



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, October 12, 2021**

**NOTE: TELECONFERENCE**

1. Roll call

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

***Members present:***

Clay Kempf, Social Services Provider — Seniors  
Jesus Bojorquez, CTSA (Lift Line)  
Deborah Benham, 5th District  
Janet Edwards, 1st District  
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)  
Eileen Wagley, SCMTD (Metro)  
Michael Pisano, Potential transit User (60+)

***Unexcused absences:***

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

***RTC staff present:***

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner  
Luis Mendez, Deputy Director  
Sarah Christensen, Principal Engineer

***Others present:***

Becky Steinbruner, Cabrillo Host Lions Club  
Brad Cramer, EMS  
Russell Chen, Santa Cruz County Public Works  
Tim Nguyen, Santa Cruz County Public Works  
Shawn O'Keefe, Consultant Project Manager- Mark Thomas  
Daniel Young, Live Oak Resident  
Barbara Chamberlin, Cabrillo Host Lions Club President

2. Introductions
3. Oral communications

Committee member Caroline Lamb commented on the Santa Cruz METRO Route 18 bus, allowing easy access to downtown Santa Cruz.

Luis Mendez, RTC Deputy Director, addressed a motion made at the September RTC Budget and Administration/Personnel (B&A/P) Committee to consider the process for advisory committee member appointments outlined in the RTC's Rules and Regulations allowing individual appointments. Mr. Mendez also spoke to the current state law (AB 361) regarding the Brown Act allowing for the possibility of government bodies to continue to allow virtual public meetings. The RTC is interested in conducting hybrid meetings both in person and online at this time. Committee meetings will continue to be virtual under the following circumstances; that the state is in a declaration of emergency, requirements from state/health officials recommending measures that promote social distancing, and if there are additional findings that risk health and safety for meetings held in person.

Daniel Young, Live Oak resident, requested information about the E&D TAC and the process of becoming a committee member.

Committee member Michael Pisano asked if it would be possible for the E&D TAC to express overall support for projects that address climate change. Chair Veronica Elsea recognized the opportunity for this item to be added to a future meeting.

Becky Steinbruner, member of the Cabrillo Host Lions Club provided presentation on the Lions and International White Can safety Day on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Barbara Chamberlin, President of Cabrillo Host Lions Club, communicated for her support of the E&D TAC.

4. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

*Move Item 8. the Draft Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission 2021 Title VI Civil Rights Program & Language Assistance Plan to the Regular Agenda.*

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

5. Approved minutes from August 10, 2021

*A motion (Pisano/Berkowitz) was made to approve the minutes with changes to the unexcused absences, remove Janet Edwards, 8c.*

*program updates. The motion passed with members Clay Kempf, Jesus Bojorquez, Deborah Benham, Lisa Berkowitz, Veronica Elsea Tara Ireland, Caroline Lamb, Eileen Wagley, Michael Pisano voting in favor. Janet Edwards abstained.*

6. Received RTC Meeting Highlights
7. Received Information Items
  - a. Scotts Valley residents renew pleas for traffic safety after injury crash
  - b. Blindness and Guide Dog Etiquette

*A motion (Edwards/ Ireland) was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously, with members Clay Kempf, Janet Edwards, Jesus Bojorquez, Deborah Benham, Lisa Berkowitz, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Caroline Lamb, Eileen Wagley, Michael Pisano, voting in favor.*

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

8. Receive the Draft Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission 2021 Title VI Civil Rights Program & Language Assistance Plan

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the development process of the Draft Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission 2021 Title VI Civil Rights Program & Language Assistance Plan.

Committee members discussed ways a person with disabilities can use the Title VI procedures and forms. Many members recommended providing more information on the RTC website to access supplementary resources for filing accessibility complaints for people with disabilities. Suggestions will be solicited to E&D TAC members for additional accessibility information provided on the RTC website. The committee additionally voiced the goal to increase racial diversity among members who serve on the E&D TAC with new member recruitment strategies.

*A motion (Edwards/Ireland) was made to approve the Draft Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission 2021 Title VI Civil Rights Program & Language Assistance Plan. The motion passed, with members Janet Edwards, Jesus Bojorquez, Deborah Benham, Lisa Berkowitz, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Eileen Wagley, Michael Pisano, voting in favor. Clay Kempf and Caroline Lamb abstained.*

9. Received Program Updates
  - a. Volunteer Center

i. Grocery Shopper/Transportation Program Final Report for FY 20/21

Tara Ireland provided an overview of the information provided in the FY 20/21 Final Report.

b. Community Bridges

Lisa Berkowitz announced that dining sites are anticipated to open on November 2<sup>nd</sup> with Covid-19 safety protocols.

c. Santa Cruz Metro

Eileen Wagley communicated that the number of paratransit rides are increasing as the Covid-19 vaccination rates are high and businesses are opening. METRO is holding a job fair at the Coconut Grove on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Available positions are posted on the Santa Cruz METRO website. The committee also discussed the need of brail installed at bus stops. Committee member Michael Pisano discussed the need for a bus stop at the Enterprise Technology Center in Scotts Valley.

d. SCCRTC

Chair Veronica Elsea and the committee discussed concerns with the RTC Budget and Administration/Personnel (B&A/P) Committee to consider the process for district representative individual advisory committee member appointments.

*A motion (Lamb/Edwards) was made to send a letter to the RTC from the E&D TAC to oppose changing the committee appointment selection process for district representatives. The motion passed unanimously, with members Clay Kempf, Janet Edwards, Jesus Bojorquez, Deborah Benham, Lisa Berkowitz, Veronica Elsea, Tara Ireland, Caroline Lamb, Eileen Wagley, Michael Pisano, voting in favor.*

e. Pedestrian Ad-Hoc Subcommittee

i. Pedestrian Hazard Report

ii. Letter to the City of Santa Cruz Public Works Department

Chair Veronica Elsea provided a report of the current work the Pedestrian Ad-hoc Subcommittee is conducting including reviewing the pedestrian hazard reports and the findings from the appointed liaisons in each jurisdiction through out Santa Cruz County.

10. Watsonville – Santa Cruz Multimodal Corridor Program

Russel Chen, Santa Cruz County Public Works, and Shawn O'Keefe, Consultant Project Manager, presented the Soquel Drive Buffered Bike Lanes and Congestion Mitigation Project to the committee. The presentation included showing the existing conditions, project goals, project overview, project features, and schedule. Members of the committee provided input on topics that include pedestrian infrastructure connectivity, accessibility, and transit facilities.

*No action Taken*

11. Lights and Siren Use by Emergency Medical Services (EMS):  
Above All Do No Harm

Brad Cramer, American Medical Response Clinical Manager, discussed the primary role of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers and agencies. Mr. Cramer requested input from a pedestrian perspective of lights and siren use and effectiveness in Santa Cruz County. The committee discussed their experiences with lights and sirens, and ways it can be more effective to achieve the goal of emergency medical services.

*No action taken.*

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:02 pm.

The next E&D TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. NOTE: Teleconference may be necessary due to COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Marino, Staff