



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

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**AGENDA**

**1:30 pm, Tuesday, August 9, 2011**  
**1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz**

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Oral Communications

*The Committee will receive oral communications during this time on items not on today's agenda. Presentations must be within the jurisdiction of the Committee, and may be limited in time at the discretion of the Chair. Committee members will not take action or respond immediately to any Oral Communications presented, but may choose to follow up at a later time, either individually, or on a subsequent Committee agenda.*

4. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*All items appearing on the consent agenda are considered to be minor or non-controversial and will be acted upon in one motion if no member of the E&D TAC or public wishes an item be removed and discussed on the regular agenda. Members of the E&D TAC may raise questions, seek clarification or add directions to Consent Agenda items without removing the item from the Consent Agenda as long as no other E&D TAC member objects to the change.*

5. Approve Minutes from April 12, 2011 meeting
6. Receive Transportation Development Act (TDA) Revenues Report as of June 2011
7. Receive RTC Highlights through June 2011
8. Accept 7/14/11 letter from the RTC to City of Scotts Valley in support of Vine Hill Elementary sidewalk construction project
9. Receive 4/20/11 letter from the E&D TAC to Santa Cruz Metro regarding the 12% Service Cut proposal
10. Accept Robert White Resignation
11. Accept Catherine Patterson Valdez Resignation
12. Information Items (to be circulated at meeting)
  - a. Article: Planning for Accessible Communities, 7/10/11 Santa Cruz Sentinel (also on line: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Aging-boomers-strain-cities-apf-2036471158.html?x=0&.v=1> )
  - b. Spotlight on Veronica Elsea, 7/7/11 Good Times (also online: <http://www.goodtimesantacruz.com/santa-cruz-arts-entertainment-lifestyles/santa-cruz-arts-entertainment-/2701-love-is-blind.html> )
  - c. Accept article on Mobility Training for Seniors in Indiana, 7/14/11 Indy-Go (also online: <http://www.indygo.net/news/seniors-turn-indygo-into-party-bus> )
  - d. Note from Community Bridges with their Annual Report, expressing gratitude to the RTC for being a key partner

13. Receive Agency Updates (other than items on the regular agenda)
  - a. Volunteer Center
    - Receive 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report
  - b. Community Bridges/CTSA
    - Receive E&D TAC requested documentation regarding un-served riders
  - c. Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (Metro)
    - Article about new ParaCruz vehicles by GM Les White in 3/1/11 Bus Ride
    - ParaCruz Operations Status Report: April, May & June 2011
    - Final Bus Route Cuts – 8%
  - d. Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
    - Back on Track: Rail Acquisition Celebration?
    - New Website
  - e. Private Operators

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

14. Approve Recommendation to Regional Transportation Commission of Watsonville Transportation Development Act Claim for Curb Cuts – Watsonville staff
15. Receive Update on Bus Stop Improvements – Metro staff
16. Identification of Priority Projects – RTC staff
17. Receive Pedestrian Safety Work Group Outreach Campaign Update - Chair
18. Adjourn

Next meeting: **Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at 1:30 pm @ RTC office.**

Future Topics: Complete Streets guidelines, Metro bus and ParaCruz budget and service impacts, Pedestrian Improvements near Activity Centers/Bus Stops, Transit Service to Frederick Street and other activity centers

### **HOW TO REACH US**

*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Phone: (831) 460-3200 / fax (831) 460-3215  
Email: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org) / website: [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org)*

### **ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

*The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. This meeting location is an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and require special assistance in order to participate, please contact RTC staff at 460-3200 (CRS 800/735-2929) at least three working days in advance of this meeting to make arrangements. People with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format. As a courtesy to those person affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent-free.*

### **SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN/TRANSLATION SERVICES**

*Si gusta estar presente o participar en esta junta de la Comisión Regional de Transporte del condado de Santa Cruz y necesita información o servicios de traducción al español por favor llame por lo menos con tres días laborables de anticipo al (831) 460-3200 para hacer los arreglos necesarios. (Spanish language translation is available on an as needed basis. Please make advance arrangements (at least three days in advance by calling (831) 460-3200.*



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

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**MINUTES-DRAFT**

*Tuesday, April 12, 2011*

**1. Call to Order**

John Daugherty called the meeting to order at 1:39 pm

**2. Introductions**

**Members Present:**

Hal Anjo, Social Service Provider-Seniors (County)  
Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA-Community Bridges  
Debbi Brooks, Persons of Limited Means (Volunteer Center)  
John Daugherty, Metro  
Veronica Elsea, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Sally French, Soc. Serv. Prov.-Disabled (Hope Services)  
Clay Kempf, Soc. Serv. Prov.-Seniors Council  
Mike Molesky, Social Service Provider - Disabled  
Catherine Patterson Valdez, CTSA/Comm. Bridges, by phone  
Patti Shevlin, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Robert White, 5<sup>th</sup> District

**Alternates Present:**

Kirk Ance, CTSA Lift Line  
Sharon Barbour, 5<sup>th</sup> District

**Staff Present:**

Karena Pushnik

**Others Present:**

Tove Beatty, SCMTD

**3. Oral Communications**

Veronica Elsea commented on the ticket machine at the Metro station saying that the credit card feature is not accessible and that she contacted Metro to let them know.

Mike Molesky said that IHSS Commission has two openings, that they hold meetings every other month on the first Friday of the month at the offices on Emeline Street, Building K from 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

John Daugherty told members that Metro has modified its service reduction to a 12% cut. Metro Board will consider the service reduction proposal on Friday April 22, and will make its final decision at its second meeting June 24 with the service reduction taking place in September 2011. Tove Beatty also noted that Metro has a \$3.8 million funding gap, and that the \$1.4 million in proposed service cuts will still leave a \$2.4 million budget hole to solve. Karena Pushnik volunteered to forward information to E&D TAC members about the public hearings that Metro will hold on the service cuts once the dates are available.

***Action: The motion (Kempf/Elsea) -- to add Metro's Service Reduction Plan as Item 19 to the agenda, an urgency action item regarding Metro service cuts – carries with one abstention.***

**4. Additions and Deletions**

John Daugherty announced an agenda change to move Item 16 after Item 12.

Karena Pushnik told members that there would be a commemoration event when escrow closes for acquisition of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line and that an invitation will be sent out to members once the day and time have been determined.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

***Action: The motion (Kempf/Anjo) -- to approve and accept the consent agenda -- carries with Mike Molesky abstaining.***

5. **Approved Minutes from February 8, 2011 meeting**
6. **Received Transportation Development Act Revenues Report as of March 2011**
7. **Received RTC Highlights through March 2011**
8. **Received Information Items**
  - a. **Article in 2/11/11 Contra Costa Times titled DMV comes to aid of older drivers**
9. **Received Agency Updates**
  - a. **Volunteer Center**
  - b. **Community Bridges/CTSA**
  - c. **Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)**
    - **ParaCruz Operations Status Report: Feb & Mar 11**
    - **Staff Report re: Taxi Renewals for ParaCruz Service**
  - d. **Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**
  - e. **Private Operators**

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **10. Approve TDA Claim from the Volunteer Center**

Karena Pushnik supplied an overview of TDA funding, noting that there are three claims on the agenda for the region's share of the ¼-cent sales tax as allocated according to established formulas in the Commission's Rules and Regulations.

Debbi Brooks provided information about the Volunteer Center's transportation program, which also supplies transportation to some individuals who do not qualify for ParaCruz services.

***Action: The motion (Elsea/Molesky) -- to approve the TDA Claim for \$61,345 for the Volunteer Center -- passes with Debbi Brooks abstaining.***

### **11. Approve TDA Claim from Community Bridges**

Kirk Ance gave an overview of the TDA Claim from Community Bridges saying that Community Bridges serves low income and disabled individuals, many of whom are unable to use traditional public transit or the complementary paratransit. The TDA funds are projected to provide 23,500 of the almost 74,000 rides to be provided by Community Bridges in FY 2011-12. Mr. Ance explained the details of Community Bridges TDA funded transportation services and Karena Pushnik helped direct members to relevant ride projections in Community Bridges' TDA claim.

Members discussed the Elderday program funding which is now a State optional Medicare program and is in danger of being eliminated. Clay Kempf said that this would create transition from existing services to something else or a new service that has greater income testing to determine who may attend.

Members questioned why TDA funds would be allotted to the Interface Satellite Shelter Program (ISSP) and Mr. Ance responded that the program falls within the scope of the E&D TAC due to the many senior and disabled clients, as well as low-income individuals. Karena Pushnik said that ISSP had previously been funded by TDA, then funded by other means, and now is back on the list of TDA funded projects by Community Bridges.

Catherine Patterson Valdez was contacted by phone to determine more information about ISSP rides relative to Meals-on-Wheel or Elderday, which are more in alignment with the direction of the E&D TAC. Members questioned whether ISSP rides could be served by other non-TDA sources. Ms. Valdez said that ride-funding sources could be shifted as desired by the E&D TAC and RTC, however she made the case for why ISSP recipients meet the TDA funding criteria and the quantity of rides provided due to the low cost per unit. She said that she pursued ISSP funding which comes from the County of Santa Cruz and the county has cut funding.

Members also asked Ms. Valdez at Community Bridges why the cost per unit of TDA service under medical rides is higher than other rides. Ms. Valdez said that, of the past four years, the cost is lower than in previous years but the higher cost for this service versus other rides is due to lift accommodations needed for riders, the time it takes for drivers to accommodate those needs and the remote areas serviced.

