



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's
Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee
(Also serves as the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council)

FINAL MINUTES

1:30pm - 3:30pm

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

1. Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Members present:

Tara Ireland, Social Services Provider - Persons of Limited Means
Jesus Bojorquez, Community Bridges (Lift Line)
Michael Pisano, Potential Transit User (60+)
Caroline Lamb, Potential Transit User (Disabled)
Janet Edwards, Vice Chair, First District
Veronica Elsea, Chair, Third District
Jesse Leyva, SC METRO Alternate

Members Remote, voting under Just Cause or Emergency:

Elizabeth Byrd, Social Services Provider- Seniors (County)

Members Remote, Not Voting:

None

Unexcused Absences:

Clay Kempf, Social Services Provider – Seniors
Alex Weske, Social Services Provider – Disabled
Paul Elerick, Second District (Friend)
Patricia Forhrman, Fourth District
Rina Solorio Gomez, SCMTD
Phil Kipnis, First District

Excused Absences:

None

RTC staff present:

Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner
Johnny Esteban, Transportation Planner
Luis Mendez, Deputy Director

Guests present:

Portia Raymer
Kelly Curlett
Regina Valentine, AMBAG
Ray Cancino, Community Bridges
Theresa Rogerson, SC HSA
Douglas Underhill, Community Bridges
John Uργο, SC METRO
Kristal Caballero, CORE Consulting

2. Introductions

3. Consider AB 2449 request(s) to participate in the meeting remotely due to emergency circumstances (a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person) - none

4. Oral communications

- Committee members and staff briefly discussed efforts to fill vacancies on the committee.
- Additions or deletions to consent and regular agenda
- Replacement pages to item 8 are available online.

CONSENT AGENDA**5. Approved E&D TAC Member Appointments****6. Received Information Items**

- CTSC Fiscal Year 23-24 TDA Biannual Progress Report
- [Smart Growth America – Accessible Streetscape Design Survey](#)

7. Approved FY 2024-25 TDA Funding Request for the Vision Zero Program

- Guest Theresa Rogerson from SC HSA updated the committee on the most important parts of the vision zero program, which can be found in the packet.

8. Approved Minutes from February 13, 2024

A motion to approve the consent agenda (made by Committee Member Pisano and seconded by Committee Member Edwards) was approved unanimously with Committee Members Ireland, Bojorquez, Pisano, Lamb, Edwards, Elsea and

Leyva voting "aye.

REGULAR AGENDA

9. Receive Program Updates

- Volunteer Center
 - Committee Member Tara Ireland updated the committee about the Driver safety course that will soon be implemented.
- Community Bridges
 - CB added a new driver to the fleet of drivers providing service.
- Santa Cruz METRO
 - Announced the hiring of their new CEO Corey Aldridge, and ParaCruz is almost fully staffed.
- SCCRTC
 - Segment 5 of the Coastal Rail Trail is expected to kick off construction later this year. The environmental document and preferred alternative for Segments 10 and 11 of the Coastal Rail Trail were approved by the County of Santa Cruz and the RTC and will advance to the next phase.
- Ped Ad-hoc Subcommittee – the subcommittee has been on hiatus, but some work is coming up

10. FY 2024-25 Transportation Development Act and State Transit Assistance Funds for Community Bridges Lift Line— pg. 73

- The E&D TAC annually reviews Transportation Development Act claims for Community Bridges Lift Line, the Volunteer Center and Santa Cruz Metro, to ensure that these funds are allocated in accordance with TDA requirements and community needs and makes recommendations regarding their approval to the Regional Transportation Commission.
- A motion to approve the TDA Claim recommendation for Community Bridges Lift Line was made by (Committee Member Tara Ireland, Committee Member Caroline Lamb). The motion was unanimously approved with Committee Members Ireland, Bojorquez, Pisano, Lamb, Edwards, Elsea and Leyva voting "aye.

11. FY 2024-25 Transportation Development Act and State Transit Assistance Funds for Santa Cruz METRO— pg. 103

- John Urgo from SC METRO updated the committee on the various

uses of this funding, including operations assistance. The first full data for Reimagine METRO has arrived and has shown an overall growth of 23% in ridership. Productivity is also up (Riders per revenue hour) is also up about 23%.

- Next wave of service increase is coming in June, 20% service increase expected. Rt 1 increased to every 15 minutes, in Fall there will be further service increases. This is what TDA funding will be used for.
- A motion to recommend approval of the TDA Claim and State Transit Assistance Funds for Santa Cruz METRO by the RTC was made by Committee Member Michael Pisano and seconded by Committee Member Janet Edwards. The motion was unanimously approved with Committee Members Ireland, Bojorquez, Pisano, Lamb, Edwards, Elsea and Leyva voting "aye".

