



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

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**FINAL MINUTES**  
**1:30pm - 3:30pm**  
**Tuesday, February 9, 2021**

**NOTE: TELECONFERENCE**

Members of the public may not attend this meeting in person. Comments and questions may be shared with the Committee through teleconference audio in real time, or by prior written submission to [amarino@scrtc.org](mailto:amarino@scrtc.org).

This meeting is being held by teleconference in accordance with the Brown Act as currently in effect under the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, which allow local board and committee members and the public to participate and conduct meetings by teleconference, videoconference, or both. [View full executive order.](#)

1. Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 p.m.

**Members present:**

Kirk Ance, CTSA (Lift Line)  
Deborah Benham, 5th District  
Janet Edwards, 1st District  
Patty Talbot, Social Services Provider – Seniors  
Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA (Community Bridges)  
Veronica Elsea, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Tara Ireland, Social Service Provider – Persons of Limited Means  
Caroline Lamb, Potential Transit User (Disabled)  
Michael Pisano, Potential Transit User (60+)

**Unexcused absences:**

Martha Rubbo, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Alex Weske, Social Service Provider – Disabled  
Paul Elerick, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

**RTC staff present:**

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner  
Luis Mendez, Deputy Director  
Amy Naranjo, Transportation Planner

Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner  
Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner

***Others present:***

Pete Rasmussen, Santa Cruz METRO  
Eileen Wagley, Santa Cruz METRO  
Rick Chace  
Ray Cancino, Community Bridges  
Douglas Underhill, Community Bridges  
Nathan Nguyen, City of Santa Cruz  
Dan Estranero, City of Santa Cruz

2. Introductions

3. Oral communications

Committee Member Tara Ireland announced the Volunteer Center's Stay Connected Program to connect with seniors and older adults in the community. More details will be provided in the program update.

Committee Members Caroline Lamb and Deborah Benham discussed the book *The Secret Walks and Staircases in Santa Cruz: 28 Walks for Fun and Fitness* by Debbie Bulger and Richard Stover.

Committee Member Michael Pisano stated that on Hwy 17 before the Pasatiempo Drive exit there is an automated speed limit sign that does not work properly. He also posed a question to the committee on the Bus Stop Moves article listed as an information item at the last E&D TAC meeting.

Ray Cancino, staff of Community Bridges, announced the Community Bridges COVID-19 Vaccination Helpline to receive assistance in obtaining the COVID-19 vaccine. Community Bridges' bilingual staff are available to provide information and help make appointments. Please call (831) 219-8607 and leave a message with your name, phone number, age and zip code.

4. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

*Move Item 12. Pedestrian Hazard Report to Item 13e. Pedestrian Ad-hoc Subcommittee Program Items.*

*The Committee decided to add Item 16a. Public Outreach for COVID Vaccine Transportation Services to the regular agenda as an urgency item.*

**CONSENT AGENDA**

5. Approved minutes from November 17, 2020

*A motion (Berkowitz/Edwards) was made to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously, with members Kirk Ance, Deborah*

*Benham, Janet Edwards, Patty Talbot, Lisa Berkowitz, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Caroline Lamb, Michael Pisano and voting in favor.*

6. Received RTC Meeting Highlights
7. Receive Transportation Development Act Revenues Report
8. Receive 2021 E&D TAC Meeting Schedule
9. Receive FY 21-22 TDA Claims Calendar
10. Received Information Items
  - a. Draft 2021 Long Range Development Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report Announcement
  - b. "A Serious Injury Changed Cyclist Ian Mackay's Life. Trails Helped Him Rebuild It"
  - c. UC Davis Development of an Innovation Corridor Testbed for Shared, Electric, Connected, and Automated Transportation Webinar
11. Committee Chair and Vice Chair Election Notice
12. Received Pedestrian Hazard Report – this item was moved to the regular agenda as Item 13e.

*A motion (Edwards/ Pisano) was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously, with members Kirk Ance, Deborah Benham, Janet Edwards, Patty Talbot, Lisa Berkowitz, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Caroline Lamb, Michael Pisano and voting in favor.*

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

13. Received Program Updates
  - a. Volunteer Center – FY 20-21 Report

Committee member Tara Ireland communicated the impacts of COVID-19 on the Volunteer Center's transportation services and provided updates on the Grocery Shopper Program. The committee was also informed of the Volunteer Center's new "Stay Connected Program". This program is a remote connectivity program for local seniors designed to be an ongoing person-to-person engagement over the phone. More information can be found by visiting:

<https://scvolunteercenter.org/programs/stay-connected/>

- b. Community Bridges

Committee member Kirk Ance, Ray Cancino, and Douglas

Underhill communicated the impacts of COVID-19 on Community Bridge's transportation services and the current status of Lift Line's new essential services programs.

