



## Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

### Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

---

**Minutes**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 2017**

**RTC Offices**  
**1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, 95060**

1 Call to Order: 1:34 pm

2. Introductions

**Members Present:**

Kirk Ance, CTSA, Lift Line  
Pam Arnsberger, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA  
John Daugherty, Metro Transit  
Veronica Elsea, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Clay Kempf, Social Service Provider,  
Seniors  
Cara Lamb, Potential Transit User  
Dulce Lizarraga-Chagilla, Social Service  
Provider-Seniors  
Lori Welch Bettencourt, 4<sup>th</sup> District

**Alternates Present:**

April Warnock, Metro Transit/ParaCruz

**Excused Absences:**

Tom Duncanson, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

**Unexcused Absences:**

Greta Kleiner, Potential Transit User  
Disabled  
Michael Molesky, Social Service Provider  
Disabled (County)

**RTC Staff Present:**

Grace Blakeslee  
Cory Caletti  
Cathy Judd  
Rachel Moriconi  
Karena Pushnik

**Others Present:**

Ray Cancino, Community Bridges  
Alex Clifford, Metro  
Barrow Emerson, Metro  
Lois Connell, Volunteer Center  
Donald Miller  
Sean Vienna, AMBAG

3. Oral Communications

- Yellow Cab is selling its assets to Michael and John Cardinale in Monterey and close of the sale is expected on April 30. The new cab company will be invited to discuss any changes to paratransit services to the E&D TAC
- RTC initiated the Cruz511 In Your Neighborhood project. People in central Watsonville and eastside Santa Cruz neighborhoods are invited to participate. The program is focused on providing customized information for individuals interested in bicycling, walking or carpooling instead of driving alone. This is a pilot project and future programs could be expanded to other neighborhoods.
- Caltrain is going ahead with their plans to electrify trains. A suggestion was made that Santa Cruz County should consider electrifying Metro buses.

4. Additions or deletions to the consent or regular agenda

Clay Kempf requested that Item 14c be pulled from the Consent Agenda. Item 14c was placed on the Regular Agenda as Item 15a.

Grace Blakeslee, RTC staff informed attendees of a correction to Item 10, Receive Information about FY15-17 Section 5310 Program Applications to revise the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District project description from customer service and paratransit supervisors to ParaCruz operators' wages to provide expanded paratransit service.

Grace Blakeslee, RTC staff, noted the replacement pages for Item 20, Review and Recommend RTC Approval of Measure D: Direct Allocation to Community Bridges Lift Line Five-Year Plan, were provided.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

*Action: A motion (Berkowitz/Lamb) was made to approve the Consent Agenda.*

*The motion passed unanimously with members Arnsberger, Berkowitz, Daugherty, Elsea, Kempf, Lamb, Lizarraga-Chagolla, Welch Bettencourt vote in favor, Ance abstains.*

5. Approved Minutes from February 9, 2017
6. Received RTC Meeting Highlights
7. Received resignation from Sally French, Social Service Provider-Disabled
8. 2017 E&D TAC Updated Roster
9. 2017 E&D TAC Meeting Calendar
10. Received Information about FY15-17 Section 5310 Program Applications
11. Received Information Items
  - a. Letter dated February 15, 2017 from Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District to Customers
  - b. County of Santa Cruz Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services Strategic Plan Public Meeting Dates and Times Flyer
12. Received Transportation Development Act Revenues Report
13. Receive Agency TDA Reports - none
14. Receive Agency Updates
  - a. Volunteer Center – none
  - b. Community Bridges – none
  - c. Santa Cruz Metro
    - i. ParaCruz Report for October-December 2016 – Chair Elsea moved the item to the Regular Agenda as Item 15a.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 15. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

A single nomination was heard to appoint Veronica Elsea as Chair.

*Action: A motion (Berkowitz/Kempf) was made to approve the nomination of Veronica Elsea as Chair to the E&D TAC.*

*The motion passed unanimously with members Ance, Arnsberger, Berkowitz, Daugherty, Elsea, Kempf, Lamb, Lizarraga-Chagolla, Welch Bettencourt vote in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.*

A single nomination was heard to appoint John Daugherty as Vice Chair.

