



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

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

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

1. Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m.

Members present:

Kirk Ance, CTSA – Lift Line
Pam Arnsberger, 2nd District
Jon Bailiff, Social Services
Provider – Disabled
Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA
John Daugherty, Metro
Veronica Elsea, 3rd District
Tara Ireland, Social Service
Provider – Persons of Limited
Means
Clay Kempf, Social Service
Provider – Seniors
Caroline Lamb, Potential Transit
User

Alternates present:

Daniel Zaragoza, Metro

Unexcused absences:

None

Excused absences:

Dulce Lizarraga-Chagolla, Social
Services Provider – Seniors
Lori Welch-Bettencourt,
4th District

RTC staff present:

Grace Blakeslee
Cory Caletti
Ginger Dykaar
Joanna Edmonds

Others present:

Debbie Benham, Scotts Valley
resident
Piet Canin, Ecology Action
Sean Vienna, AMBAG (by phone)

2. Introductions

3. Oral communications

Member John Daugherty announced the recent passing of Jim Bosso, who was influential in bringing paratransit service to Santa Cruz County, and Tom Crain, who was a member of the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC) and influential in bringing paratransit service to Santa Cruz County. Mr. Daugherty explained that Mr. Bosso was a Santa Cruz resident who owned Santa Cruz Transportation Company, including Santa Cruz Yellow Cab, which delivered paratransit rides for Metro in the years after the American Disability Act passed. Mr. Daugherty shared that Mr. Crain was an Aptos resident who served on the E&D TAC and was Vice Chair for many years. Mr. Daugherty distributed obituaries for Mr. Bosso and Mr. Crain. Committee members asked if the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) could acknowledge Mr. Bosso and Mr. Crain because they both made a big impact on the Elderly and Transportation choices in Santa Cruz County.

Member Lisa Berkowitz inquired about the possibility of changing the name of the E&D TAC. Ms. Berkowitz shared that similar committees for other agencies now used verbiage such as "People First," or "Social Services," in the committee name. Veronica Elsea, chair, indicated that this suggestion could be added to a future agenda for further discussion.

Debbie Benham, Scotts Valley resident, announced that the Scotts Valley Town Center project would be discussed in upcoming Scotts Valley City Council meetings and that she would be attending to share her input. Ms. Benham shared that she was particularly concerned with the intersections of Mt. Hermon Rd. and Kings Village Rd. and Bean Creak Rd. and Blue Bonnet Dr.

Veronica Elsea, chair, suggested members contact RTC staff if there are items they would like to add to a future E&D TAC agenda.

4. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

None

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Approved minutes as amended from September 11, 2018
6. Received Transportation Development Act Revenues Report
7. Received RTC Meeting Highlights

8. Accepted correspondence from the public
None

9. Received Information Items

A motion (Daugherty/Berkowitz) was made to approve the minutes from September 11, 2018, as amended to correct misspelling of Veronica Elsea's last name in item 11. The motion passed with members Kirk Ance, Pam Arnsberger, Jon Bailiff, Lisa Berkowitz, John Daugherty, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Clay Kempf, and Caroline Lamb voting in favor.

A motion (Arnsberger/Lamb) was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed with members Kirk Ance, Pam Arnsberger, Jon Bailiff, Lisa Berkowitz, John Daugherty, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Clay Kempf, and Caroline Lamb voting in favor.

REGULAR AGENDA

10. Received Program Updates
 - a. Volunteer Center – FY 17/18 TDA 4th Quarter Report
No discussion.
 - b. Community Bridges – FY 17/18 TDA 3rd Quarter Report
No discussion.
 - c. Santa Cruz Metro
No discussion.
 - d. SCCRTC

Ms. Blakeslee communicated that at their September 6th meeting, the RTC approved an engineering contract to prepare the plans, specifications, and engineer's estimate for the Highway 1 41st/Soquel Auxiliary Lanes Project, which includes the bicycle and pedestrian overcrossing at Chanticleer Avenue.

Ms. Blakeslee announced that the Federal Transit Association Section 5310 grant application cycle will be happening this fall, with a deadline of November 11th, and a webinar about the grant application process will take place on October 16th at 11 am. Committee members discussed possible partnerships and strategies that could make it feasible to have a paratransit accessible vehicle used by multiple programs. Veronica Elsea, chair,

suggested that if any programs sponsored by agencies in attendance were interested in coordinating transportation services and developing an application, that they reach out to Mr. Ance, staff to Lift Line which serves as the Consolidated Transportation Agency.

No action taken.

11. City of Santa Cruz Transportation Development Act Claim- West Cliff Path and San Lorenzo Trestle Path

Cory Caletti, Transportation Planner, provided information about the Transportation Development Act (TDA) submitted by the City of Santa Cruz for two pedestrian and bicycle projects – \$200,000 for the San Lorenzo Trestle Path project and \$200,000 for the West Cliff Path project. Ms. Caletti explained that the San Lorenzo Trestle Path project would widen the multiuse path on the trestle near the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk and the on ramp to the walkway on the East side of the trestle, but the on ramp to the walkway on the West side of the trestle would not be included because it had been upgraded recently. Ms. Caletti reported that the West Cliff Path project included repaving on West Cliff Drive from David Way to Swanton Boulevard.

A motion (Daugherty/Bailiff) was made for the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee to recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission approve the City of Santa Cruz's Article 8 Transportation Development Act claim for \$400,000 for the West Cliff Drive Path Repaving Phase III and San Lorenzo River Parkway Phase III/Trestle Trail projects. The motion passed with members Kirk Ance, Pam Arnsberger, Jon Bailiff, Lisa Berkowitz, John Daugherty, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Clay Kempf, and Caroline Lamb voting in favor.

12. County of Santa Cruz Active Transportation Plan – Grant Application

Grace Blakeslee, Transportation Planner, introduced Piet Canin from Ecology Action. Mr. Canin explained that Ecology Action is partnering with Santa Cruz County Public Works, the Santa Cruz County Human Service Agency, and Bike Santa Cruz County to submit a grant to fund development of an Active Transportation Plan for facilities within the urbanized areas of unincorporated Santa Cruz County. Mr. Canin gave an overview of the Active Transportation Plan, which will identify gaps and deficiencies in walking and bicycle infrastructure with a focus on facilities that connect major activity centers. Mr. Canin explained an advisory committee will be formed and outlined public outreach efforts that would be included in the plan. Members asked questions

about how the planning effort would address the influx of electric bikes and scooters.

Member Lisa Berkowitz inquired if rural road repair and bike safety would be included in this process. Mr. Canin explained that while the focus would be mostly on major activity centers, it would address rural areas. Mr. Canin further explained that the Active Transportation Plan would include both infrastructure and non-infrastructure components, so education would be part of the efforts.

A motion (Daugherty/Kempf) was made for the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee to write a letter of support for the Ecology Action, Santa Cruz County Public Works, the Santa Cruz County Human Service Agency, and Bike Santa Cruz County to submit a grant to fund development of an Active Transportation Plan. The motion passed with members Kirk Ance, Pam Arnsberger, Jon Bailiff, Lisa Berkowitz, John Daugherty, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Clay Kempf, and Caroline Lamb voting in favor.

13. AMBAG – Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan

Sean Vienna, AMBAG staff, provided background on the Coordinated Plan and explained that AMBAG is required to develop a Coordinated Plan for the tri-county region. Under the federal Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act (2015), this plan must be completed and used in developing grant applications for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Transportation for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities (Section 5310) grant program. The plan identifies local transit needs for the elderly, disabled, and low-income, and facilitates applications for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 grant program.

Committee members suggested that a description of the Volunteer Center and Hope Services' transportation programs should be listed in the report; that the report describe the role of the Senior's Council as the Area Agency on the Aging; and, the description of people living with disabilities using the transportation system should be more reflective of daily routines. The Committee also requested that the Coordinated Plan evaluate the number of individuals in Santa Cruz County over 60, the number of seniors and people living with disabilities living alone, and to collect data for the number of individuals who are 60+. The Committee members also discussed the importance of discussing unmet needs on a project by project basis.

A motion (Daugherty/Lamb) was made for the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee Chair and RTC staff to send comments from this meeting's discussion to AMBAG staff to be included in AMBAG's Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan. The motion passed with members Kirk Ance, Pam Arnsberger, Jon Bailiff, Lisa Berkowitz, John Daugherty, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Clay Kempf, and Caroline Lamb voting in favor.

14. Unified Corridor Study – Draft Step 2 Scenario Analysis

Ginger Dykaar, Transportation Planner, provided background information about the process and timeline of the Unified Corridor Study (UCS). Ms. Dykaar gave an overview of the goals, scenarios, and performance measures evaluated for the UCS. Ms. Dykaar and Ms. Blakeslee detailed the results of the Draft Step 2 Analysis for each scenario using these performance measures and provided information about the UCS stakeholder meetings, public workshops, focus group meetings, and presentations to city councils. The next steps include staff providing a recommendation for a preferred scenario at the November 15th RTC meeting and expecting the RTC to take action on a preferred scenario for the UCS at their December 6th meeting.

Committee members discussed the impact of Proposition 6 to repeal SB1 (gas tax) on the UCS funding estimates. Ms. Blakeslee explained how the funding sources available may differ depending on the type of projects in each scenario to 2035.

Veronica Elsea, chair, asked what kind of bikeway was intended on Soquel/Freedom in Scenario E. Ms. Elsea expressed concerns about how pedestrians with visual impairments and wheelchair users interact with some bike lane designs.

Mr. Daugherty stated that it is important to support bus service in the Santa Cruz community for those that cannot afford other options. Member Caroline Lamb shared that she had lived near commuter rail in the past and her observation was that businesses build up near stations. Committee members discussed that Scenario B had the highest usage of transit. Ms. Dykaar clarified that the number of paratransit riders was not included in the total transit ridership.

Ms. Elsea shared that passenger rail service is needed to serve the transit needs of South County. Scotts Valley resident Debbie Benham noted that Scenario B had the greatest reduction of collisions. Committee members also discussed congestion on Highway 1 and Mission Street improvements.

A motion (Lamb/Bailiff) was made for the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee to support scenarios that include passenger rail service, which is needed by Elderly and Disabled members of the Santa Cruz County community. An alternate motion (Kempf/Ireland) was made for the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee to support scenarios that maximize transit, increase safety, and to the greatest extent possible advance the accessibility and equity goal. The motion passed with members Kirk Ance, Pam Arnsberger, Jon Bailiff, Lisa Berkowitz, John Daugherty, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, and Clay Kempf voting in favor. Member Caroline Lamb was not present for the vote on this motion. Member Jon Bailiff withdrew the prior motion.

A motion (Bailiff/Ance) was made for the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee to support Scenario B, in part because it does include passenger rail service. The motion passed with members Kirk Ance, Pam Arnsberger, Jon Bailiff, Lisa Berkowitz, John Daugherty, Veronica Elsea, and Tara Ireland voting in favor. Member Clay Kempf abstained from the vote on this motion.

15. Pedestrian Safety Workgroup Update

No update was provided.

No action taken.

16. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m.

The next E&D TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. at the RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanna Edmonds, Staff