- c. Santa Cruz Metro
- d. SCCRTC

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner, communicated the status of the SCCRTC serving as the Access Fund Administrator for the TNC (Transportation Network Companies) Access for All Program created by the California Public Utilities Commission and announced the release of the Caltrans District 5 Draft Active Transportation Plan. The plan is available for comment on the District 5 website through March 9, 2021. For more information please visit: [www.catplan.org](http://www.catplan.org)

- e. Pedestrian Ad-hoc Subcommittee, Received Pedestrian Hazard Report

Committee members Veronica Elsea, Deborah Benham, and Janet Edwards provided an update and discussed next steps on the Safe Pedestrian Intersection Design Project and will be reviewing the Pedestrian Hazard Report process.

*No action taken.*

#### 14. Preliminary Draft 2021 Unmet Needs

Chair Veronica Elsea and Amanda Marino, 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 2021 Preliminary Draft Unmet Needs List.

*No action taken.*

#### 15. E&D TAC Appointment Recommendations

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner, introduced the four appointment applications received for the Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee.

*A motion (Lamb/Edwards) was made to recommend that the RTC appointment new members and member alternate positions to fill vacancies on the E&D TAC. The motion passed unanimously, with members Kirk Ance, Deborah Benham, Janet Edwards, Patty Talbot, Lisa Berkowitz, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Caroline Lamb, Michael Pisano and voting in favor.*

## 16. Pedestrian Projects Ad-hoc Subcommittee Liaison Appointment

Chair Veronica Elsea communicated the roles and responsibilities to serve as a liaison to increase awareness of capital projects and communication with local jurisdictions. Six members of the committee that include Veronica Elsea, Caroline Lamb, Michael Pisano, Deborah Benham, Kirk Ance, and Janet Edwards volunteered to serve as liaisons for the following jurisdictions: Santa Cruz County, City of Santa Cruz, Capitola, Scotts Valley, Watsonville, and Caltrans.

*A motion (Lamb/Edwards) was made for approval to create liaison positions in order to increase awareness of capital projects and communication with local jurisdictions. The motion passed unanimously, with members Kirk Ance, Deborah Benham, Janet Edwards, Patty Talbot, Lisa Berkowitz, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Caroline Lamb, Michael Pisano and voting in favor.*

### 16a. Public Outreach for COVID Vaccine Transportation Services

Chair Veronica Elsea communicated the need for public outreach to notify the community of existing transportation services to COVID vaccination centers. Committee Members discussed potential opportunities and funding to perform outreach efforts.

*No action taken.*

## 17. City of Santa Cruz Article 8 Transportation Development Act Allocation Request

Dan Estranero and Nathan Nguyen representing the City of Santa Cruz presented an overview of the Pacific Avenue Sidewalk Project. Committee Members discussed the need for handicap parking and wheelchair accommodations in the project area. The committee requests that the City of Santa Cruz will keep the RTC and E&D TAC apprised of their efforts to address the concerns of the lack of handicap parking and access.

*No action taken due to a loss of quorum.*

## 18. Draft Constrained Project List and Financial Element for 2045 Regional Transportation Plan

Amy Naranjo, Transportation Planner presented an overview the draft constrained project list and draft funding forecasts for inclusion in the 2045 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), and for evaluation in the program-level Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The committee was asked to email comments by Tuesday, February 16, 2021 to [2045rtp@sccrtc.org](mailto:2045rtp@sccrtc.org).

*No action taken.*

## 19. FY 20/21 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP)

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner and Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner communicated that RTC staff recommend that the RTC program 85.5% of RTC shares of FY 20/21 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) and 100% of Santa Cruz METRO formula shares go to METRO for its Zero-Emission Watsonville Circulator Operating Project. Staff recommended that 14.5% of RTC shares go to Lift Line for Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers. Additionally, the E&D TAC is encouraged to identify any additional priority transit projects which could reduce greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled for consideration in future years through the 2021 Unmet Needs process.

*No action taken.*

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:09 pm.

The next E&D TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. at the RTC Office, Santa Cruz. NOTE: Teleconference may be necessary due to COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Marino, Staff