



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes – Draft

Tuesday, January 15, 2013, 1:30 p.m.

Regional Transportation Commission, 1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

1. **Call to Order** at 1:37 pm

2. **Introductions**

Members Present:

Kirk Ance, CTSA Lift Line
Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA (Community Bridges)
Debbi Brooks, Volunteer Center
John Daugherty, Metro Transit
Veronica Elsea, 3rd District
Sally French, Soc. Serv. Prov.-Disabled (Hope Services)
Clay Kempf, Social Services Provider
Michael Molesky, Social Services

Excused Absences:

Hal Anjo, Potential Bus Rider
Patti Lou Shevlin, 1st District

Alternates Present: None

Others Present:

Amelia Conlen, People Power
Erich Friedrich, Metro Transit
Deborah Lane, Santa Cruz Resident
Leslyn Syren, Metro Transit

RTC Staff Present:

Grace Blakeslee
Ginger Dykaar
Cathy Judd
Rachel Moriconi
David Pape
Karena Pushnik

3. **Oral Communications** - None

4. **Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas**

A Public Hearing notice regarding meeting dates/times for review and comment on the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District's Non-Discrimination Program.

John Daugherty requested Item 8, Brainstorm Projects for Section 5310, 5316 and 5317 and other funding, be discussed at the end of the regular agenda to allow sufficient time to receive information about Items 7 and 9 for possible consideration as part of the brainstorming discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA

Action: The motion (French/Berkowitz) - - to approve the consent agenda - - carries with Mike Molesky and Veronica Elsea abstaining.

5. **Approved Minutes from December 11, 2012 meeting**

6. **Received Agency Updates**

- a. Volunteer Center
- b. Community Bridges serving as the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency
- c. Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (Metro)
- d. Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
- e. Private Operators

REGULAR AGENDA

7. **Recommend projects for \$5 million in Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds**

Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner discussed the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds saying that over \$5 million in FY12 and FY13 funds is available for programming in Santa Cruz County. Ms. Moriconi said that the RTC received applications for 19 projects totaling over \$8 million, \$3 million over the available amount. She summarized the projects submitted along with preliminary staff recommendations and said that in some instances project sponsors may need to reduce project scope to match reduced funding if construction bids do not come in below engineers estimates. Ms. Moriconi said that all RTC advisory committees recommendations will be presented at a public hearing at the February 7th RTC meeting.

Member discussion included:

- What happens if funding amounts are not allotted
- Whether surplus monies are returned to the county or lost
- Prioritizing projects, especially ADA accessibility for the Aptos Village Plan Improvements, *including adequate accessible sidewalks throughout the project area, especially on the south (ocean side) of Soquel Drive and crossing the railroad tracks, and Soquel at Frederick Street Improvements, due in part to the proximity of two major activity centers for senior and people with disabilities: Dominican Rehabilitation Center and La Posada Senior Housing*
- The likelihood/importance of restoring Metro fixed route service to Frederick Street/La Posada and surrounding neighborhood
- The extent of benefits for the Ride On Folding Bike Program

Action: The motion (Kempf/Molesky) - - for the E&D TAC to recommend two main projects: 1) Aptos Village Project, at the staff recommended level (\$690,000), including ADA accessible sidewalks throughout the project area, especially on the south (ocean) side of Soquel Drive and crossing the railroad tracks; and 2) improvements to the Soquel/Frederick intersection, at 75% of the City's request (\$187,500), due to the proximity of two major activity centers for seniors and people with disabilities: Dominican Rehabilitation Center and La Posada Senior Housing, be added to the City of Santa Cruz's other two recommended projects (Branciforte Bike/Ped Bridge and Laurel Street Pavement Rehabilitation). However, if the City of Santa Cruz has another revenue source and will advance the Soquel/Frederick project within one year, the E&D TAC supports the City and RTC staff recommendation to fund only the City's top two projects (Laurel and Branciforte) at 90% - - carries.

Action: The motion (Elsa/Ance) - - for the E&D TAC to support the remainder of RTC staff recommendations to program the over \$5 million in FY12 and FY13 funds - - carries unanimously.

8. **Brainstorm Projects for Section 5310, 5316 and 5317 and other funding (item taken out of order and is now new Item 10a)**

9. **Provide Input on 2014 Regional Transportation Plan Draft Project List Prioritization**

Ginger Dykaar, Transportation Planner discussed the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and 2014 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Ms. Dykaar said there are 3 elements to prioritize projects, Policy Element, Action Element, and Funding Element and said that staff is currently in the Action Element component. Ms. Dykaar mentioned that members of the public and project sponsors have identified projects to be considered for the RTP/MTP draft project list. Ms. Dykaar said that the list will undergo various levels of review and analysis which will determine the projects included on the constrained list (project that could be implemented within foreseeable revenues through 2035) or unconstrained list (projects that could be funded if new revenues are generated). Ms. Dykaar said that all recommendations will be presented to the Commission at its February 7th meeting and that she would return to the E&D TAC in summer with the updated priority list.

Rachel Moriconi also encouraged members to submit other projects to staff.

Members discussed the project list, shifting specific project priorities, and asked Ms. Dykaar to explain why some projects show multiple RTC staff rankings. Ms. Dykaar explained that the projects showing multiple rankings are those that are part constrained and part unconstrained.

Generally, members requested consideration of the following amendments:

- MTD-P11: ADA Service Expansion – increase rank from 3 to 2
- MTD-P44: Inter-County Paratransit Connection – increase rank from 3 to 2
- RTC-P43: Senior Employment Ride Reimbursement – increase rank from 4 to 1 or 2

10. **Review Caltrans Transit Intern grant draft report on Senior Transit Use**

David Pape, RTC Intern, gave a detailed summary of the draft report titled [A Bus Use Survey of Aging and Disabled Adults Living in Santa Cruz County](#). Mr. Pape said that the goal of the report was to understand current modes of travel for seniors and the changing mobility needs of older adults. Mr. Pape said that by 2030 1 in 5 adults will be 65 years of age or older. Mr. Pape will present the Draft Report to the Commission at one of its future meetings.

A motion (Elsa/French) - - to extend the E&D TAC meeting an additional 15 minutes until 3:50 - - carries unanimously.

Members discussed:

- Distributing the report to City planning departments, Seniors Council, Regional Planning agencies, Cal Act and Senior Centers
- Surveying disabled adults who are not seniors
- Include service animals on Metro

- Support for driver transition from AARP
- Use of results by Metro

Members thanked Mr. Pape for all his hard work on the project and Draft Report.

Ms. Pushnik said she will send E&D TAC members the link to the Draft Report to be considered by the Commission.

10a. **Brainstorm Projects for Section 5310, 5316 and 5317 and other funding**

Karena Pushnik said that RTC staff is recommending that the E&D TAC develop a list of specialized transportation projects to pursue using federal, state and local transportation funding. Ms. Pushnik said that fund applications are due to the RTC on March 11 and recommended that this item be considered at February E&D TAC agenda for further discussion.

Brainstorming discussion included:

- Senior volunteers to deliver meals
- Stop and shop
- Livable communities
- Destination dollars
- Senior ambassadors
- Shopper shuttle

11. **Adjourn 4:05 pm.**