



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

FINAL MINUTES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

**RTC Office
1523 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062**

1. Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

Members present:

Kirk Ance, CTSA (Lift Line)
Deborah Benham, 5th District
Patricia Fohrman, 4th District Alternate
Janet Edwards, 1st District
Michael Pisano, Potential Transit User (60+)
Alex Weske, Social Service Provider - Disabled
Patty Talbot, Social Services Provider – Seniors
Ed Hutton, 5th District Alternate
Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA (Community Bridges)
Veronica Elsea, 3rd District
Tara Ireland, Social Service Provider – Persons of Limited Means
Caroline Lamb, Potential Transit User (Disabled)

Unexcused absences:

RTC staff present:

Grace Blakeslee
Amanda Marino
Amy Naranjo
Ginger Dykaar

Others present:

Russel Chen, Santa Cruz County
Wondimu Mengistu, Santa Cruz Metro

2. Introductions

3. Oral communications

Member Tara Ireland announced that member Clay Kempf, spoke on behalf of the Master Plan on Aging for the EngAGE California campaign. The webinars for the master plan on aging are available online at

<https://engagedaging.org/>.

Member Michael Pisano announced that he attended a very informative dual presentation given by the SCCRTC and the Santa Cruz County Friends of the Rail and Trail on the Rail Trail Project.

4. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Approved minutes from December 10, 2019

A motion (Berkowitz/Pisano) was made to approve minutes with the following corrections under Members Present: deletion of Metro Valley Committee reference and the correction of spelling of Patricia "Fohrman". The motion passed unanimously, with members Kirk Ance, Deborah Benham, Lisa Berkowitz, Michael Pisano, Patricia Fohrman, Janet Edwards, Alex Weske, Patty Talbot, Ed Hutton, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, and Caroline Lamb voting in favor.

6. Received RTC Meeting Highlights

7. Received Transportation Development Act Revenues Report Received Pedestrian Hazard Reports

8. Received E&D TAC Membership Roster Accepted correspondence from the public

9. Accepted correspondence from the public

10. Received 2020 E&D TAC Meeting Schedule

11. Received FY20-21 TDA Claims Calendar

12. Received Pedestrian Hazard Reports

13. Received Information Items

- a. Letter from E&D TAC to City of Santa Cruz, County of Santa Cruz, City of Watsonville, City of Capitola and City of Scotts Valley regarding Jump Bikes and other bike-share program parking.
- b. Mallory Moench, "Seated Scooters for Disabled Riders Coming to SF and Oakland", Chronical, January 8, 2020

A motion (Lamb/Edwards) was made to add Item 13a. to the next agenda and to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously, with members Kirk Ance, Deborah Benham, Lisa Berkowitz, Michael Pisano, Patricia Fohrman, Janet Edwards, Alex Weske, Patty Talbot, Ed Hutton,

Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, and Caroline Lamb voting in favor.

REGULAR AGENDA

14. Received Program Updates

a. Volunteer Center – FY 18/19 TDA 3rd. Quarter Report

Member Tara Ireland reported that the Volunteer Center completed the participant survey conducted twice a year. The results will be ready to share at the next E&D TAC meeting.

b. Community Bridges – FY 18/19 TDA 2nd Quarter Report

Member Kirk Ance announced that Lift Line received their third electric vehicle along with two charging stations as a result of the LCTOP grant. This vehicle will transport 6 ambulatory and 2 wheelchairs. One of the charging stations will be installed at the Mountain Community Resource Center and the other at Lift Line's new facility in Watsonville.

c. Santa Cruz Metro

d. SCCRTC

Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner, announced that the RTC received the recommendations from Caltrans for the 5310 grant. Caltrans is recommending funding for Lift Line vehicle and equipment replacements; and Seniors Council Program Foster Grandparent Program. Caltrans is not recommending funding to the Mental Health Client Action Network, Community Bridges Operating Assistance System, or for Camping Unlimited for Developmentally Disabled.

e. Special Projects

Chair Veronica Elsea announced that the Pedestrian ad-hoc committee is discussing intersection design. They will then provide their findings and examples of intersections from different parts of the county to present to ITAC. An update on the work being done will be in the next report provided to the E&D TAC.

No action taken.