12. FY 2024-25 Transportation Development Act Funds for Volunteer Center— pg. 203

- Committee Member Tara Ireland discussed the Volunteer Center's programs that rely on such funding; The friendly volunteers offer more than just driving, such as friendship.
- A motion to recommend approval of the TDA Claim for the Volunteer Center by the RTC was made by Committee Member Jesus Bojorquez and seconded by Committee Member Janet Edwards. The motion was unanimously approved with Committee Members Ireland, Bojorquez, Pisano, Lamb, Edwards, Elsea and Leyva voting "aye".

13. AMBAG's 2024 Title VI Program Development Process— pg. 222

- Title VI is a federal statute that mandates that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.
- Regina Valentine from AMBAG provided an overview of AMBAG's 2024 Title VI Program development process. Members were asked to provide feedback on the development of the 2024 Title VI Program.
- In response to a question from a committee member, Regina Valentine stated that AMBAG would pursue production of outreach materials and documents in foreign languages for the Tri-county region.

14. Regional E-Bike Share Program Update— pg. 226

- Russell Chen from County Public Works discussed the development of the regional e-bike share program (Santa Cruz, Watsonville, Capitola, UCSC, Unincorporated County, etc.), which involved several jurisdictions coming together to develop an e-bike share program that allows users to travel in between jurisdictions fluidly and access/egress e-bikes across jurisdictional boundaries. BCycle was selected as the vendor for this service, as they offer docking stations as an option, to prevent bikes from being left throughout the street and sidewalks.
- Committee Members asked about fees, data for system improvement, use of docking stations and addressing violations and bad behavior. Fees are charged for time used, e-bikes may only be left at available spaces at docking stations and BCycle receives complaints through their website.

15. DataShare Santa Cruz County "Thriving Families" CORE Results Menu Indicators— pg. 228

- The E&D TAC's input on the "Thriving Families" CORE Condition indicators is requested by DataShare Santa Cruz County. The input will help to identify areas for improvement and ensure the indicators accurately reflect the needs and experiences of families with elderly or disabled members.
- Kristal Caballero from CORE Consulting gave a presentation on the CORE Community Level Impacts, see attachment in packet, pg. 230, for further information.
 - Impact 1: Increased resilience of children and youth
 - Impact 2: Increased resilience among adults
 - Impact 3: Increased resilience among older and dependent adults
- Kristal Caballero asked questions to the committee, seeking input on the chosen indicators under each impact:
 - Q1: which indicators jump out as most relevant?
 1. Impact 3 was highlighted by several members of the committee. There was discussion regarding data available related to elderly members of the community.
 - Q3: Any other feedback for CORE?
 1. Committee Chair Veronica Elsea highlighted the issue of

access to information due to the prevalence of social media and those not using social media. Where can community members get consistent access to community information updates for those who don't use social media.

16. Enforcement of Accessible Parking Regulations in Private Businesses — pg. 231

- The E&D TAC chair requested an item to discuss the ongoing challenge of ensuring accessibility for individuals in private business parking lots. While designated accessible parking spaces are mandated by law, the lack of enforcement creates a significant barrier for individuals with disabilities.
- The committee's discussion on accessible parking enforcement highlights an issue impacting the mobility of individuals with disabilities.
- RTC Staff Member Johnny Esteban mentioned an application, Roll Mobility, which allows community members who use wheelchairs or face other mobility impairments to submit reports on public facilities or private businesses regarding their compatibility and ease-of-use for mobility equipment. This allows information to spread amongst the community and help spur improvement of public private facilities for use by mobility equipment.
- Committee Chair Veronica Elsea voiced concern that people with disabilities are constantly having to self-advocate to fix problems they face. Not everyone has the capacity to do that. She also mentioned as a possible solution having some sort of designated public entity that could facilitate a discussion with public/private entities to address specific problems at their facilities.
- Committee Member Janet Edwards mentioned that it might be worthwhile for E&DTAC to draft a letter to the board and voice these concerns.
- Committee Chair Veronica Elsea stated that she will add to the next agenda in June to discuss pulling together a document that compiles information regarding who to call in each jurisdiction if a violation of accessibility is encountered in an area.

17. The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 pm.

The next E&D TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 1:30 located at the SCCRTC office at 1101 Pacific Ave, Suite 250, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Minutes respectfully submitted by Johnny Esteban, Transportation Planner.