In response to a member questions, Ms. Valdez clarified that one chart in the report shows TDA funding and the second chart shows rides provided with non-TDA funding sources and a third chart shows the total number of rides provided with all funding sources. The cost per service unit stays the same regardless of the funding source. Ms. Valdez also noted that the CEO of the Elderday program told her that the program would probably be restructured, but not cut.

***Action: The motion (Elsea/French) -- for the E&D TAC to recommend to the RTC to approve the TDA Claim for \$515,295 for Community Bridges as presented and reassess regularly whether needs are being met per the quarterly reports provided to the E&D TAC -- passes unanimously with Kirk Ance and Lisa Berkowitz abstaining.***

***Action: The motion (Anjo/Molesky) -- for the E&D TAC to request documentation regarding unserved riders by fiscal year 2011-2012 from Community Bridges --passes unanimously with one abstention.***

## **12. Approve TDA Claim from the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (Metro)**

Tove Beatty provided an overview for Metro's TDA claim for \$5,244,963 for operating paratransit and fixed routes. She supplied details on fixed routes and ParaCruz rides for the last fiscal year saying that of the bus rides, approximately 135,406 used senior/disabled passes and 24,196 were wheelchair users. Ms. Beatty informed members that, as reported to the Metro board in March 2011, Metro is anticipating a continued drop in revenues in FY11/12 and in order to balance the budget, Metro is considering service cuts, layoffs, contract amendments, and new revenue options.

Bob White asked if the complementary paratransit program operated by Metro (ParaCruz) is federally mandated and Ms. Beatty replied that it is within ¾ miles of fixed route service.

Karena Pushnik noted that Metro provides paratransit beyond the federal requirements by providing door-to-door and extended hour service.

***Action: The motion (Elsea/Kempf) -- for the E&D TAC to recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission approve the TDA funding request from the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District for \$5,244,963 -- passes with John Daugherty abstaining.***

***Action: The motion (Kempf/White) -- for the E&D TAC to send a letter to Metro expressing its appreciation of Metro's effort to maintain the geographical area of service in order to minimize the impact on seniors, people with disabilities and paratransit -- passes with one abstention.***

**13. Recommend RTC Approval of Section 5310 Local Review Committee Recommendation**

Karena Pushnik provided an overview of the FY 2011-2012 Section 5310 Grant Application noting that federal funds are available for capital equipment for specialized transportation for seniors and people with disabilities to eligible entities. The grant is allocated on a statewide competitive basis and historically has been a major source of funding for new paratransit vehicles and equipment for Santa Cruz County. She said that a local committee comprised of representatives from the Senior's Council and the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District convened on March 28 to score the applications. Ms. Pushnik supplied the details about the two applications and said that staff recommends that the E&D TAC recommend that the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission approve the local review committee's scores for the two Section 5310 fund applications submitted by Community Bridges.

***Action: The motion (Daugherty/Elsea) -- to recommend to the SCCRTC to approve the local review committee's scores for the two Section 5310 fund applications submitted by Community Bridges -- passes with one abstention.***

**14. Recommend RTC Approval of Annual Report and Unmet Needs List**

Karena Pushnik provided an overview of the 2010 E&D TAC Annual Report and Unmet Paratransit and Transit Needs List. She noted that no input has been received from the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District on the Unmet Needs list.

***Action: The motion (Molesky/Elsea) -- that the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission receive the review of the 2010 E&D TAC Annual Report and Unmet Need List -- passes unanimously.***

**15. Recommend RTC Approval of Member and Alternate Positions**

Three applications were received for renewing member positions on the E&D TAC: Lisa Berkowitz representing Community Bridges/Consolidated Transportation Services Agency, Clay Kempf representing Social Service Providers for Seniors, and Debbi Brooks representing Social Service Provider for persons of Limited Means.

***Action: The motion (Molesky/Elsea) -- to recommend that the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission approve renewing three members to the E&D TAC -- passes with one abstention.***

**16. Receive Update on Bus Stop Improvements**

Tove Beatty provided an overview of Metro's Bus Stop Improvement Plan and mentioned that she is waiting for the signature page to the Master Agreement with Caltrans so that the contract can be signed to start work. She has secured a contractor to begin some awning repair work ahead of the signed contract to be assured that the CTC does not revoke funding if the project does not start within the required timeframe and Caltrans has approved this contractor. Tove also gave detailed information about an easement procured by Metro in front of the County offices on Emeline for a complete bus stop and pad, and that Metro will build bus stop benches at the improvement locations to accommodate ADA accessibility.

Ms. Beatty informed members know that there is a set of bus stop criteria to which Metro is bound and any changes to improvements requires approval by the Board. Ms. Beatty supplied handouts about current bus stop structures, lighting for the bus stops and Simme-Seat information.

Veronica Elsea expressed concern that the proposed Simme-Seat bus seating accommodates the needs of all riders and asked if Metro would publicize for sight-impaired riders that there will be these new types of seats at certain locations. Ms. Elsea also asked about the installation of lighting and Ms. Beatty explained that it is for comfort and visibility at night. Ms. Beatty said that Metro would conduct awareness activities including working with Ms. Elsea to identify outreach mechanisms and getting the information to the Vista Center for the Blind.

Ms. Beatty said that she would bring information back to the E&D TAC and that the proposed deadline for the completion of the bus stop improvements is June 30, 2012.

**17. Receive Pedestrian Safety Work Group Update – Work Group Chair**

Veronica Elsea told members that the Pedestrian Safety Work Group co-sponsored a Pedestrian Workshop on March 26 in Watsonville and the event was a success in spite of inclement weather. She said that participants were very involved in the presentations.

Ms. Elsea also said that the Pedestrian Safety Work Group is continuing with an outreach component for getting the word out about sidewalk maintenance responsibilities for property owners. She said that the group is working with local jurisdictions and that they are getting ready to present their process to the RTC in May and then to the boards for the local jurisdictions.

**18. Receive Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair**

Hal Anjo nominated John Daugherty for the position of Chair. With no other nominations, John accepted the position of Chair.

Patti Shevlin nominated Veronica Elsea for the position of Vice Chair. With no other nomination, Veronica accepted the position of Vice-Chair.

**19. Meeting Adjourned @ 3:55 pm**

*Prepared by: Cathy Judd, SCCRTC Staff*



**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**  
**TDA REVENUE REPORT**  
**FY 2010-2011**  
**REVISED 6/21/2011**

MONTH	FY09-10 ACTUAL REVENUE	FY10-11 ESTIMATE REVENUE	FY10-11 ACTUAL REVENUE	DIFFERENCE	DIFFERENCE AS % OF PROJECTION	CUMULATIVE % OF ACTUAL TO PROJECTION
JULY	454,800	410,500	410,500	0	0.00%	100.00%
AUGUST	539,000	539,000	547,300	8,300	1.54%	100.87%
SEPTEMBER	719,093	719,093	819,955	100,862	14.03%	106.54%
OCTOBER	490,500	490,500	458,300	-32,200	-6.56%	103.56%
NOVEMBER	555,900	555,900	611,000	55,100	9.91%	104.86%
DECEMBER	625,785	625,785	776,432	150,647	24.07%	108.46%
JANUARY	465,300	465,300	502,700	37,400	8.04%	108.41%
FEBRUARY	620,400	620,400	670,300	49,900	8.04%	108.36%
MARCH	607,400	607,401	510,760	-96,641	-15.91%	105.43%
APRIL	385,100	385,100	412,600	27,500	7.14%	105.55%
MAY	562,700	562,700	605,300	42,600	7.57%	105.74%
JUNE	605,859	605,859	631,612	25,753	4.25%	105.60%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,631,837</b>	<b>6,587,538</b>	<b>6,956,759</b>	<b>369,221</b>	<b>5.60%</b>	<b>106%</b>

**Note:**

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*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
phone (831) 460-3200 ~ fax (831) 460-3215  
email: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org); website: [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org)*

## ***RTC Meeting Highlights ~ April – June, 2011***

### **April 4, 2011 RTC Meeting**

***Santa Cruz Branch Line acquisition status report received:*** The RTC received a status report detailing the steps necessary to complete the purchase since obtaining funding approval from the state in January. The steps include amendments to the Purchase and Sale Agreement with current property owner Union Pacific and approval by all other parties; finalizing federal Surface Transportation Board (STB) filings; and executing the funding agreement with Caltrans. Close of escrow is dependent on receipt of the STB ruling. A community commemoration event will be held after the purchase is complete.

***Salinas Road Interchange project status reported:*** The RTC received a presentation from Debbie Hale, Executive Director of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), on the status of construction of the new interchange at Salinas Road and Highway 1, just south of Watsonville and the Santa Cruz county line. The new interchange consists of a 3 lane bridge-structure (Salinas Road) over Highway 1 with on-and off-ramps. This project will make vital safety improvements to an interchange with high collision rates, reduce delay for 43,000 vehicles per day on Highway 1, and support interregional travel between Highways 1 and 101. Construction is scheduled to be complete in July 2013.

***City of Capitola transportation projects report presented:*** The RTC received a presentation from Steve Jesberg, City of Capitola Public Works Director, on recently completed, current and future transportation projects. In addition to addressing recent storm damage, the Public Works department has been working on RTC-funded improvements to 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue near Capitola Road to add a new sidewalk, bicycle lanes, and reconstruct the roadway, as well as several traffic calming projects aimed at making roadways safer for motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

***Caltrans Route 1 Concrete Median Barrier Project presented:*** The RTC received a presentation describing a concrete barrier safety project which will be constructed on Highway 1 between the pedestrian overcrossing near Mission Street and the railroad tracks near the Harvey West area. The purpose of the project is to prevent cross-median collisions and is scheduled to start construction in mid-January 2012. The project will also include minor drainage improvements and improve the shoulder in some locations. The estimated project construction cost is \$1,365,500, not including support costs.