*Action: A motion (Berkowitz/Kempf) was made to approve the nomination of John Daugherty as Vice Chair to the E&D TAC.*

*The motion passed unanimously with members Ance, Arnsberger, Berkowitz, Daugherty, Elsea, Kempf, Lamb, Lizarraga-Chagolla, Welch Bettencourt vote in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.*

### 15a. Receive Agency Updates, Santa Cruz Metro, ParaCruz Report for October-December 2016

E&D TAC members discussed the 30% decrease in ParaCruz ridership over the last two years and a decrease in on time performance. Members requested that E&D TAC discuss ParaCruz's ridership and performance at a future E&D TAC meeting.

April Warnock mentioned that part of the downturn in ridership could be due to fare increases and that a decrease in on-time performance issues may reflect the need for more operators. Alex Clifford offered that congestion throughout the County can affect on time performance and that fare increase may cause paratransit riders to plan their trips more efficiently, and shift to fixed route transit.

*Action: A motion (Kempf/Ance) was made to approve Item 15a. Receive Agency Updates, Santa Cruz Metro, ParaCruz Report for October-December 2016.*

*The motion passed unanimously with members Ance, Arnsberger, Berkowitz, Daugherty, Elsea, Kempf, Lamb, Lizarraga-Chagolla, Welch Bettencourt vote in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.*

### 16. Review and Recommend RTC Approval of 2017 Unmet Paratransit and Transit Needs List

Grace Blakeslee, RTC Planner presented the 2017 Unmet Paratransit and Transit Needs List. Members suggested that Item 2 H1 include "consider on-demand transit services" as a second bullet point. An additional language change was offered under Item 39 H2 first bullet point to read "Signal Priority" in place of "Preemptive Signal Control".

*Action: A motion (Kempf/Daugherty) was made to approve the 2017 Unmet Paratransit and Transit Needs List to include a second bullet point for Item 2 H1 to include "consider on-demand transit services", and to revise the language for Item 39 H2 from Preemptive Signal Control to Signal Priority.*

*The motion passed unanimously with members Ance, Arnsberger, Berkowitz, Daugherty, Elsea, Kempf, Lamb, Lizarraga-Chagolla, Welch Bettencourt vote in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.*

17. Consider Draft Transportation Development Act Claim for Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

Alex Clifford, Executive Director of Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (Santa Cruz Metro) discussed the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claim for the Santa Cruz Metro in the amount of \$6,767,933.

Members asked how the TDA claim funds will be used by Santa Cruz Metro to which Alex Clifford explained that TDA revenues, along with Measure D funds, will go into the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District annual budget to sustain existing transit and paratransit service, and over the next 1-2 years provide a match to federal grant funds. Metro needs to replace 61 buses and will acquire new buses as funds permit. Metro will consider purchasing, CNG or electric buses. Last year Metro purchased five new buses with the support of grant funds.

*Action: A motion (Kempf/Lamb) was made to recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission approve the FY 2017-18 Transportation Development Act (TDA) and the FY 2017-18 State Transit Assistance (STA) claims for the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District.*

*The motion passed unanimously with members Ance, Arnsberger, Berkowitz, Elsea, Kempf, Lamb, Lizarraga-Chagolla, Welch Bettencourt vote in favor. Daugherty abstains.*

18. Consider Draft Transportation Development Act Claim for Community Bridges

Kirk Ance, Community Bridges discussed the Transportation Development Act (TDA) claim for Community Bridges in the amount of \$664,920. Community Bridges plans to use TDA funds to provide approximately 30,999 one-way trips using their Taxi Scrip, Medical TDA, Meals on Wheels, Elderday, and Winter Shelter programs to eligible clients over FY 2017-18.

Members discussed aspects of the TDA claim including administration costs, Elderday services, and the winter shelter, and the value of Community Bridges transportation programs to other services such as the operation of the winter shelter.

*Action: A motion (Kempf/Lamb) for the E&D TAC to recommend approval of Community Bridges Transportation Development Act (TDA) claim to the Regional Transportation Commission and communicate the significance of transportation services provided by Community Bridges and funded through TDA in supporting other countywide social services.*

*The motion passed unanimously with members Arnsberger, Daugherty, Elsea, Kempf, Lamb, Lizarraga-Chagolla, Welch Bettencourt vote in favor; Ance, Berkowitz abstain.*

19. Consider Draft Transportation Development Act Claim for Volunteer Center

Lois Connell, Volunteer Center presented the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claim for the Volunteer Center stating that the number of clients and rides expected to be provided this year is consistent with prior years. This year the Volunteer Center acquired new drivers serving the Watsonville area. The Volunteer Center hopes to computerize their dispatch system, and that the program has acquired a new transportation services coordinator.

