



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

**Minutes
Tuesday, December 12, 2017**

**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission Office
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060**

1. Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m.

Members present:

Pam Arnsberger, 2nd District
John Daugherty, Metro Transit
Veronica Elsea, Social Service
Provider – Seniors
Tara Ireland, Volunteer Center
Clay Kempf, Service Provider –
Seniors
Lori Welch-Bettencourt, 5th
District

Alternates present:

April Warnock, Metro Transit/
ParaCruz

Excused absences:

Kirk Ance, CTSA – Lift Line
Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA
Dulce Lizarraga-Chagilla, Social
Service Provider – Seniors

Unexcused absences:

Greta Kleiner, Potential Transit
User Disabled
Cara Lamb, Potential Transit User

RTC staff present:

Grace Blakeslee
Ginger Dykaar
Anais Schenk

Others present:

Jesus Bojorguez, CTSA
Sean Vienna, AMBAG

2. Oral communications

- John Daugherty communicated that the METRO Headways with the winter schedule was available. John Daugherty also read the statement from METRO Board Chair, Jimmy Dutra, included in the METRO Headways, thanking voters for approving Measure D.

- Veronica Elsea announced that there are three vacancies on the Metro Advisory Committee. Veronica Elsea also announced that the Voter Accessibility Advisory Committee is interested in providing seniors and people living with disabilities information about transportation services to voting locations and requested people contact her if they know a group interested in receiving a presentation.
3. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

Clay Kempf, E&D TAC member, requested to move items 10b&c to the regular agenda. Items 10b&c were moved to item 14a.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Approved Minutes from the November 14, 2017
5. Received Transportation Development Act Revenues Report
6. Received RTC Meeting Highlights
7. Received E&D TAC Roster
8. Received Information Items
 - a. Letter from RTC's Bicycle Committee to US Army Corps of Engineers Regarding Pajaro River Flood Risk Management Study-DRAFT General Reevaluation and Integrated Environmental Assessment Comments
9. Received Agency Updates
 - a. Volunteer Center: None
 - b. Community Bridges: 4th Quarter TDA Report
 - c. Santa Cruz Metro:
 - i. Discussion about Initiating a Fare Restructuring Analysis
 - ii. ParaCruz Report (July, August, September 2017)

Action: A motion (Welch-Bettencourt/Daugherty) was made to amend the November 14, 2017 minutes to correct the name of the E&D TAC member representing District 3 to Lori Welch-Bettencourt and approve the November 14, 2017 minutes as amended. The motion passed with members Daugherty, Elsea, Welch-Bettencourt, Ireland, Arnsberger, and Lamb voting in favor.

Action: A motion (Kempf/Arnsberger) was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed with members Daugherty, Elsea, Welch-Bettencourt, Ireland, Arnsberger, Kempf and Lamb voting in favor.

REGULAR AGENDA

10. Draft 2040 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
Ginger Dykaar, Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the Draft 2040 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The long-range plan is updated every 4 to 5 years and covers a 20-25 year time period. The Draft 2040 RTP is available for public review and comment from December 8, 2017 to February 5, 2018. The 2040 RTP is a long-range (22 year) transportation plan for the Santa Cruz County area. A public hearing for the Draft 2040 RTP will be held at 9:30am on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission meeting located at the City of Santa Cruz Council Chambers, 809 Center St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. The potential environmental impacts of the Draft 2040 RTP are collectively detailed in one Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Draft 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and its Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), which encompasses the three RTPs for Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito Counties. The Draft EIR is available for public review and comment from December 4, 2017 to February 5, 2018. A public hearing for the Draft EIR will be held Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at the Live Oak Community Complex (Simpkins), 979 17th Street, Santa Cruz. Veronica Elsea commented on the challenges with the sometimes significant impacts that new and changing designs have on people using the transportation system and the importance of universal design concepts. She asked where information to address these impacts may be provided in the RTP.

11. Bike Signage Program Update

Anais Schenk, Transportation Planner, reported that the Bike Signage Program will result in the installation of approximately 875 signs directing bicyclists to preferred cycling routes and increasing motorists' awareness of shared roadway facilities to improve bicycle safety. Ms. Schenk reviewed the sign design, content, placement, and provided information about how committee members can provide input using the draft signing database. Committee members discussed the program cost, how people using the transportation system will identify the signs as bicycle routes, and ways to communicate the information about preferred routes to the public.

12. Solutions Summit – Transportation Session

Pam Arnsberger and Clay Kempf, E&D TAC Members, provided an overview of the 2017 Solutions Summit and provided information about the discussion regarding transportation challenges facing seniors. Ms. Arnsberger reported that the cost of public transit and difficulty navigating the transit system were issues raised by participants. Pam Arnsberger also reported that participants at the Solutions Summit discussed opportunities to provide individuals, in particular those individuals who may be considering giving up their driver's license due to cognitive or mobility disabilities, with information about how to use transit to increase transit ridership and shift rides from paratransit to fixed route services. Committee members discussed the value of providing a single point of information about transit services (ex. Mobility Management Center),

free or reduce cost transit services to seniors, a transit buddy system for seniors, transit rides for senior caregivers, and pedestrian access to transit. Committee members also discussed the significance of fare box ratio in determining transit revenues. Committee members emphasized the importance of one-on-one service when communicating with seniors, the value of volunteer services for seniors, and providing seniors with information about driving and car maintenance safety. John Daugherty informed attendees about the resources available through the California Highway Patrol "Age Well Drive Smart" program located at the Aptos Library. The "Age Well Drive Smart" program presentation solicits information about participant's perceptions of transit and provides information about transit services.

13. METRO Fare Structure and Paratransit Service Reports (moved from Item 10b&c)

Committee members discussed how potential changes to the METRO transit fare structure may increase the cost of transit services for seniors and people living with disabilities. Clay Kempf, E&D TAC Member, noted that ParaCruz's on-time performance is decreasing and ridership is going down. Mr. Kempf requested that a discussion of the METRO's paratransit service be continued to the February 13, 2018 E&D TAC meeting.

Action: A motion (Arnsberger/Kempf) was made to send a letter to METRO to request information about the fare restructure analysis, public input process, and timeline. The motion passed with members Daugherty, Elsea, Welch-Bettencourt, Ireland, Arnsberger, and Lamb voting in favor.

14. Cruz511 In Your Neighborhood Program Results

Grace Blakeslee, Transportation Planner, presented results of the Cruz511 in Your Neighborhood pilot program, which focused on reducing the number of drive alone trips and increasing the number of trips made by bus, biking, walking, and carpooling. She provided information about program participation, effective outreach and the overall program results. The Committee asked questions about participation across neighborhoods and demographics.

15. 2018 E&D TAC Calendar

Grace Blakeslee, Transportation Planner, reviewed the 2018 E&D TAC Calendar. Grace Blakeslee pointed out that the June meeting will be in the City of Watsonville. Veronica Elsea noted the date correction to list the August 14, 2018 E&D TAC meeting date.

16. Pedestrian Safety Workgroup Update

Veronica Elsea, E&D TAC Chair, informed E&D TAC members that there is space for one more member on the Pedestrian Safety Workgroup. The

Pedestrian Safety Workgroup will be focusing on outreach for the new brochure What Pedestrians and Bicyclists Want Each Other to Know at the upcoming Pedestrian Safety Workgroup meetings.

17. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:50 p.m.

The next E&D TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. at the RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Blakeslee, Staff