### **May 5, 2011 RTC Meeting**

***Pedestrian Safety Workgroup report received:*** The RTC received a report from the Pedestrian Safety Workgroup regarding a Sidewalk Maintenance Public Outreach Campaign. The workgroup determined "tip and trip" hazards on sidewalks such as vertical and horizontal separation, obstacles, and surface conditions, and will take this information out to the general public to help increase awareness of criteria for safe and

accessible sidewalks, their value to the community, responsibility for maintenance, and avenues for resolving unsafe conditions. The outreach campaign is expected to begin in late spring and continue through the prime walking seasons, summer and fall.

***Public hearing on specialized transportation/transit unmet needs held:***

The RTC held a public hearing on unmet specialized transportation and transit needs to solicit community input on a draft unmet needs list. The unmet needs list will be used to assess and prioritize projects and programs as funding becomes available.

***Transportation Development Act (TDA) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funding for Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) approved and annual report received:***

The RTC approved \$5,244,963 in TDA funding and \$2,311,643 in STA funding for the METRO, consistent with RTC Rules and Regulations and the FY 11-12 RTC budget. The METRO annual report for last year showed decreased ridership along fixed routes and on the Highway 17 Express, largely due to continuing unemployment, and a slight increase in ParaCruz ridership. Ridership this year is increasing due to high gas prices. METRO plans to order 27 new paratransit replacement vans for ParaCruz service and five new low-floor CNG buses for the Highway 17 Express service. METRO continues to face funding difficulties due to the economic recession, slow recovery and diversion of transit funds by the state to other purposes; therefore, METRO will consider further service reductions and a fare increase.

***FY 11-12 Article 8 Transportation Development Act (TDA) claim for Community Bridges approved:***

The RTC approved \$515,295 in TDA funds for Community Bridges to provide transportation for seniors and people with disabilities, in accordance with RTC Rules and Regulations, contingent upon the City of Santa Cruz agreeing at their May 2011 meeting to be the claimant on behalf of Community Bridges. Transportation services include medical transportation services, transportation to senior meal sites, out-of-county medical transportation service formerly operated by the Red Cross, a Taxi Scrip program, and portions of rides to the Elderday Adult Day Care Facility and the Interfaith Homeless Service Shelters.

***FY 11-12 Article 8 Transportation Development Act (TDA) claim for Volunteer Center approved:***

The RTC approved \$61,345 in TDA funds to the Volunteer Center, in accordance with RTC Rules and Regulations and the RTC's adopted budget, and contingent upon the City of Santa Cruz agreeing at their May 2011 meeting to be the claimant on behalf of the Volunteer Center. The Volunteer Center's transportation program oversees volunteers who provide transportation using their own vehicles to ambulatory individuals who may live in areas not served by traditional public transit or ParaCruz. The TDA allocation to the Volunteer Center will fund mileage reimbursement, insurance and administration of their transportation program.

**June 2, 2011 RTC Meeting**

***Funding Approved for the Community Traffic Safety Coalition, the Ride 'n Stride program, and the Bike to Work program:*** The RTC approved \$100,000 in Transportation Development Act funding for the Community Traffic Safety Coalition and Ride 'n' Stride programs and \$50,000 in TDA funding for the Bike to Work program for FY 11-12. These programs promote bicycling and walking as active transportation

modes, provide traffic safety education, and conduct bicycle and pedestrian trainings to school age children.

***FY 11-12 Transportation Development Act (TDA) claim from the Regional Transportation Commission for administration, planning and operations***

***approved:*** The RTC approved Transportation Development Act funding for planning and administration activities, including elderly and disabled transportation, bicycle, pedestrian, and roadway planning and programs, public outreach and education efforts, development of the long-range Regional Transportation Plan, as well as state-mandated fiscal and performance audits, and unmet transit needs hearings.

***Amendments to the FY 10-11 budget and work program:*** The RTC approved amendments to the FY 10-11 budget to reflect additional estimated Federal Highway Administration Planning funds, redistribution of staff resources to reflect work trends, and other amendments including expanded work with AMBAG to maintain and improve the traffic demand model.

***Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee's annual report***

***received:*** The RTC received the 2010 committee report from the chair of its Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee. The report outlines the committee's accomplishments as well as current and anticipated unmet transportation needs. The committee's activities included an updated Guide to Specialized Transportation, providing input to the 2010 Regional Transportation Plan, analyzing Transportation Development Act claims, and recommending amendments to the RTC's state and federal legislative agendas.

7-4



## SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1523 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95060-3911 • (831) 460-3200 FAX (831) 460-3215 EMAIL [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)

July 14, 2011

Steve Ando, City Manager  
City of Scotts Valley  
One Civic Center Dr.  
Scotts Valley, CA 95066

Subject: Vine Hill Elementary School sidewalk construction project

Dear Mr. Ando:

I am writing on behalf of the Regional Transportation Commission to express support for the City of Scotts Valley's Vine Hill Elementary School sidewalk construction project. Construction of a sidewalk along the elementary school property's frontage along Vine Hill School Road and Tabor Drive would greatly improve the safety of school children and parents walking to school; reduce the need to drive children to school because of substandard facilities; and reduce congestion and greenhouse gas emissions generated by motor vehicle traffic around schools. Additionally, the public health benefit of active transportation in light of rising obesity rates, especially among young children cannot be understated.

Scotts Valley residents living in proximity of Vine Hill Elementary school have long advocated for improved delineation between facilities for bicycles, pedestrians, and motor vehicles claiming that current conditions compromises the safety of their children. The proposed sidewalk on Vine Hill School Road and Tabor Way would not only facilitate safer conditions for school children, but also encourage non-vehicular modes of transportation.

Thank you for considering our support. Please do not hesitate to contact Cory Caletti of my staff if you have further questions.

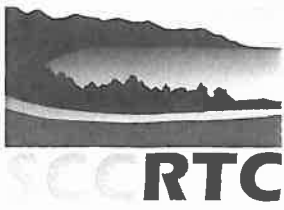
Sincerely,

George Dondero  
Executive Director

cc: Regional Transportation Commission  
Regional Transportation Commission's Bicycle Committee and Elderly and Disabled  
Transportation Advisory Committee  
City Council, City of Scotts Valley  
Ken Anderson, City of Scotts Valley

8-1

8-2



**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

1523 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95060-3911 • (831) 460-3200 FAX (831) 460-3215 EMAIL [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)

April 20, 2011

Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District  
Board of Directors  
110 Vernon Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**RE: Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District's Proposed 12% Service Cuts**

Dear Chair Pirie:

The Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC) advises the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC), the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (Metro), and other service providers on transportation needs for people with disabilities, seniors and persons with limited means.

At their April 12 meeting, the E&D TAC approved the following motion relative the Santa Cruz Metro's 12% bus service cut proposal:

**Send a letter to the Metro board and staff acknowledging the funding challenges ahead and expressing appreciation for taking care to maintain as much geographical coverage throughout Santa Cruz County as possible and reducing fixed route service in a manner that minimizes impacts to the complimentary paratransit service known as ParaCruz-- in recognition of the negative impacts to seniors, people with disabilities and other transit dependent individuals.**

Thank you for considering input from the E/D TAC on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A. John Daugherty, Chair  
Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

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9-2

**From:** Robert White [mailto:motox8r@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 06, 2011 11:26 AM  
**To:** Ellen Buckingham; Bruce Ambo; Stephany Aguilar; Dene Bustichi; Cabrillo Stroke Center; John Daugherty; Karena Pushnik  
**Cc:** Steve Ando; 'Ken Anderson'; 'Conrad Sudduth'; susie christensen; Stephany Aguilar; Mary Maher; Georgeann  
**Subject:** wr white resignationot

***GREETINGS; fellow Scotts Valley ADAand SCCRTC E&DTAC Committee participants.***

due to a recent unexposed change in my health it is with deep regrets I must resign my position on the Scotts Valley SCCRTC and the E&DTAC.

Sincerely

Robert White

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**From:** Karena Pushnik  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 06, 2011 5:12 PM  
**To:** 'Robert White'  
**Cc:** John A. Daugherty  
**Subject:** RE: wr white resignationot

Dear Robert -

I'm sorry to hear about your health situation and your resignation from the E&D TAC.

Your input and representation of Scotts Valley interests was greatly valued.  
All the best to you and your family.

- ***Karena Pushnik***  
***Senior Transportation Planner/Public Information Coordinator***

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Ph: 831.460-3210, f: 831.460-3215, [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org)

10-2

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**Subject:** FW: Resignation

-----Original Message-----

From: Catherine Patterson Valdez [<mailto:catherinep@cbridges.org>]  
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2011 12:55 PM  
To: Karena Pushnik  
Subject: Resignation

Greetings Karena,

I wanted to let you know that I have submitted my resignation to Sam and will be leaving Community Bridges Lift Line as of July 22, 2011. I wanted to personally thank you for supporting and helping through the years while I was getting to know and understand the transportation processes in our County. It has been a pleasure working with you and I look forward to seeing and possibly working with you again in the future.

