



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Aptos Library - 7695 Soquel Drive, Aptos, CA

1 Call to order 1:30 pm

2. Introductions

Members Present:

Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA
Debbi Brooks, Social Service Provider - Persons
Of Limited Means
John Daugherty, Metro Transit
Veronica Elsea, 3rd District
Sally French, Social Services Provider- Disabled
Clay Kempf, Social Service Provider for Seniors
Donald Hagen, 4th District

Alternates Present:

April Warnock, SCMTD

Excused Absences:

Patti Lou Shevlin, 1st District
Michael Molesky, Social Service Provider
Disabled

Unexcused Absences:

Others Present:

Charlie Levine, Citizen
Ciro Aguirre, SCMTD
Kari Beuerman, County Human Services
Ramon Cancino, Community Bridges
Laura Diaz, CTSA
Tom Hiltner, SCMTD
Scott Hamby, City of Scotts Valley
Josephine Fleming, City of Scotts Valley

RTC Staff Present:

Grace Blakeslee
Karena Pushnik

3. Oral Communications

- Most recent Santa Cruz Metro Headways is now available
- Santa Cruz Metro hosted Stand Up for Transportation Day
- Review of Santa Cruz Metro April 10, 2015 action regarding ParaCruz services
- Unified Corridors Plan Public Workshop will be held April 16 and the online survey to collect public input is available on the SCCRTC website through April 30
- Update on E&D TAC recruitment efforts

4. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agenda

- Item #20, Attachment 1 available as handout and emailed previously
- Add item #23b, Santa Cruz Metro ParaCruz Service
- Moved item #18 to item #16b

CONSENT AGENDA

Action: The motion (Elsea/Daughtery) to approve the Consent agenda, Items 5-15 - - carries.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Brooks, Daughtery, Elsea, Kempf, Hagen

Nays: None

Abstain: None

5. Approved minutes from February 10, 2015 meeting
6. Recommend RTC Approve Caroline Lamb as E&D TAC Member representing potential transit user (60+)
7. Recommend RTC Approve Laura Diaz as E&D TAC Member Alternate for CTSA
8. Recommend RTC Approve Charlie Levine as E&D TAC Member Alternate for District 3
9. Received Update on the Unified Corridors Plan
10. Received Transportation Development Act Revenues Report
11. Received RTC Meeting Highlights
12. Received Annual Calendar of E&D TAC items
13. Received Information Items
 - Letter on February 24, 2015 from E&D TAC to Santa Cruz Metro Regarding Structural Deficit and ParaCruz Service
 - Letter on February 5, 2015 from Mission Pedestrian to E&D TAC regarding need for sidewalks
14. Receive Agency TDA Reports
 - Volunteer Center – 2nd Quarter FY 14/15
 - Community Bridges – 1st Quarter FY 14/15
 - Santa Cruz Metro
15. Received Agency Updates
 - a. Volunteer Center
 - b. Community Bridges
 - c. Santa Cruz Metro
 - i. ParaCruz Report for December 2014 & January 2015
 - ii. Consideration of La Posada Transportation Alternative, January 23, 2015
 - iii. Consideration to set a Public Hearing on Fare and Service Restructure of Hwy 17 Express and ParaCruz, February 27. 2015
 - iv. Notice of April 10, 2015 Public Hearing to Consider Proposals for Fare Restructure and Changes to Paratransit

REGULAR AGENDA

16a. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

Action: The motion (Berkowitz/Hagen) - - to nominate Veronica Elsea as chair of the E&D TAC- - carries.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Brooks, Elsea, Daugherty, Kempf, Hagen

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Action: The motion (French/Hagen) - - to nominate John Daugherty as vice- chair of the E&D TAC- - carries.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Brooks, Elsea, Daugherty, Kempf, Hagen

Nays: None

Abstain: None

16b. Review Proposed Scotts Valley Pedestrian Projects Active Transportation Plan Grant Funding

RTC staff provided an overview of the Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle II grant program. City of Scotts Valley representatives Scott Hamby and Josephine Fleming provided an overview of pedestrian and ADA improvements under consideration for ATP Cycle II grant funding. Committee members provide input of pedestrian facility and crosswalk design and bus stop improvements and commended the City of Scotts Valley for reviewing access to bus stops. Committee members recommended that the City of Scotts Valley seek input residents of Oak Tree Village.

Action: The motion (Hagen/Berkowitz) - - to send a letter of support from the E&D TAC to City of Scotts Valley for the ATP pedestrian improvements grant application.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Brooks, Elsea, Daugherty, Kempf, Hagen

Nays: None

Abstain: None

17. Review and Recommend RTC Approval of 2015 Unmet Paratransit and Transit Needs List

Grace Blakeslee provided an overview of the Draft 2015 Unmet Paratransit and Transit Needs list developed with input by the Santa Cruz Metro, Volunteer Center and Community Bridges Lift Line. Ms. Blakeslee explained that the new format identifies the unmet paratransit or transit need and some of the potential ways the needs could be met.

