



**Santa Cruz County
Regional Transportation Commission**

Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes – Draft

Tuesday, April 9, 2013, 1:30 p.m.

Regional Transportation Commission, 1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

1. **Call to Order** at 1:34 pm
2. **Introductions**

Members Present:

Hal Anjo, Potential Bus Rider
Kirk Ance, CTSA Lift Line
Debbi Brooks, Volunteer Center
John Daugherty, Metro Transit
Veronica Elsea, 3rd District
Sally French, Soc. Serv. Provider-Disabled (HOPE)
Clay Kempf, Social Services Provider
Mike Molesky, Social Service Provider Disabled
Patti Lou Shevlin, 1st District

Alternates Present:

April Warnock, Metro ParaCruz

Excused Absences:

Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA (Community Bridges)

RTC Staff Present:

Cathy Judd
Karena Pushnik

Others Present:

Thomas Hiltner, Metro Staff
Sara Schiffrin, La Posada Resident

3. Oral Communications - None
4. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

Karena Pushnik supplied a replacement page for Item 8, an add-on page for Item 13, a replacement page for Item 15, add-on pages for Item 15, and add-on pages for Item 16.

Veronica Elsea requested Item 9 be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Action: The motion (Elsea/Brooks) - - to approve the consent agenda as amended moving Item 9 to the Regular Agenda - - carries unanimously with Mike Molesky abstaining.

5. Approved Minutes from Feb 2013 meeting
6. Received Transportation Development Act (TDA) Revenues Report as of Mar 2013
7. Received RTC Highlights through Mar 2013
8. Received letter dated 3/27/13 from E&D TAC Chair to Community Bridges in support of two grant applications
9. ***(moved from the Consent to Regular Agenda for discussion)*** Receive letter dated 1/31/13 from Supervisor/Commissioner Neal Coonerty to the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District regarding restoration of bus service on Frederick Street in Santa Cruz City
10. Information Items
 - a. Mr. Roadshow writes about not driving
 - b. US Department of Transportation changing bike and pedestrian standards to highlight safety
11. Received Agency Updates
 - a. Volunteer Center
 - 2nd Quarter TDA Report
 - b. Community Bridges serving as the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency
 - c. Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (Metro)
 - Past Metro Reports
 - d. Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
 - e. Private Operators

REGULAR AGENDA

9. ***(moved from the Consent to Regular Agenda for discussion)*** Letter dated 1/31/13 from Supervisor/Commissioner Neal Coonerty to the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District regarding restoration of bus service on Frederick Street in Santa Cruz City

Veronica Elsea requested more information about bus service reinstatement to Frederick Street including:

- What is the process for evaluating and restoring bus service
- What is happening to restore service to the Frederick Street and Gault neighborhoods
- How will the closure of the Dominican Rehabilitation Center impact the decision for return of bus service
- How will the issue of poor sidewalk conditions on Frederick Street be considered by Metro

5-2

Tom Hiltner, Metro staff, said that Metro may have replied to Commissioner Coonerty's support letter and, if so, a copy of that letter will be provided to the E&D TAC. Mr. Hiltner said Metro's Service Planning & Review Committee received many requests to restore service and the committee is gathering ride information. Mr. Hiltner mentioned that Metro is ramping up to meet demand for service, is limited by the number of experienced and available drivers, and that the Service Planning & Review Committee presents plans to Metro's Board to be considered, and will assess restoring service to La Posada. Mr. Hiltner will request that the committee leader supply an update to the E&D TAC.

John Daugherty said that Erich Friedrich is the Service Planner on Metro staff and said that the Board will receive a report in August regarding return of service to La Posada.

Mr. Hiltner confirmed that August is the soonest that the Metro Board would consider service reinstatement.

Patty Shevlin voiced the importance of restoring service saying that two terrible hit and run accidents occurred at the corner of Frederick Street and Soquel while crossing Soquel to reach the closest bus stop. Ms. Shevlin suggested that the E&D TAC write a thank you letter to Commissioner Coonerty for his support letter to Metro.

Action: The motion (Shevlin/Molesky) - - for the E&D TAC to write a letter of thanks to Commissioner Coonerty for his letter of support for the return of bus service to Frederick Street - - carries unanimously with John Daugherty abstaining.

12. Nominations and Election of Chair and Vice Chair

John Daugherty gave an overview of the Chair and Vice-chair nomination process, reading voting procedures from the RTC's bylaws.

Members discussed:

- Term limits
- If nominations could be heard at current meeting and decided upon at the next regular meeting
- Roll call versus private vote
- Electing a slate of chair and vice-chair

Nominations were heard from Patty Shevlin and Hal Anjo for Mike Molesky for Chair.

After discussion by members John Daugherty stepped aside and by acclamation announced Mike Molesky as the new Chair.