Catherine Patterson Valdez  
Lift Line / CTSA  
Division Director  
236 Santa Cruz Ave.  
831-688-8840 ext244  
831-247-0560 cell  
831-688-6139 fax

A Program of Community Bridges

The best way to prepare for life is to begin to live.  
Elbert Hubbard

>>> "Karena Pushnik" <[kpushnik@scrtc.org](mailto:kpushnik@scrtc.org)> 6/27/2011 2:57 PM >>>

Hi Catherine -

I am so sorry to hear of your departure. I have enjoyed working with you and think you're a terrific human being.  
I'd love to hear about your next endeavors.

- Karena

11-1

11-2

**D. Transportation:**  
**Making a Difference:**

Santa Cruz Area: The dedication of our drivers is reflected in the small things they do. On a recent assignment, Gay took one of our more elderly clients shopping. He was very disappointed that the special fruit he enjoyed so much was not available at the market. Gay went on a search to find it at other markets. The client was absolutely delighted when Gay showed up at his door and handed him the special fruit.

San Lorenzo/Scotts Valley: The Transportation program works closely with many agency partners in the community. We recently had a referral from Family Service Agency asking our help with a Blind Client in Scotts Valley. We have managed to help our new client by setting her up with ongoing rides to FSA weekly. We received a heartfelt thank you call from FSA saying how valuable our service was.

Watsonville: This quarter we were able to provide vital transportation to an elderly woman who was stranded at home in the Corralitos Mountains. She was recovering from injuries suffered in an automobile accident that also left her without a car. Our program was able to assist her to go grocery shopping and attend her physical therapy and chiropractic appointments while she got back on her feet after the accident. Once she was able to purchase a new car and regain her independence, she no longer needed the program. On several occasions she told us that the program was heaven sent and she would have been in serious trouble without our support.

	This Quarter	YTD	Goal For Year	% of Goal To Date	YTD Prior Year
<b>ABOUT VOLUNTEERS:</b>					
<b>Total Volunteers:</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>79</b>			<b>83</b>
Santa Cruz Volunteers:	27	30			45
SLV Volunteers:	14	15			15
Watsonville Vols:	28	34			23
Total Volunteer Hours:	2,850	7,394			7,135
<b>ABOUT CLIENTS:</b>					
<b>Total Clients:</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>182</b>
Santa Cruz Clients:	57	933	100	93%	97
SLV Clients:	65	742	90	82%	71
Watsonville Clients:	25	41	60	68%	14
<b>KEY SERVICE INDICATORS</b>					
<b>Total Rides:</b>	<b>1,276</b>	<b>3,577</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>3,439</b>
Santa Cruz Rides:	684	2,173	2,800	78%	2,414
SLV Rides:	394	1,049	1,700	62%	803
Watsonville Rides:	198	355	1,000	36%	222

**Outcome Measures:**

Recruit and retain volunteers  
to provide 5,500 rides to essential  
destinations for 250 low income  
seniors and people with disabilities  
that have no other means

132-1

of transportation.	1,276	3,577	5,500	65%	3,439
97% of requests for rides are filled.	97%	97%	97%	100%	99%
85% of rides are to obtain food or medical treatment essential to maintaining independent living.	88%	88%	85%	104%	99%

#### DEMOGRAPHICS: YEAR TO DATE

Ethnicity	Vols#	%	Clients#	%	Target %	Jurisdiction	Vols#	%	Clients#	%
Asian			3	1	4	Santa Cruz City	19	24	39	19
AfricanAmer			2	1	1	Scotts Valley City	4	5	35	17
Caucasian	47	60	142	67	82	San Lorenzo Valley	12	15	39	19
Latino	22	28	21	10	10	Capitola City	2	3	13	6
Nat Amer	1	1			1	Watsonville City	19	24	31	15
Pac Island						Mid County Uninc.	17	22	39	19
Other			3	1		So. County Uninc.	3	4	12	5
Declined	8	10	19	9		No. County Uninc.				
Unknown	1	1	18	9		Out of County	3	4		
						Unknown				
<b>Total</b>	79	100	208	100	100	<b>Total</b>	79	100	208	100

#### Santa Cruz Center:

We are slightly below goal this quarter due in part from our move to the new office.

Transportation services were unavailable for the one-week offices were closed. Rides scheduled during this time period were provided but with phones being unavailable we were unable to take new requests, The program recruited several new drivers and we do anticipate meeting year end goals,

The biggest challenge facing the Transportation Program is funding. We will be watching the budget closely and may need to decrease staff hours. We are grateful for the work being done by staff and volunteers to sustain the program excellence despite the challenges.

#### San Lorenzo Valley Center:

We have moved into our new office building in Live Oak and are settling in nicely. We are so happy to be here. We did recruitment in Boulder Creek this quarter to recruit new clients and drivers.

We continue to participate on the Transportation Commissions Elderly and Disabled 's board.

#### Watsonville Center:

We are technically still behind our goal of 250 rides per quarter, but on a positive note, we have nearly doubled our ridership since last quarter. We have also significantly expanded our volunteer driver pool and trained additional office volunteers/dispatchers. Our clients regularly express how pleased they are with the quality and consistency of the service we provide. In order to reach the target of 250 rides a month, we will need to continue to build and strengthen our base of drivers. This will be a challenge considering the high cost of gas at this time, but we will continue to build and diversify our outreach strategies to reach more interested drivers.

We had a broad outreach strategy this quarter; for example holding informational interviews about the program with doctor's offices and agencies, placing flyers at a wide range of sites across the community and conducting presentations and outreach at Salvation Army, The Pajaro Vista Homeowners association, Watsonville Community Hospital, Head Start, and the Walk To

13a-2

Stop the Silence. Other outreach sites included, City Hall, Watsonville Public Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Café, Watsonville Plaza, Centro Mall, Salud Para La Gente, Bank of America, Target, Senior Center, Watsonville Transit Center, St. Patrick's Church, Dr. Monahan's Office, Freedom Starbucks, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Dr.s on Duty, Mar Monte Medical Clinic, Aptos Village Dental, Western Dental, Harbor Dental, 311 Montecito Residential Care, Molina Guest Home, Dr. Andrew Gore OD, Pajaro Lane Club House, Colonial Manor, Green Valley Village Mobile Home Park, Meadows Manor Mobile Home Park, Pinto Lake Mobile Estates, Plazita Medical Clinic, Watsonville Health Center, Blanco Richard J DMD, Carin Manuel ADDS, Asadi H DDS, Donald Foster DDS, Gary Shenfield DDS, Tim Griffin DDS, James Jacob DDS, Hayashi Arthur DDS, PA Medical Foundation Health Education Department, Multipurpose Senior Services, Cypress Out-Patient

This quarter we continued to train outreach volunteers to promote the programs to clients across the county. Additionally, we trained several additional desk workers to assist with dispatching for the program. Our goal over the next quarter to turn the dispatcher desk over as much as possible to lead volunteers to free us up to do targeted outreach for volunteer drivers in the community.

13a-3

13 a-4

# Innovative vehicles bridge the paratransit gap | BUSRide Digital

By Leslie R. White

A lot of work went into ensuring the vehicles could fit as many passengers as possible while accommodating the need for oversized mobility devices.

Paratransit is the difference between being homebound or institutionalized and being able to live independently. It opens up the public transit system to those who wouldn't normally have access to the service. Through funding from the 2009 Recovery Act, 22 new paratransit mini-buses with pioneering design features rolled onto the streets of Santa Cruz, CA in January. The 2011 Ford E350 raised-top VersaShuttles, retrofitted by Creative Bus Sales to the specifications of Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District's (Santa Cruz METRO), vastly improve both the riding and driving the experience.

Specifically, the new vehicles feature a lower floor, a new Q-Straint runner configuration and a state-of-the-art fire suppression system.

Santa Cruz METRO's ParaCruz provides door-to-door service, as opposed to curb-to-curb, the minimum required for ADA complementary paratransit systems, and believes strongly in its mission. The majority of transit systems are curb-to-curb, which means the bus pulls up and the passenger is expected to find a way to get there. Door-to-door service provides much greater access.

ParaCruz included feedback from passengers and drivers in developing new fleet specifications.

Operations manager **Ciro Aguirre** says incorporating these changes have made major differences in safety, capacity and comfort. Now the vehicles can get into tight areas and maneuver.

The 2011 Ford E350 raised-top VersaShuttles, retrofitted by Creative Bus Sales, meet the specifications of Santa Cruz METRO.

This is a much-needed capability in the rural and mountain areas Santa Cruz METRO serves.

A lot of work went into making sure we could fit as many passengers as possible while accommodating the need for oversized mobility devices. The VersaShuttles are large enough to accommodate passenger needs, yet small enough for door-to-door service.



The high floor in the old mini-buses was a disadvantage. It challenged wheelchair passengers, and made them feel crowded, as did the pocket lift that fit under the flooring. The hydraulics located in the passenger area made that space unusable, and the floor was four inches higher than in the new mini-buses.

We were able to get away from the pocket lift to a Ricon lift which raises and lowers automatically once it is pulled out. We can now carry and secure three standard mobility devices. Our ParaCruz Superintendent, April Warnock, says the new buses can also transport oversized mobility devices, and can fit up to two big devices, like scooters.

The new vehicles feature a low floor, new Q-Straint runner configuration and a state-of-the-art fire suppression system.

In addition to additional clearance and a hand-powered passenger door for loading, the VersaShuttles feature a novel Q-straint runner configuration down the middle of the floor instead of the standard 48 inches apart, which expands capacity. According to Dan Williams at Creative, a full-length track does not limit us to the 30-by-48-inch ADA standard. Doing it this way gives us a 30-inch wide space and plenty of track length for securing any length of chair. These features can be combined in a variety of ways. The vehicles also include a modern, affordable fire-suppression system.