Action: The motion (Berkowitz/Kemp) - - to modify unmet need #3 to address areas with concentrations of seniors, disabled and low income individuals and include pilot projects that provide regularly scheduled paratransit service to such areas as a proposed strategy for addressing the unmet need and increase the need to H1 priority level.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Brooks, Elsea, Daugherty, Kempf, Hagen

Nays: None
Abstain: None

Action: The motion (Kempf/Brooks) - - add new unmet need item to provide paratransit to the individuals who lost paratransit due to changes in Santa Cruz Metro ParaCruz program in 2015 with a priority level of H1.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Brooks, Elsea, Kempf
Nays: None
Abstain: Hagen, Daugherty

Action: The motion (Kempf/Berkowitz) - - to modify unmet need #10 to address the need for transportation services to all programs that promote senior and disabled individuals health, safety and independence including senior meal sites, stroke center and elderly programs.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Brooks, Elsea, Kempf, Daugherty
Nays: None
Abstain: Hagen

Action: The motion (Berkowitz/Elsea) - - to increase the priority of unmet need #8 to H2.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Brooks, Elsea, Kempf, Daugherty, Hagen
Nays: None
Abstain: None

Action: The motion (Elsea/Norm) - - to include improvements to north-south transit connections as a strategy for addressing unmet need #22.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Brooks, Elsea, Kempf, Hagen
Nays: None
Abstain: Daugherty

Action: The motion (Elsea/Berkowitz) - - to add direct transit service to San Jose Airport as a strategy for addressing interregional transit needs identified in unmet need #21.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Brooks, Elsea, Kempf, Hagen, Daugherty
Nays: None
Abstain: None

18. Review Proposed Scotts Valley Pedestrian Projects Active Transportation Plan Grant Funding

Moved to Item #16b

19. Approve Transportation Development Act Claim for Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

Tom Hiltner reported that the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claim for \$6,377,610, which is the same amount of the FY14-15 TDA claim, will be used to fund fixed route and paratransit service in urban and rural areas in FY15-16 and service hours will be similar to the prior year. Mr. Hiltner reported that in FY15-16 fixed route ridership is anticipated to be flat, the paratransit rides will be slightly decreased, and Highway 17 ridership continues to grow. Members questioned where the transfer from reserves was shown in the Santa Cruz Metro budget and why transferring funding from reserves was needed. Mr. Hiltner stated that Santa Cruz Metro operating costs have increased.

Action: The motion (Hagen/French) - - to recommend the Regional Transportation Commission approve the Santa Cruz Metro Transportation Development Act claim for fiscal year 15-16.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Brooks, Elsea, Kempf, Hagen, Daugherty

Nays: None

Abstain: None

20. Approve Transportation Development Act Claim for Community Bridges

Ramon Cancino provided an overview of the \$626,561 TDA claim for Community Bridges to provide approximately 36,250 out of a total of 82,000 rides to be provided by Community Bridges one-way trips to eligible clients over FY 2015-16. Mr. Cancino reported that there are reductions in cost per trip for Taxi Scrip, Meals on Wheels, and TDA Medical Riders due to operating efficiencies realized by pooling riders, scheduling changes and reducing delays. The cost per rides provided to the Winter Shelter increase in FY15-16 due to anticipated increases in van maintenance costs. Mr. Cancino reported that there is a gap in grant funding for transportation services provided under Community Bridges Lift Line for same day medical rides between April 2015 and January 2016. Some of the savings realized from cost-savings achieved due to efficiencies in other transportation programs to provide same day medical rides during this period. In addition, some demand for transportation services previously met by the same day medical ride program is expected to shift to the TDA medical rides program and increase the number of rides provided under the TDA medical rides program in FY 15-16.

Action: The motion (Kempf/Hagen) - - to recommend the Regional Transportation Commission approve the Community Bridges Transportation Development Act claim for fiscal year 15-16.

Ayes: French, Brooks, Elsea, Kempf, Hagen, Daugherty

Nays: None

Abstain: Berkowitz

21. Approve Transportation Development Act Claim for Volunteer Center

Debbi Brooks provided an overview of the Volunteer Center Transportation Development Act Claim for \$74,591. The Volunteer Center fills the gap for other services that do not meet geographic or physical criteria for people who need rides to medical appointments, shopping, and other needs.

Action: The motion (French/Berkowitz) - - to recommend the Regional Transportation Commission approve the Volunteer Center Transportation Development Act claim for fiscal year 15-16.

Ayes: French, Berkowitz, Elsea, Kempf, Hagen, Daugherty

Nays: None

Abstain: Brooks

22. Pedestrian Safety Workgroup Update

Veronica Elsea reported that the Pedestrian Safety Workgroup visited city councils and Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors, produced a radio and television public service announcement, and plans to participate in the open street event to promote the Pedestrian and Motorist Brochure. The Pedestrian Safety Workgroup is pursuing development of a Pedestrian and Bicyclists Brochure and solicited input from the Bicycle Committee at the April meeting. The Pedestrian Safety Workgroup is also involved in a statewide discussion regarding Class IV cycle track bicycle facilities. The next meeting of the Pedestrian Safety Workgroup is scheduled for May 6.

23a. Review AMBAG's 2015 Title VI Plan

Eliza Yu presented the draft AMBAG Title VI Plan. This is AMBAG's first Title VI Plan and covers the period from 2015-2018. The draft Title VI Plan includes discussion of demographics and limited English proficiency. Members commented that inclusion of age demographics and mobility needs could strengthen the Title VI Plan.

23b. Santa Cruz Metro ParaCruz Service

Members discussed the importance of providing input to Santa Cruz Metro regarding the ParaCruz service changes still under consideration. Members expressed the value of informing Santa Cruz Metro about the impacts of changes to ParaCruz service on affected seniors and disabled individuals. Committee members Clay Kempf, John Daugherty, Debbie Brooks, and Norm Hagen agreed to work as an ad-hoc committee for the purposes of providing comments to Santa Cruz Metro on near and limited term discussions expected to occur in May 2015, prior to the next regularly scheduled E&D TAC regularly scheduled meeting, regarding ParaCruz service changes. Kirk Ance will be requested to participate in the ad-hoc committee.

24. Adjourn 4:30 pm

Respectfully submitted, Grace Blakeslee, RTC Staff