



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's  
**Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee**

*(Also serves as the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council)*

---

**FINAL MINUTES**

**1:30pm - 3:30pm**

**Tuesday, April 12, 2022**

**NOTE: Meeting was held as teleconference**

1. Roll call

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

***Members present:***

Tara Ireland, Social Service Provider-Persons of Limited Means  
Jesus Bojorquez, CTSA (Lift Line)  
Eileen Wagley, SCMTD (Metro)  
Michael Pisano, Potential transit User (60+)  
Janet Edwards, 1st District  
Veronica Elsea, 3rd District  
Nadia Noriega, CTSA (Lift Line)

***Unexcused absences:***

Alex Weske, Social Service Provider – Disabled  
Paul Elerick, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Martha Rubbo, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Clay Kempf, Social Service Provider-Seniors  
Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA (Community Bridges)  
Caroline Lamb, Potential Transit User (Disabled)  
Ed Hutton, 5<sup>th</sup> District

***RTC staff present:***

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner  
Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner  
Sarah Christensen, Principal Engineer  
Guy Preston, Executive Director  
Brianna Goodman, Transportation Planner

***Others present:***

Patrice Theriot, City of Watsonville  
Rob Tidmore, County of Santa Cruz

Becky Steinbruner, Cabrillo Host Lions Club  
Barbara Chamberlin, Cabrillo Host Lions Club  
Tim Brattan, Grey Bears  
Johanna Lighthill, Member of the Public  
Daniel Young, Member of the Public  
Wondimu Mengistu, Santa Cruz METRO

2. Introductions

3. Oral communications

Committee member Janet Edwards provided information on City of Capitola's survey listing the number of people with disabilities and age of people living in Capitola posted in the April 14<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

Becky Steinbruner, member of the public, representing the Cabrillo Host Lions Club communicated information on the transportation element of the County of Santa Cruz Sustainability Update to the General Plan.

4. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas - none

**CONSENT AGENDA**

5. Approved minutes from February 8, 2022

*A motion (Pisano/Edwards) was made to approve the minutes with corrections to item 19. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Eileen Wagley, Michael Pisano, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Nadia Noriega voting in favor.*

6. Received RTC Meeting Highlights

7. Received 2022 E&D TAC Membership Roster

8. Received Information Items

- a. California Air Resources Board UCLA Center for Neighborhood Knowledge Transportation Disparities Mapping Tool User Guide
- b. Pediatric Disaster Surge Training Flyer

*A motion (Edwards/Bojorquez) was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Eileen Wagley, Michael Pisano, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Nadia Noriega*

*voting in favor.*

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### 9. Received Program Updates

#### a. Volunteer Center – TDA Second Quarter Summary Report

Tara Ireland communicated that there are no new program updates.

#### b. Community Bridges

Jesus Bojorquez informed the committee that Lift Line hired a new driver.

#### c. Santa Cruz METRO

Eileen Wagley announced that METRO is providing free transit and paratransit rides on April 22<sup>nd</sup> celebrating Earth Day. Additionally, Michael Tree, METRO's new General Manager, will start on April 21<sup>st</sup> and two new ParaCruz drivers were hired. More information on available positions can be found on Santa Cruz METRO's website.

#### d. SCCRTC

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner, announced that the RTC applied to be an Access Fund Administrator for the TNC Access For All Program in Santa Cruz County.

Veronica Elsea, E&D TAC Chair, requested that we inform the committee of the next Budget Administration and Personnel Committee (BAP) meeting date at the next E&D TAC meeting.

#### e. Pedestrian Ad-Hoc Subcommittee

##### i. Pedestrian Hazard Report

Chair Veronica Elsea informed the committee that the subcommittee is continuing to monitor the Pedestrian Hazard Reports and responses. The subcommittee requested information from local jurisdictions on the process of working with developers to mitigate pedestrian safety issues. Ms. Elsea also thanked Gus Alfaro for working with the subcommittee as the Caltrans District 5 committee liaison. Mr. Alfaro is now working for the Clean California Program.

The subcommittee is additionally monitoring the update to the Santa Cruz County Wireless Communication Ordinance. The subcommittee is working to ensure that pedestrian pathways are not obstructed by the placement of new electrical boxes. This item is being considered

by the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors at their meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

*A motion (Pisano/Edwards) was made for the Pedestrian Ad-hoc Subcommittee to write a letter to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors on behalf of the E&D TAC to ensure accessible pedestrian pathways in the update of the Santa Cruz County Wireless Communication Ordinance. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Eileen Wagley, Michael Pisano, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Nadia Noriega voting in favor.*

#### 10. Chair and Vice Chair Elections

*A motion (Pisano/Edwards) was made to elect Veronica Elsea as Chair for a two-year term. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Eileen Wagley, Michael Pisano, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Nadia Noriega voting in favor.*

*A motion (Edwards/Bojorquez) was made to elect Janet Edwards as Vice Chair for a two-year term. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Eileen Wagley, Michael Pisano, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Nadia Noriega voting in favor.*

#### 11. Draft 2022 Unmet Transit and Paratransit Needs List

Veronica Elsea, E&D TAC Chair, and Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner, explained that annually the E&D TAC prepares the Unmet Transit and Paratransit Needs List to identify unmet transportation needs of seniors and people with disabilities and/or limited means to provide a useful tool to access and prioritize needs in the region. The E&D TAC considered the Preliminary Draft 2022 Unmet Paratransit and Transit Needs List at their February 8, 2022 meeting. Revisions from the Preliminary Draft to the Draft are shown using underline and strikeout and reflect recommendations made by the E&D TAC, input from members of the public, partner agencies, and RTC staff. Committee members and members of the public are encouraged to provide comments using the [online form](#) or by emailing [amarino@sccrtc.org](mailto:amarino@sccrtc.org).

*A motion (Edwards/ Bojorquez) was made to approve the Final Draft 2022 Unmet Transit and Paratransit Needs List, and forward the list to the RTC for their consideration on May 5, 2022 with amendments as needed following the public hearing. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Eileen Wagley, Michael Pisano, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Nadia Noriega voting in favor.*

## 12. Coastal Rail Trail Segments 8 through 12 Schematic Plans

RTC Senior Transportation Planner Grace Blakeslee, County of Santa Cruz Project Manager Rob Tidmore, and RTC Principal Engineer Sarah Christensen presented the schematic plans for Coastal Rail Trail Segments 8 & 9 (Pacific Avenue to 17th), Segments 10 & 11 (17th to State Park Drive) and Segment 12 (State Park Drive to Rio Del Mar Boulevard). The committee provided comments and questions regarding topics related to ADA accessibility, trail width, trail connections, and trail crossings.

*No action taken.*

## 13. Measure D Active Transportation- Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network (MBSST)/Coastal Rail Trail Five-Year Program of Projects

Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner, gave an overview of the options and priorities for Measure D Active Transportation funds through FY26/27 (MBSST 5-Year Plan). This includes staff recommending allocating funding to Segments 8 & 9, Segments 10 & 11, Segment 12, and rail corridor maintenance, encroachments, planning and oversight.

*No action taken.*

## 14. City of Watsonville, Freedom Blvd. Reconstruction Project

Patrice Theriot, City of Watsonville Public Works Principal Engineer shared the Freedom Blvd. reconstruction plans with the committee identifying pedestrian accessibility improvements including updating curb ramps, crosswalks, traffic signals, and pedestrian actuated signals with audible countdowns.

*No action taken.*

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:00 pm.

The next E&D TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. NOTE: Teleconference may be necessary due to COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Marino, Staff