The Fire Trace Automatic Fire Suppression System helps us increase safety. After witnessing buses going up in flames in less than three minutes, our operations manager expressed concerns about engine fires.

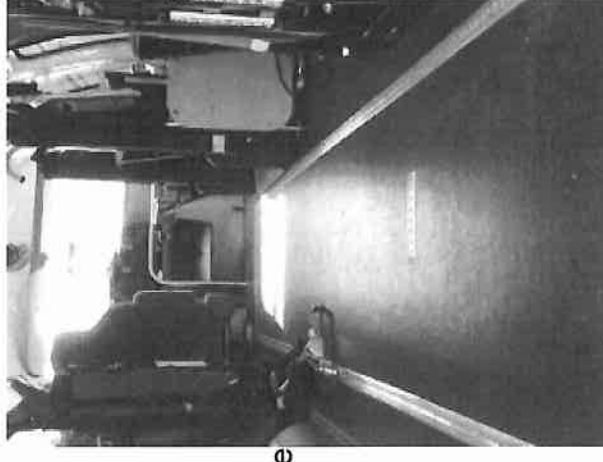
With this system, drivers only have to worry about getting passengers out safely. This was very important to ParaCruz staff. In the past, a driver would also have to deal with an extinguisher while trying to evacuate wheelchair passengers. Staff report that feedback has been positive, and the accessibility for ambulatory folks has been well-received, in addition to positive comments from wheelchair passengers.

The drivers love the new and more powerful buses, saying they are easy to handle.

Our existing fleet was designed for a duty cycle of five years, but we ended up keeping them twice as long. The retrofitted VersaShuttles have an estimated duty cycle of eight years.

The Fire Trace Automatic Fire Suppression System helps to increase safety.

Many people do not realize how expensive door-to-door paratransit service is to provide. The challenge we face in an anemic economy is the sustaining of life-critical transportation at a time when all of our resources are stretched. Yet, without it the alternative of



institutionalization costs five times more than the cost of living independently and using an accessible transportation system. Instead of running two paratransit fleets—one with small vehicles to get to the rural, remote locations and the other of larger vehicles—we now have the VersaShuttles, which are a compromise between the two.

This is the final bridge-gap between a mini-van and a standard paratransit bus which has been missing for a long time.

*Leslie R. White serves as general manager for Santa Cruz METRO, which incorporates the ParaCruz operations. He is a former APTA president and currently chairs the California Transit Association Legislative Committee.*

Posted by admin on Mar 1 2011. Filed under Transit. You can follow any responses to this entry through the RSS 2.0. You can leave a response or trackback to this entry

13C-3



130-4

# SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

**DATE:** June 24, 2011  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** April Warnock, Paratransit Superintendent  
**SUBJECT:** METRO PARACRUZ OPERATIONS STATUS REPORT

## I. RECOMMENDED ACTION

This report is for information only - no action requested

## II. SUMMARY OF ISSUES

- METRO ParaCruz is the federally mandated ADA complementary paratransit program of the Transit District, providing shared ride, door-to-door demand-response transportation to customers certified as having disabilities that prevent them from independently using the fixed route bus.
- METRO assumed direct operation of paratransit services November 1, 2004. This service had been delivered under contract since 1992.
- Discussion of ParaCruz Operations Status Report.
- Attachment A: On-time Performance Chart displays the percentage of pick-ups within the "ready window" and a breakdown in 5-minute increments for pick-ups beyond the "ready window". The monthly Customer Service Reports summary is included.
- Attachment B: Report of ParaCruz' operating statistics. Performance Averages and Performance Goals are reflected in the Comparative Operating Statistics Table in order to establish and compare actual performance measures, as performance is a critical indicator as to ParaCruz' efficiency.
- Attachments C and D: ParaCruz Performance Charts displaying trends in rider-ship and mileage spanning a period of three years.
- Attachment E: Current calendar year's statistical information on the number of ParaCruz in-person eligibility assessments, including a comparison to past years, since implementation in August of 2002.

### **III. DISCUSSION**

From March 2011 to April 2011, ParaCruz rides decreased by 815 rides. This decrease trends with the past two years, although the actual decrease in rides is larger than before. The number of rides performed in March 2011, was 8990, the highest number of rides performed in a month in ParaCruz history.

The decrease in rides is attributed to the natural trending of monthly rides, inclement weather and there being twenty-one (21) week-days in the month, although the price of gasoline remained very high.

Call Center statistics are available only on a monthly basis at this time, reflecting that we experienced problems with the phone system attributed to wiring issues that have been identified. Corrective measures have been taken, but the disruption to the system makes cumulative data unavailable at this time.

### **IV. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

NONE

### **V. ATTACHMENTS**

- Attachment A:** ParaCruz On-time Performance Chart
- Attachment B:** Comparative Operating Statistics Table
- Attachment C:** Number of Rides Comparison Chart and Shared vs. Total Rides Chart
- Attachment D:** Mileage Comparison Chart and Year to Date Mileage Chart
- Attachment E:** Eligibility Chart

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**6-3.2**

# ATTACHMENT A

Board of Directors  
Board Meeting June 24, 2011

ParaCruz On-time Performance Report		
	April 2010	April 2011
Total pick ups	8119	8175
Percent in "ready window"	96.02%	94.81%
1 to 5 minutes late	1.59%	1.97%
6 to 10 minutes late	1.08%	1.42%
11 to 15 minutes late	.59%	.80%
16 to 20 minutes late	.44%	.57%
21 to 25 minutes late	.09%	.17%
26 to 30 minutes late	.09%	.06%
31 to 35 minutes late	.02%	.10%
36 to 40 minutes late	.02%	.07%
41 or more minutes late (excessively late/missed trips)	.05%	.02%
Total beyond "ready window"	3.98%	5.19%

During the month of April 2011, ParaCruz received eight (8) Customer Service Reports. Two (2) of the reports were valid complaints, two (2) of the reports were not valid, two (2) reports were unverifiable, and one (1) of the reports were compliments. One (1) of the reports was regarding the Eligibility Department.

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6-3.a1

# ATTACHMENT B

Board of Directors  
Board Meeting June 24, 2011

## Comparative Operating Statistics This Fiscal Year, Last Fiscal Year through April 2011.

	Apr 10	Apr 11	Fiscal 09-10	Fiscal 10-11	Performance Averages	Performance Goals
Requested	8687	9057	84,713	54,265	8442	
Performed	8119	8175	77,921	78,907	7322	
Cancels	18.11%	20.88%	19.81%	18.36%	18.30%	
No Shows	2.53%	2.21%	2.06%	2.14%	2.21%	Less than 3%
Total miles	51,125	55910	507,695	536,630	52,440	
Av trip miles	4.97	4.80	5.09	5.01	4.99	
Within ready window	96.02%	94.81%	95.70%	95.78%	95.66%	92.00% or better
Excessively late/missed trips	4	2	15	13	1.83	Zero (0)
Call center volume	5673	5980	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Call average seconds to answer	32	31	N/A	N/A	N/A	Less than 2 minutes
Hold times less than 2 minutes	95%	96%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Greater than 90%
Distinct riders	812	804	1,692	1764	810	
Most frequent rider	56 rides	53 rides	306 rides	474 rides	58 rides	
Shared rides	60.7%	61.9%	60.3%	62.1%	62.60%	Greater than 60%
Passengers per rev hour	2.33	2.03	2.27	2.10	2.09	Greater than 1.6 passengers/hour
Rides by supplemental providers	11.05%	12.24%	12.60%	9.69%	9.88%	No more than 25%
Vendor cost per ride	\$24.85	\$22.20	\$25.14	\$21.01	\$21.39	
ParaCruz driver cost per ride (estimated)	\$22.46	\$21.95	\$25.18	\$24.06	\$24.37	
Rides < 10 miles	70.03%	70.17%	69.88%	70.44%	70.20%	
Rides > 10	29.97%	29.83%	30.12%	29.56%	29.80%	

6-3.b1

13C-8

**Agenda:** August 9, 2011

**To:** Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee  
**From:** Karena Pushnik, RTC Staff  
**Re:** City of Watsonville Article 8 Transportation Development Act Allocation Request

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee:

Recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission approve by resolution the City of Watsonville's Article 8 Transportation Development Act Allocation Claim for \$182,000 to construct 52 curb cuts at various locations in the city.

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## **BACKGROUND**

Each year the Regional Transportation Commission allocates Article 8 Transportation Development Account (TDA) funds to local jurisdictions for bikeway and pedestrian projects. TDA funds allocated to a local jurisdiction may be rolled over from one fiscal year to the next. TDA claims with pedestrian amenities must be reviewed by the Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee prior to approval by the Regional Transportation Commission.

## **DISCUSSION**

The City of Watsonville is requesting a recommendation of approval from the E&D TAC for a TDA claim in the amount of \$182,000 to install 52 curb ramps on various streets within the city. A detailed TDA claims for this projects is attached, including locations of the proposed curb ramps (Attachment 1).