*Action: A motion (Arnsberger/Ance) was made to recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission approve the FY 2017-18 Volunteer Center's Transportation Development Act (TDA) carries unanimously.*

*The motion passed unanimously with members Ance, Arnsberger, Berkowitz, Daugherty, Elsea, Kempf, Lamb, Lizarraga-Chagolla, Welch Bettencourt vote in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.*

20. Review and Recommend RTC Approval of Measure D: Direct Allocation to Community Bridges Lift Line Five-Year Plan

Ray Cancino, Executive Director, Community Bridges presented the 5 year plan for Community Bridges for its Direct Allocation of Measure D: Transit For Seniors and People Living with Disabilities investment category funds for paratransit services. Mr. Cancino said that 49% will go toward expanding service from 5 to 7 days per week. Community Bridges will allocate some of the first 5 years revenue towards purchasing or leasing a new operations facility. In year six, the percent of Measure D funds previously dedicated to the operations facility will be shifted to additional service expansion with the remaining cost of the facility to be paid for by a commercial loan. Community Bridges Board approval will be on their agenda on May17, 2017.

Members noted that although the 5 Year Plan included the addition of two new drivers, a driver trainer and dispatch and administrative assistance, it did not adequately communicate what new services paratransit services would be provided as a result of Measure D funding. Members suggested that Community Bridges work with the RTC to revise the five-year plan narrative to describe the impact Measure D funds would have on transportation services provided and further explain the value of setting aside funding for an operations facility.

*Action: A motion (Arnsberger/Welch Bettencourt) was made to approve Measure D: Direct Allocation to Community Bridges Lift Line Five-Year Plan if amended to demonstrate how transportation services will be expanded as a result of Measure D and explain how allocations of funding to an operational facility identified in the five-year plan are expected to expire after five years.*

*The motion passed unanimously with members Arnsberger, Daugherty, Elsea, Kempf, Lizarraga-Chagolla, Welch Bettencourt vote in favor. Ance, Berkowitz abstain.*

21. Review and Recommend RTC Approval of Measure D: Regional Five-Year Plan

Rachel Moriconi, Senior RTC Planner discussed the draft five-year plans (FY17/18 through FY 22/23) for each of the Measure D regional investments – Highway Corridors, Active Transportation, the Rail Corridor, the San Lorenzo Valley Highway 9 Corridor Improvements and the Highway 17 Wildlife Crossing. The RTC board is scheduled to consider these lists following a public hearing at its June 1, 2017 meeting. The plans will be adjusted annually based on updated project schedule and cost information, as well as information on any grants and other funds agencies are able to secure for projects. Since annual revenues are sometimes insufficient for larger projects, agencies may carryover, reserve, or “bank” revenues to future years.

Cory Caletti, Senior RTC Planner provided additional details on the draft 5-year Program of Projects for the Active Transportation category, specifically the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (MBSST).

Members appreciated the information on expected expenditures investment categories and requested that if there be sufficient opportunity for seniors to provide input on the Highway 9 corridor plan. Staff confirmed there will be opportunities to provide input using online surveys, community meetings as well as paper surveys, which could be shared at senior meal sites and other methods.

*Action: A motion (Daugherty/Ance) was made for the E&D TAC to recommend to the RTC approval of the Measure D: Regional Five-Year Plans.*

*The motion passed unanimously with members Ance, Arnsberger, Berkowitz, Daugherty, Elsea, Kempf, Lizarraga-Chagolla, Welch Bettencourt vote in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.*

22. Pedestrian Safety Workgroup brochure Update & Distribution

Veronica Elsea, Pedestrian Safety Workgroup Chair discussed the brochure *What Pedestrians and Bicyclists Want Each Other to Know*. Ms. Elsea told members that the English version has been printed and available now. The Spanish translation is complete and will be reviewed by the PSWG for formatting. The PSWG will propose distribution methods that coincide with outreach opportunities. Copies were distributed to all present.

23. Adjourn 4:13 pm

Respectfully submitted, Cathy Judd, RTC Staff

*I:\E&DTAC\2017\17-April11\2017-04-11-Minutes-Draft.docx*