Committee, the E/D TAC.

10. Section 5310 Grant Local Review Update

Karena Pushnik announced that three local applications were received: one from Community Bridges for 5 vehicles and computer equipment, one from UCSC for computer equipment and the other from Imagine Support Services for a vehicle. The local review committee consisting of representatives from the Seniors Council, Central Coast Center for Independent Living, Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District and the Commission on Disabilities will review and score the applications.

11. Committee Chair/Vice Chair

This item was postponed to the newly-scheduled April meeting.

12. Review Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- **Taxi Scrip**
- **Medical Vouchers**
- **Section 5310 Scores**
- **Metro's ParaCruz No Show policy**

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 pm.

Prepared by: Karena Pushnik, SCCRTC Staff

Attachments:

1. 2/25/05 Metro Board packet item regarding Paracruz Program Status Monthly Update
2. Comments by Clay Kempf on Community Bridges TDA program proposal