### **Attachments**

1. Article 8 TDA Allocation Claim 6/1/11 Letter and TDA Claim Forms from the City of Watsonville

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Attachment 1

# CITY OF WATSONVILLE

"Opportunity through diversity; unity through cooperation"



## ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

275 Main Street, Suite 400  
Fourth Floor  
Fax 831.761.0736

## MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

275 Main Street, Suite 400  
Fourth Floor  
831.768.3008  
CITY MANAGER  
831.768.3010  
CITY ATTORNEY  
831.768.3030  
CITY CLERK  
831.768.3040  
PERSONNEL  
831.768.3020

## CITY HALL OFFICES

250 Main Street

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

831.768.3050  
Fax 831.728.6173

### FINANCE

831.768.3450  
Fax 831.763.4066

### PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES

831.768.3100  
Fax 831.763.4065

### PURCHASING

831.768.3461  
Fax 831.763.4066

## REDEVELOPMENT & HOUSING

831.768.3080  
Fax 831.763.4114

### AIRPORT

100 Aviation Way  
831.768.3480  
Fax 831.763.4058

### FIRE

115 Second Street  
831.768.3200  
Fax 831.763.4054

### LIBRARY

275 Main Street, Suite 100  
First Floor  
831.768.3400  
Fax 831.763.4015

## PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

231 Union Street  
831.768.3240  
Fax 831.763.4078

June 1, 2011

Mr. George Dondero, Executive Director  
Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
1523 Pacific Avenue  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060-3911

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT FUNDS

Dear Mr. Dondero,

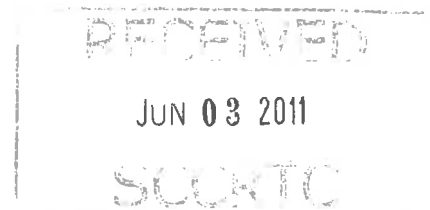
The following is an initial claim for Transportation Development Act Funds for the construction of curb ramps at various locations in the City:

1. Description  
The project consists of the installation of curb ramps on various streets within the City. A list of streets with the number of proposed ramps is attached.
2. Justification  
In accordance with ADA law, the City has adopted a policy that curb ramps be installed on streets scheduled for repaving. The City also prioritizes citizen requests for ramp installations, particularly when they are along highly utilized pedestrian corridors.
3. Estimated Cost  
The estimated cost for installation of 52 curb ramps is \$182,000. It is requested that this project be funded with TDA funds. The City has no other sources available to fund this project.
4. Maintenance  
It is the policy of the City that sidewalk maintenance be paid for by the adjacent property owner. City staff monitors sidewalks throughout the City and administers the sidewalk repair program.
5. Disbursements  
A final claim will be made upon completion of the project.

Sincerely,

  
Maria Esther Rodriguez  
Principal Engineer

Enclosure



14-3

**2011 Curb Ramp Project  
City of Watsonville**

*Locations include, but not limited to:*

Street	Cross Street	# Ramps
Allston Way	Crescent Dr.	3
Brewington Ave	Bonita Terr.	3
Brewington Ave.	Cerrito Terr.	3
Delaware St	Wagner Ave.	4
Delaware St.	Bronson St.	2
E. Fifth St.	Jefferson St.	4
E. Fifth St.	Sudden St.	5
E. Front St.	Main St.	2
Gonzales St.	W. High St.	2
Gonzales St.	Brennan St.	3
Manor Ave.	McKenzie Ave.	2
Middlefield Ln.	Western Dr.	2
Middlefield Ln.	Eastern	2
Palm Ave	Tharp Ave.	2
Palm Ave	Wilkie Ave.	3
Vivienne Dr.	Lake Village Dr.	2
W. Beach St.	Locust St.	2
Wilkie Ave.	California St.	6
Total Ramps:		52

Date: July 5, 2011

To: RTC's Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

From: Tove Beatty, Grants Manager, and Claire Fliesler, Planning Intern  
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

RE: Bus Stop Update

This project is well underway. To date, we have:

- Done site prep and concrete work at the Emeline/Sutphen stop and the shelter has been installed.
- Removed the roofs from old wooden shelters that were identified for new roofs. New roofing supplies have been ordered and the work is ready to begin on roof replacement.
- We have ordered the supplies for the new benches from the different vendors. We have the redwood for the bench planks but we have not received the legs yet. The bench legs are fabricated specially for METRO standards and we are currently waiting for the vendor to ship them to us. After we receive them, we can build the new benches.
- We have ordered the Simme Seats and are waiting the vendor to ship them. After they are shipped we can place them at the stops. Tove spoke several times to David Emanuel, the Certified Mobility Training Specialist at Vista Center for the Blind, and he said that after extensive surveying of other mobility trainers, they had never heard of any problems with the Simme-seats. In addition, we surveyed other bus districts' customer service departments to see if they had received any specific complaints about Simme-seating from the handicapped population. All districts confirmed that they had zero complaints about this seating.
- We have received the new bus shelters, have installed one at Emeline and Sutphen and are getting ready to install the other two, once we have talked to relative Departments of Public Works.
- We have allocated \$65,000 of the bus stop project money to the Lane 4 awning construction project at Pacific Station. Currently, we are working with the City of Santa Cruz to finalize plans for construction. The total cost for this project is approximately \$90,000, other funds are making up the difference between the bus stop construction money and other Santa Cruz METRO capital funds.

---

**Subject:** FW: Simme-Seats at Bus Stops

**From:** Tove Beatty [mailto:TBeatty@scmtd.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2011 3:12 PM  
**To:** Karena Pushnik; 'Veronica Elsea'  
**Cc:** Angela Aitken; Robert Cotter; Claire Fliesler  
**Subject:** Simme-Seats at Bus Stops

Hi Karena and Veronica:

I heard back from David Emanuel, the Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist at Vista Center for the Blind, today and he reviewed the Simme-Seats with all of his teachers when they met this Wednesday. They had no complaints from clients. They were all familiar with the seating, as it they are place in Santa Clara and San Mateo, and aside from the issue that the visually impaired would have with anything on a pole (it's hard to find), no clients have complained about this seating to any of Vista's teachers.

In addition to the calls that our intern, Claire, has made around to systems in both northern and southern California (where no customer service complaints were received whatsoever about the Simme-Seats), it seems that this seating has not been a big issue for the visually impaired community.

Please let me know if you'd like me to do more detective work on the overall approval rating of Simme-Seats for the visually impaired and I will take it up with our Project Manager, Bob Cotter.

Best Regards,  
Tove Beatty  
Grants/Legislative Analyst  
Santa Cruz METRO  
426-6080 x. 1307

## Karena Pushnik

---

**From:** Tove Beatty [TBeatty@scmtd.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 1:11 PM  
**To:** Karena Pushnik; 'Veronica Elsea'; 'John Daugherty'  
**Cc:** Angela Aitken  
**Subject:** FW: SIMME Seats

Hi Karena, Veronica and John:

So far, we have spoken to the mobility managers and/or customer service folks at two transit districts—SamTrans and Community Transit in Washington—about their use of the Simme Seats. Both agencies, as you can read below, are extremely happy with this product, have received no complaints from the disabled community and, in fact, have received praise from the elderly community for providing this seating at stops where there was no seating before.

We are still waiting for comments on the seating from the mobility trainer at Vista Center in Santa Cruz and I hope to talk to him soon. He has the product information and is reviewing it to give us any tips on installing it and helping people to find it. I might not connect with him until next week, since I am leaving on vacation on Wednesday.

I will keep you updated as I get more information.

Thanks,  
Tove Beatty  
Grants/Legislative Analyst  
Santa Cruz METRO  
831-426-6080 x. 1307

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**From:** Claire Fliesler  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 12:25 PM  
**To:** Tove Beatty  
**Subject:** SIMME Seats

Hi Tove,

I talked to Tina at SamTrans about the SIMME Seats in their service area and she said they loved them. She specifically mentioned that they have had no complaints from the disabled community. Her number is (650) 508-6247 in case you need to reach her.

I also talked to Tony at Community Transit in Everett, WA and he said that they LOVED them. In particular, he mentioned that they have gotten a lot of positive feedback from their elderly customers. He also said there had been no negative comments from the disabled community. He can be reached at (425) 348-2303 if needed.

Thanks,  
Claire

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**10. REVIEW OF METRO'S PROPOSED ANNUAL DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) GOAL OF 1.54% FOR FEDERALLY FUNDED PROCUREMENTS FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS 2012 – 2014 (FFY12-FFY14)**

Angela Aitken gave a presentation and explanation on the status of the new DBE goal for the FFY12-FFY14. Ms. Aitken said that this new goal reflects what METRO has been able to obtain. Ms. Aitken said that right now there is a 45 day public comment period on this topic that started May 9 and ends June 24, 2011.

**11. DISCUSSION OF BUS STOPS**

Mary Ferrick circulated information from CalTrain regarding the availability of bicycle lockers at Diridon Transit Center. There was a discussion regarding two locations with missing benches. There was a discussion about replacing missing benches with benches that become available due to Service.

There was a discussion regarding bus schedule signage posted too high and a suggestion to review the specifications for bus schedule signage.

There was a discussion about solar lighting for some of the more obscure bus stops and a future project including GPS for the bus and alert systems whereby a cellular phone could make one aware of the imminent arrival of a bus.

**12. DISCUSSION OF PROMOTING RIDERSHIP**

There was a discussion about promoting ridership. Ciro Aguirre said that METRO is promoting ridership by virtue of the new fare box system and the new revenue collection process. Mr. Aguirre said that METRO is looking at establishing some fare structures that may include a smaller version of our bus passes - possibly a 3 day or 5 day pass and SmartCard - debuting in late summer. Chair Gunther requested that this item be removed from the Agenda in the future.

**13. DISTRIBUTION OF MAC VOUCHERS**

Mary Ferrick distributed bus vouchers to MAC members

**14. COMMUNICATIONS TO METRO GENERAL MANAGER**

None.

