



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, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**NOTE: Meeting was held via Zoom.**

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

Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA (Community Bridges)

Jesus Bojorquez, CTSA (Lift Line)

Daniel Zaragoza, SCMTD (Metro)

Michael Pisano, Potential transit User (60+)

Caroline Lamb, Potential Transit User (Disabled)

Janet Edwards, 1st District

Veronica Elsea, 3rd District

Nadia Noriega, CTSA (Lift Line)

Alicia Morales, Social Service Provider-Seniors (County)

Patty Talbott, Social Service Provider-Seniors

***Unexcused absences:***

Alex Weske, Social Service Provider – Disabled

Paul Elerick, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

Ed Hutton, 5<sup>th</sup> District

***RTC staff present:***

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner

***Others present:***

Wondimu Mengistu, Santa Cruz METRO

Kira Ticus, Ecology Action

Chris Lamm, City of Scotts Valley Public Works Director

Angela Hershberger, MME Civil + Structural Engineering

Dena Taylor, Member of the Public

2. Introductions
3. Oral communications
4. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

*A motion (Pisano/Edwards) was made to move Item 9. FY 22-23 State of Good Repair (SGR) Project List to present after Item 11. Ecology Action Safe Routes to School Youth Education Program due to time conflicts with presenters. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Lisa Berkowitz, Jesus Bojorquez, Daniel Zaragoza, Michael Pisano, Caroline Lamb, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Nadia Noriega, Alicia Morales, and Patty Talbott voting in favor.*

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

5. Approved minutes from May 10, 2022

*A motion (Edwards/Lamb) was made to approve the minutes. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Lisa Berkowitz, Jesus Bojorquez, Daniel Zaragoza, