

**AGENDA:** December 10, 2019

**TO:** Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner

**RE:** Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC) New Member Appointments

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## RECOMMENDATION

RTC staff recommends that the E&D TAC recommend that the RTC appointment new members and member alternate positions to fill vacancies on the E&DTAC.

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## BACKGROUND

The Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC) functions best when all committee membership and alternate positions are filled. Currently, 40% of the E&D TAC member positions are vacant, including 3 of the 5 supervisorial districts, and 80% of the alternate positions are vacant.

In August, the E&D TAC reviewed and provided input on a recruitment outreach plan. Staff implemented the outreach activities – including flyers, ads, press releases, public service announcements, Commissioner consultation, outreach to agencies working with seniors and people with disabilities, notification to senior centers, announcements at city council meetings and social media/email postings.

## DISCUSSION

Based on these outreach activities, interest was expressed by nine individuals and resulted in six new applications received for the Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee. In an effort to accommodate Commissioner recommendations and all interested applicants, staff recommends new positions *pending* in the attached roster ([Attachment 1](#)). Below is a summary of information about the applicants with their full applications in the same order in [Attachment 2](#).

- **Janet Edwards** – Ms. Edwards lives in mid-county, is over 60, has used a wheelchair for more than 40 years, is an occasional user of the bus and ParaCruz and has an adult son with autism that uses the bus. Janet is also on the Measure D Oversight Committee. She was nominated by Commissioner/ Supervisor John Leopold for the *member position representing the First District*.
- **Paul Elerick** – Mr. Elerick lives in Aptos, is over 60 and has been an active participant in transportation in Santa Cruz County for many years. He worked for former Second District supervisors and was nominated by Commissioner/Supervisor Zack Friend for the *member position representing the Second District*.
- **Martha Rubbo** – Ms. Rubbo lives in Watsonville, has had extensive volunteer experience with the American Red Cross, Watsonville Hospital, Grey Bears, St Vincent de Paul. In addition, Martha has served as an advisory board member on several entities including the Seniors Council and Central Coast Alliance for Health.

Currently, she has been senior companion working with the Santa Cruz County Mental health for over 9 years. Martha Rubbo is recommended for the *member position representing the Fourth Supervisorial District*.

- **Michael Pisano** – Mr. Pisano lives in mid-county, works at UCSC and has been on the Metro Advisory Committee since 2015. He has direct experience with family members living with disabilities and using a wheelchair. Michael Pisano is recommended for the *member position representing Potential Transit User (Disabled)*.
- **Patricia McVeigh** – Ms. McVeigh lives in mid-county, is currently retired and volunteers for many local organizations including Women Care, Kuumbwa, County Animal Shelter, Cabrillo Horticulture, Lifelong Learning and Watsonville Wetlands. She formerly worked as a nurse at Dominican Hospital for 31 years. Patricia is recommended for the *alternate position representing Potential Transit User (60+)*.
- **Patricia Fohrman** – Ms. Fohrman lives in City of Watsonville, a volunteers providing rides to seniors and participates in many commissions, including the City of Watsonville Personnel Commission, Santa Cruz County Senior Commission, and the Area Agency on Agency. Patricia F. is recommend for the *alternate positions representing the Fourth District*.
- **Ed Hutton** – Mr. Hutton lives near Pasatiempo and is a senior. Formerly he worked at the Boardwalk and is familiar with the benefits of their bus pass program. Ed Hutten is recommended for the *alternate position representing the Fifth District*.
- **Phil Kipnis** – Mr. Kipnis lives in the Happy Valley area, is a senior and is living with disabilities. He has spent time on non-profit boards, helped with transportation for school children with special needs and is comfortable with budget review tasks. Phil Kipnis is recommended for the *alternate position representing the First District*.

In addition, there are vacancies for the member and alternate positions representing Social Service Provider – Senior (County) and Social Service Provider – Disabled (County). Staff has reached out to Ellen Timberlake, the Director of Human Services at the County of Santa Cruz for recommendations for these positions. If there is follow up, an oral update will be provided at the meeting.

Furthermore, existing member alternate for the position *representing Social Service Provide- Disabled*, A. Weske, expressed interest in becoming the member position for *representing Social Service Provide- Disabled*. Mr. Weske is a program coordinator at Hope Services in Santa Cruz County. Hope Services is an organization focused on improving the quality of life of people living with developmental disabilities. Alex W. is recommended for the member position *representing Social Service Provide- Disabled*.

RTC staff recommends that the E&D TAC recommend that the RTC appointment new members and member alternate positions to fill vacancies on the E&DTAC as shown in [Attachment 1](#).

## **SUMMARY**

The Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC) functions best when all committee membership and alternate positions are filled. Based on the approved recruitment outreach plan, seven new individuals have expressed interest in joining the E&D TAC. Staff recommends that new member and alternate positions be filled as shown (see [Attachment 1](#) for current roster).

Attachment 1: Dec 2019 E&D TAC Roster

Attachment 2: Member applications from J.Edwards, P.Elerick, M.Rubbo, M.Pisano,  
P.McViegh, P. Fohrman, P.Kipnis, E.Hutton, A. Weske



*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission*  
**ELDERLY & DISABLED TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (E&D TAC)**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (SSTAC)**

**Membership Roster**  
**December 2019**

(Year in Parentheses) = Membership Expiration Date  
*Potential new members noted as (Pending)*

<b>Members</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Alternate</b>
Clay Kempf (2022)	Social Services Provider - Seniors	Patty Talbot (2022)
vacant	Social Services Provider - Seniors (County)	vacant
<i>Alex Weske (Pending)</i>	Social Service Provider - Disabled	vacant
vacant	Social Service Provider - Disabled (County)	vacant
Tara Ireland (2020)	Social Service Provider - Persons of Limited Means	vacant
Lisa Berkowitz (2022)	CTSA (Community Bridges)	vacant
Kirk Ance (2020)	CTSA (Lift Line)	Jesus Bojorquez (2022)
John Daugherty, Vice Chair (2022)	SCMTD (Metro)	Daniel Zaragoza (2022)
Caroline Lamb (2022)	Potential Transit User (60+)	<i>Patricia McVeigh (Pending)</i>
<i>Michael Pisano (Pending)</i>	Potential Transit User (Disabled)	vacant

<b>Supervisorial District Representatives</b>		
<b>Members</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Alternate</b>
<i>Janet Edwards (Pending)</i>	1st District (Leopold)	<i>Phil Kipnis (Pending)</i>
<i>Paul Elerick (Pending)</i>	2nd District (Friend)	vacant
<b>Veronica Elsea, Chair (2022)</b>	3rd District (Coonerty)	vacant
<i>Martha Rubbo (Pending)</i>	4th District (Caput)	<i>Patricia Fohrman (Pending)</i>
Deborah Benham (2022)	5th District (McPherson)	<i>Ed Hutton (Pending)</i>