**15. COMMUNICATIONS TO METRO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

In order to increase accessibility of the bus riding public to the BOD Meetings, would the Board consider finding another location for their first meeting of the month that is more Public Transit accessible?"

**5.3**

## **AGENDA: August 9, 2011**

**TO:** Elderly/Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee  
**FROM:** Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner  
**RE:** Identification of Priority Projects

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### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff recommends that the Elderly/Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee:

1. Identify priority transportation projects for seniors and people with disabilities.
- 

### **BACKGROUND**

Through development of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Unmet Needs list, project sponsors, committee members, and the public identify transportation needs for Santa Cruz County. The 2010 RTP, adopted by the RTC in June 2010, identified nearly 500 projects totaling \$4.5 billion needed over the next twenty-five years. However, only \$2 billion in funding is anticipated to be available to fund these projects in the same time period and the RTC has discretion over less than \$200 million of those funds (approx. \$8 million per year on average). Since transportation funding rarely keeps pace with transportation needs, project sponsors and funding agencies are continually confronted with the challenge of deciding which limited number of projects should move forward.

### **DISCUSSION**

While the RTP identifies general priorities and evaluation measures for the transportation system, the RTP does not prioritize specific projects. However, given the limited funds available for transportation projects, this committee may wish to consider the wide range of needs and identify a few priority projects throughout the region. This prioritized list could help local agencies and the RTC focus on certain projects when funding does become available.

#### Identifying Priority Projects

Staff recommends that the committee identify 5-10 priority projects for seniors and people with disabilities. This list is advisory in nature only. As a starting point, you may want to consider issues identified in the Unmet Specialized

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Transportation and Transit Needs List (Attachment 1). The Committee should consider key transportation challenges for seniors and people with disabilities and the types of services, facilities and programs that are most critical to meet those challenges. Criteria often used when prioritizing projects is included as Attachment 2.

Based on previous discussions this list could include:

- Maintaining core fixed-route transit and paratransit service areas as a way to serve the greatest number of people for the lowest cost and environmental impact
- Prioritizing sidewalks/pedestrian improvements that provide universal access between transit stops and activity centers
- Filling missing bicycle and pedestrian links to high traffic residential and activity areas (e.g. Pedestrian/bicycle bridge over Highway 1 near Soquel Drive and Soquel Avenue, connecting Chanticleer and Dominican hospital areas)

## **SUMMARY**

In 2010 the RTC adopted the 2010 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). While the RTP does not prioritize projects, funding is insufficient to fund projects as needed. As such, project sponsors continually must prioritize certain projects. Staff recommends that the Committee identify some of the most significant projects in Santa Cruz County.

### Attachment:

1. Unmet Specialized Transportation and Transit Needs List
2. Sample Issues Considered When Prioritizing Projects

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# Attachment 1

## Final 2011

### Unmet Specialized Transportation/Transit Needs List

*Adopted by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) at a Public Hearing at 10:00 am on May 5, 2011. For more information, call the RTC at 831.460-3200.*

#### **Prioritization:**

**H - High** priority items are those items that fill a gap or absence of service. There are three levels of High priority with H1 being the top priority.

**M - Medium** priority items are items that supplement existing service.

**L - Low** priority items should become more specific and then be planned for, as funds are available.

#### **General**

1. **H1** - Lack of fully accessible transit stops and safe travel paths between senior and/or disabled living areas, medical facilities, educational facilities, employment locations, retail centers, entertainment venues and/or bus stops (examples: Capitola Road and side streets, trailer park at Antionelli, Santa Cruz County Nursing facility)
2. **H2** - Expanded publicity necessary about existing specialized transportation services including ADA paratransit, non-ADA paratransit, Medi-Cal rides and mobility training for people to use regular fixed route buses
3. **H2** - Shortage of transportation services for low-income children and their families, including a lack of transportation for people transitioning from welfare to work
4. **H2** - Availability of accessible local taxi services for seniors and disabled persons
5. **H2** - Lack of direct paratransit and accessible transit connections with neighboring counties — including Monterey (Pajaro), San Benito, Santa Clara and other points north
6. **H2** - Expansion of the program currently in place in some jurisdictions to all jurisdictions in the county that requires homeowners to make improvements to sidewalks adjacent to their property when the property is sold
7. **M** - Amend local taxi ordinances to facilitate improved service to seniors and individuals with disabilities

#### **Paratransit/Specialized Transportation**

8. **H1** - Lack of specialized transportation for all areas outside the ADA Paratransit service area, with special emphasis on priority destinations
9. **H1** - Need for coordinated and seamless-to-the-public system of specialized transportation with a Mobility Management Center (central information point, one stop shop)
10. **H1** - Lack of transportation for dialysis and other medical appointments

11. **H2** - Shortage of projected funding for all specialized transportation (including fixed route, ADA and non-ADA Paratransit) to meet the needs of the senior population expected to increase over the next 15 to 30 years
12. **M** - Shortage of programs and operating funds for 'same day' medical trips on paratransit
13. **M** - Shortage of programs and operating funds for 'same day' non-medical trips
14. **M** - Shortage of volunteer drivers in Santa Cruz County including for the Volunteer Center Transportation Program and the out-of-county medical ride program, particularly in south county
15. **M** - Shortage of affordable special care trips and gurney vehicles for medically fragile individuals and those needing "bed to bed" transportation
16. **M** - Provide transportation for all senior meal sites in the county to meet unmet needs
17. **M** - Assure the availability of taxi scrip to meet need for "safety net" services
18. **L** - Need for the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency to acquire an improved operations and maintenance facility
19. **L** - Need for Ongoing provision of ADA Paratransit certification, provided by Metro, at group facilities

## **Transit**

20. **H1** - Restore transit service to 2009 levels.
21. **H1** - Complete MetroBase Facility Phase 1 and Phase 2 including Operations Building and Parking Structure.
22. **H1** - Restore service to Gault Street and La Posada, Blackburn Street (Santa Cruz), Independence Square (Watsonville), simultaneously with the restoration of service to senior residences and centers and areas of high density concentrations of mobility-challenged individuals.
23. **H1** - Need to prioritize bus stop improvement and shelter replacement based on high usage by seniors and people with disabilities
24. **H2** - Redevelop Santa Cruz Metro Center as mixed use facility incorporating local transit service, regional transit service, paratransit service, intercity bus service, commercial office functions, passenger service facilities, parking facilities, and both market rate and affordable housing and potentially for child-care facilities.
25. **H1** - Funding to maintain existing services and facilities.
26. **H2** - Complete conversion of vehicles (revenue and non-revenue) to alternate fuels.
27. **H2** - Four (4) small fixed route replacement buses for rural service.
28. **H2** - Fourteen (14) full sized fixed route replacement buses.

29. **H2** - Identify and obtain funding to support the future levels of paratransit service that will be required.
30. **H2** - Increased frequencies for Route 71 evening service: 2x an hour until 9PM vs. 7PM.
31. **H2** - Acquire and develop permanent operation and maintenance facility for ParaCruz to accommodate increased fleet size and growth in future service.
32. **H2** - Replace thirty (30) 1998 fixed route buses.
33. **H3** - Implement "yield to bus" program to improve travel times.
34. **H3** - Extend highway 17 service to Watsonville.
35. **H3** - Add AM/PM and weekend Route 79 service.
36. **H3** - Purchase Automated Vehicle Location/Passenger (AVL) Counting System.
37. **H3** - Installation of Transponders on all buses for Preemptive Signal Control on major corridors improving traffic flow, reducing travel time, and improving on-time performance.
38. **H3** - Increase weekend Hwy 17 service frequencies.
39. **H3** - Add early morning Route 70 service to Cabrillo College.
40. **H3** - Additional night UCSC service, including Route 20.
41. **H3** - Extension of Highway 17/Amtrak service to UCSC at key times.
42. **H3** - East/West Express service to UCSC and Cabrillo and from Watsonville on 69W.
43. **H3** - Express service between San Lorenzo Valley and both UCSC and Cabrillo College.
44. **H3** - Expanded service between UCSC and Westside University activity centers such as Long Marine Lab, Wrigley building offices, Texas Instruments building offices.
45. **H3** - Service from the UC Inn to UCSC.
46. **H3** - Expanded service to new residential and commercial areas in Watsonville.
47. **H3** - Continue to improve bus stops to be ADA accessible.
48. **H3** - Route 66 using 7th Avenue inbound and outbound (between Capitola Road and Soquel Avenue).
49. **H3** - Add early morning Route 35 service.
50. **H3** - Implement circulator service in Santa Cruz, Watsonville, Capitola, and Scotts Valley.
51. **H3** - Service from Santa Cruz County to Los Gatos.
52. *(completed)* **H3** - Increase window of service on Route 4.
53. **H3** - Equip ParaCruz Vehicles with Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) for improved manifest display, immediate additions/deletions/confirmations to trips, improved communication and tracking.

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54. **H** - Continued need for transit to unserved low income and senior housing areas in south county (examples: Stonecreek Apartments in Watsonville and the San Andreas Migrant Labor Camp)
55. **H/M** – Bus and ParaCruz service on all holidays
56. **M** - Expanded evening and late night service on major fixed routes to improve service accessibility.
57. **M** - Automated phone-based trip planning providing Metro route information and or trip planning coordination via telephone and voice activated menu.
58. **M** -. (*underway*)
59. **M** - 30-minute peak frequencies on collector and arterial routes.
60. **M** - Braille and raised numbers on bus signage at bus stops indicating which bus routes are being offered at each stop.
61. **L** - Install audio and video surveillance system for all buses.
62. **L** - Bi-directional service on local Watsonville and Aptos/Rio Del Mar routes.
63. **L** - Fare free service to students under the age of 13.