15. County of Santa Cruz TDA Claims for Pinehurst Dr & Greenbrier Dr Ped Improvements, Boulder Creek Elementary Ped Safety & Street Smarts

Russel Chen representing the County of Santa Cruz, provided an overview of the TDA Claims. Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner, commented that sponsors of the Streets Campaign are aware that the E&D

TAC would like to provide input on the campaign messaging if the program is extended or expanded.

Chair Veronica Elsea then provided an overview of the process of approval of TDA claims for new members.

A motion (Benham/Lamb) was made to recommend approval of the TDA claims. The motion passed unanimously, with members Kirk Ance, Deborah Benham, Lisa Berkowitz, Michael Pisano, Patricia Fohrman, Janet Edwards, Alex Weske, Patty Talbot, Ed Hutton, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, and Caroline Lamb voting in favor.

16. (Moved to Item 17) Transit Corridor Alternatives Analysis – Goals/Screening Criteria/Performance Measures & Universe of Alternative

Ginger Dykaar, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a presentation on the milestone 1 first phase of the TCAA project. The RTC is seeking input on the goals, evaluation framework, alternatives, and station locations.

The committee members discussed the use of the reference to “transportation disadvantaged” and options for ensuring all ages, incomes and abilities were represented in the performance measure evaluation. Committee members also discussed aspects of transit systems that were essential to serve all ages and abilities.

A motion (Edwards/Lamb) was made to recommend that the RTC evaluation of transit options incorporate high carrying capacity for many mobility devices (at least 4 with flexible seating alternatives); level barrier free boarding and disembarking; zero emissions; easy fare structure and payment; the ability to add or subtract cars; and provide safe places to wait in shelters. The motion passed unanimously, with members Kirk Ance, Deborah Benham, Lisa Berkowitz, Michael Pisano, Patricia Fohrman, Janet Edwards, Alex Weske, Patty Talbot, Ed Hutton, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, and Caroline Lamb voting in favor.

17. (Moved to Item 16) 2045 Regional Transportation Plan Project List

Amy Naranjo, Transportation Planner, provided a presentation on the production of the Regional Transportation Plan. Amy communicated that the RTC is seeking input from advisory committees and the public to review projects on the previous 2040 RTP and to provide potential changes using the submission form located on the RTC website sccrtc.org/rtp, or to email project details to 2045rtp@sccrtc.org. The draft project list will be brought to the Transportation Commission in June for final approval. A draft preliminary project list will be brought to the next E&D TAC meeting in April. The public can send in comments by Friday, March 6th located on the RTC website.

The committee members commented on the challenges of visually impaired individuals trying to navigate pedestrian facilities. Suggestions include a system where information about the street and pedestrian facilities geometry is available prior to taking a trip. Examples include a website

providing a map of signage for ADA accessible facilities, and standardization of infrastructure rather than designing intersection by intersection. Committee members also discussed concerns with traffic signal designs and lack of crosswalks.

No action taken.

18. Preliminary Draft 2020 Unmet Needs

Chair Veronica Elsea and Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a background and importance of identifying Unmet Transit and Paratransit Needs. The Unmet Needs List is used to support recommendations for funding prioritization, and to provide input to service providers.

The committee provided input on the 2020 Preliminary Draft Unmet Needs List.

No action taken.

19. FY19/20 LCTOP Funding

Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner, communicated that the RTC staff is recommending to designate 100% of the RTC's FY19/20 formula share of Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) funds to Santa Cruz METRO to serve as a match for an \$11 million application for a state Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) grant. The funding will provide fast-charging infrastructure to support battery electric bus operations at the Watsonville Transit Center.

Wondimu Mengistu from Santa Cruz Metro informed the committee that this funding will allow the purchase of 8 electric busses costing 1.25 million per bus and construction of fast charging infrastructure costing 1.3 million.

A motion (Pisano/Benham) was made to approve granting 100% funding to Santa Cruz Metro for LCTOP funding. The motion passed unanimously, with members Kirk Ance, Deborah Benham, Lisa Berkowitz, Michael Pisano, Patricia Fohrman, Janet Edwards, Alex Weske, Patty Talbot, Ed Hutton, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, and Caroline Lamb voting in favor.

20. Notice Chair and Vice Chair election

Chair Veronica Elsea communicated that the election will take place at the next E&D TAC meeting in April and provided an overview of the Vice Chair duties. Members can send comments or questions to Grace Blakeslee or Chair Veronica Elsea. Nominations will take place at the April meeting.

No action taken.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:51 pm.

The next E&D TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at the RTC Office at 1523 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Marino, Staff