Nominations were also heard from Patty Shevlin, Veronica Elsea, and Hal Anjo for John Daugherty for Vice-chair and from John Daugherty for Veronica Elsea for Vice-chair.

Action: By roll call vote of 6 to 3, John Daugherty was elected Vice-chair.

Action: The motion (Kempf/Molesky) - - for the E&D TAC to write a letter of thanks to Chair Daugherty and Vice-chair Elsea for their service on the E&D TAC - - carries unanimously.

13. Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District TDA Claim

Karena Pushnik provided an overview of the TDA process and noted that the RTC had not yet officially adopted a budget, due to last minute changes in planning fund allocations from the Association for Monterey Bay Area Governments. She distributed a page with preliminary TDA recommendations that were less than 1% less than those included in the original claims prepared by TDA recipients. Tom Hiltner, Metro staff provided an overview of Metro's TDA claim of \$6.1 million in TDA funds to assist with operating the fixed route bus services and the American's with Disabilities-mandated Paratransit service, ParaCruz. He indicated that the proposed reduction would amount to \$43,309 which could impact service. The final TDA amount will be approved at the May 2 RTC meeting.

Action: The motion (Elsa/Kempf) - - to approve Metro's TDA Claim contingent on the final budget and TDA amount decided on at the May 2 RTC meeting - - carries unanimously.

14. Lift Line TDA Claim

Kirk Ance, Community Bridges, gave an overview of the TDA Claim for \$599,743 and noted that the agency took oversight of Elderday back in house.

Members discussed:

- How Community Bridges meets increased needs and unmet demand
- Ride statistics
- Taxi script
- Same day rides
- Provision of out of county medical and veterans rides using grant funds
- Number of vans provided for Elderday and funds available
- Shifting funds/rides from previously identified higher priority unmet needs
- Budget columns showing TDA funds and non-TDA funds, rather than match funds

The committee expressed concern about the decrease in medical rides and the sizable increase in TDA funding for Elderday. They also expressed concern that it appears that the core medical transportation services are funded with grants that may not always be available. The committee agreed that it would be prudent for Community Bridges to review their TDA claim and come back to the E&D TAC with a revised TDA plan.

Action: The motion (Elsa/Kempf) - - to continue the meeting to 4:00 pm - - carries unanimously.

Action: The motion (Kempf/Elsa) - - to recommend that Lift Line modify its TDA proposal to address the highest priority unmet needs for TDA funds and provide the claim at a special meeting of the E&D TAC to be held on May 14 from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm - - carries unanimously.

15. Volunteer Center TDA Claim

Debbi Brooks, Volunteer Center, provided an overview of the Volunteer Center TDA Claim for \$71,398 to provide 4600 one-way trips based on type and income. The final TDA amount will be approved at the May 2 RTC meeting.

Action: The motion (Elsa/Molesky) - - to approve the Volunteer Center TDA Claim contingent on the final TDA amount decided on at the May 2 RTC meeting - - carries unanimously with Debbi Brooks abstaining.

16. Section 5310 Grant Application review committee recommendations

Karena Pushnik gave an overview of the 5310 Grant Application and scores. Ms. Pushnik said that Community Bridges submitted a fund application for two ambulatory passenger minivans with ramps and 14 Mobile Data Computers (MDC). Community Bridges will strengthen their application to maximize their score and resubmit it to the RTC by April 15. Staff will review the application to ensure that the revisions are included.

Action: The motion (Kempf/Elsea) - - to recommend that the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission approve the local review committee's contingent scores Section 5310 fund application submitted by Community Bridges - - carries unanimously with Kirk Ance abstaining.

17. Pedestrian Safety Work Group Update

Veronica Elsea said that the Pedestrian Safety Work Group presentation to Metro regarding signs in buses was well received and Metro has approved the idea. Metro asked the Pedestrian Safety Work Group to submit a design for its approval.

Ms. Elsea said the group is revising wording for its FAQ and will delay further presentations until the FAQ are reviewed by County Counsel. The Pedestrian Safety Work Group brochure "What Pedestrians and Motorist Want Each Other to Know" is being revised with a draft available in June. The brochure includes general and specific information for people with disabilities.

Ms. Elsea mentioned the letter the group wrote to realtors regarding their signs on sidewalks. Karena Pushnik provided a presentation to the Association of Realtors with information about RTC projects and programs, as well as information about sidewalk maintenance and sidewalk signs.

The next meeting of the Pedestrian Safety Work Group is on May 3 at 10:00 am in the RTC conference room. All are welcome to attend.

18. Monterey Mobility Advisory Committee Co-Meeting

Karena Pushnik said that she spoke with Tom Hicks of Monterey County's Mobility Advisory Committee. Ms. Pushnik polled the E&D TAC committee about a joint meeting. Members confirmed their interest.

19. Adjourn – 4:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy Judd, RTC Staff