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## **Attachment 2**

### **SAMPLE ISSUES CONSIDERED WHEN PRIORITIZING PROJECTS**

Different criteria may be used for different types of projects or goals and criteria may include project benefits, as well as potential issues associated with a project (such as environmental impacts – including impacts on air quality/greenhouse gas emissions; safety; ongoing maintenance cost of new or expanded facilities). To address congestion – projects may be evaluated based on their ability to reduce delay, reduce the number of vehicle miles traveled (increased bus service, compact development, telecommuting, ridesharing, etc). To prioritize maintenance some entities look at the number of people using a facility, the cost of minor repairs to extend the useful life of a facility as compared to replacement or major rehabilitation costs, or other factors. Prioritization of pedestrian projects may be based on measures such as proximity to schools, senior housing or bus routes. Transit and paratransit projects may be based on increasing riders and farebox recovery ratios, reducing travel times, and other measures.

1. What are the desired outcomes/goals?
2. What criteria should be considered to determine which projects are most effective at addressing system needs?

#### **General**

- Number of people served (ADT, residents with access to facility/likely to use facility)
- Ongoing cost to maintain new/expanded facility
- Level of benefit to the region's transportation system
- Address multiple modes of transportation
- Improve safety (reduce fatalities and injuries)
- Improve mobility (reduce travel times, reduce congestion)
- Increase accessibility (increase travel options and opportunities)
- Improve reliability of the system (ensure on time trips and service)
- Increase productivity of the existing transportation system (increase throughput)
- Improve air quality/environment/global warming (reduce emissions)
- Preserve existing infrastructure or service
- Have limited risks to delivery (have sufficient funds, limited potential delays)
- Projects fully funded
- Projects whose sponsor is partnering with, or has agreed to employ the services of, a community conservation corps or the California Conservation Corps (collectively referred to as "corps") --- highest priority for TE funds, per SB286
- Project timing/deliverability:
  - Projects that can be completed within three (3) years.

- Timing of when projects can obligate funds (those ready for construction sooner, to be given priority).
- Ability to meet state and federal deadlines.
- Level of economic benefit
  - Facilitate improved goods movement
  - Increase access to jobs
  - Jobs created – during construction and ongoing
  - Project in economically distressed areas (create jobs in those areas)

### **Mobility and accessibility**

- Increase walkability of neighborhoods between homes and services
- Reduce length of commutes
- Reduce travel times or delay
- Reduce travel time within key regional corridors.
- Reduce total person hours of delay and daily vehicle hours of delay.
- Increase non-SOV use/meet modal split goals
- Increase in the proportion of residents using transit.
- Increase access to bus stop, transit station or corridor.
- Reduce variability in travel time on state highways.
- Increase vehicle occupancy on highways during peak periods.
- Increase passengers per vehicle revenue mile (transit).
- Reduce emissions.
- Reduce number of Vehicle Miles Traveled per Household.
- Increase Transit On-Time Performance
- Increase Transit Ridership

### **Safety**

- Reduce Motor Vehicle Collisions
- Reduce Collisions Involving Bicycles and Pedestrians
- Reduce road rage

### **State of Repair**

- Repair Roadway Pavement
- Reduce Transit Service Calls

### **Bicycle Projects**

- Likely use (model to be developed by AMBAG for urban areas) -->:
  - ADT on adjacent roadway(s)
  - Density in area (potential users)
  - existing or future connectivity between the project and the surrounding bikeway network
  - socioeconomic data
  - network geometry and topography
  - existing and future bike, transit, and roadway networks.

- Trip purposes served: to/ from homes and jobs; schools; shops; recreation and other trip purposes.
- Emissions reduced (based on reduced VMT, cold starts, etc)
- Safety
- Fills gap in system
- Use by k-12 students

### **Key issues considered by project sponsors**

- Safety/collision data
- Congestion hot spots
- Capacity needs
- Priorities identified in adopted plans (Bike Plan, Beach Area, UCSC/MST, etc)
- Geographic balance
- Demographics: Population being served
- Number of potential users
- Popularity of a program (for TDM)
- Identified needs
- Council, public feedback --- especially for streetscaping, sidewalks, etc
- A significant collision
- Timing of other projects (ability to consolidate/piggy back, even if one project might otherwise on it own be constructed several years later)
  - Ex. timed utility upgrades, new development, etc
- Requirements (from LRDP, EIR, development review, mitigation plans, etc)
- Financing
- Overall goals: Sustainability focus, reducing number of subsidies
- Public input via surveys, committees
- Age of facility/equipment--replacement needs
- Grant eligibility criteria (ID project that fits grant)
- System preservation, PMI
- Ability to complete project/deliverability/full funding
- Address environmental concerns
- Projects that yield greatest GHG emission reductions
- Review of existing program success
- Challenge to prioritize when huge backlog of needs (ex. large number of roads in bad condition)

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# **2011 Sidewalk Maintenance Public Outreach Campaign**

*Developed and Implemented by the Pedestrian Safety Work Group, a subcommittee of the RTC's Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee, in conjunction with local jurisdictions.*

## ***Sidewalk Safety & Maintenance Messages:***

### **1. Community Value of Good Pedestrian Network and Walkable Communities**

- Everyone is a pedestrian
- Community value of safe and accessible sidewalks
- Everyone benefits from good sidewalks: seniors, children, pets, families, people with disabilities, etc.
- Walkability a key component of a healthy community
- Walking is a low-cost, environmentally-friendly way to get around
- Good sidewalks increase attractiveness and property value of your home
- Good neighborhoods, including sidewalks, are our collective responsibility
- Experiencing your community via the sidewalk network is enriching
- Local weather conditions create an ideal walking environment

### **2. Attributes of Good Sidewalks**

- No matter where you are, you have a right to expect the sidewalk to be in good condition.
- Goal is to minimize "tip and trip" hazards on sidewalks
- Common sidewalk design and maintenance standards exist throughout the county
- Elements of good sidewalks include:
  - Smooth surfaces: no gaps or uplifts of ½ inch or more
  - Clear path/walkways (4' wide x height clearance of 7')
    - i. Control overgrown trees, shrubs and roots
    - ii. Remove barriers from pathways (cars, recreation vehicles, realtor signs, trash cans, etc)
  - Minimal slopes that prevent tipping hazards
  - Non-slip surfaces
  - Controlled Tree Roots
    - i. Plant trees using root barriers
    - ii. Most Local jurisdictions have sidewalk friendly tree recommendations

### **3. Maintenance Responsibilities**

- Per California Streets and Highway codes, property owners are responsible for sidewalk maintenance, and could be liable if not properly maintained
- Maintenance standards exist for safe and accessible sidewalks
- Fix sidewalks to avoid unnecessary legal hassles and costs

- Sometimes help is available for: grinding, tree selection, shared contractors and zero interest loans. Consult with your local jurisdiction or insurance agent.

#### **4. Report Sidewalk Conditions**

- Report sidewalk problems, ideas, and suggestions directly to your local jurisdiction or to the RTC
- Report sidewalks that need maintenance, lack of sidewalks, access barriers/hazards, and street crossing issues (cross walks, signals, curb ramps, etc.)
- Refer to standards (2<sup>nd</sup> message) for tip and trip hazards (uplifts, gaps, surface, clearance)
- Contact your local jurisdiction Public Works Department if you're unsure about problems with sidewalks adjacent to your property
- Use the Pedestrian Access Report or new Hazard Report on RTC website
- Renters are encouraged to contact their landlord or use hazard reports about issues with sidewalks in front of their residence
- Get involved in pedestrian advocacy groups (Mission Pedestrian, E&D TAC, CTSC to help identify unmet needs and work toward solutions
- Highlight good examples countywide of businesses/property owners as an expression of community values

### *Outreach Components:*

#### General for all areas of the county:

- Write and Distribute Public Service Announcements (PSA) in English & Spanish
- Radio PSAs
- Video Public Service PSA's on TV or YouTube (tape through Transportation Café)
- Community TV featuring Hope Services
- Guest editorials in Sentinel for each topic by individual Work Group members
- Articles in other media (work with local and guest reporters)
  - Press Releases – RTC Staff
  - Sentinel Article – Jason Hoppin
  - Mary Lou Goeke – Register-Pajaronian
  - Chuck Molinar – Sentinel
- Talk Show circuit –
  - KZSC – John Sandidge and Grapevine/Bruce Bratton
  - KSCO – Saturday Special/Michael Zwerling
  - KUSP – Talk of the Bay
  - Spanish Radio?

- Notice in property tax bills
- Presentations to Realtor Boards – RTC will combine with other presentation
- Disclosure language for property sales
- Contractor education of best practices
- List Standards on RTC website
- Search word optimization for internet sites: sidewalk maintenance, sidewalk repair, etc (also include hot links to other resources and the Hazard Form) – RTC
- Contacts from 3/26/11 Ped Workshop
- Spanish:
  - La Ganga
  - Radio
  - Farmers Market
  - Contacts from 3/26/11 Ped Workshop
- South County outreach

Specific to LJ's, agencies or areas:

- Inserts in utility bills
- Enews blasts
- List or link on agency websites- RTC
- Presentations to neighborhood meetings (Santa Cruz Neighbors, etc)
- Work with local advocacy groups (Mission Pedestrian, etc)
- Inclusion in community/business/neighborhood/environmental group newsletters – RTC
  - Our Town – Watsonville
  - SCHMU Review – Santa Cruz

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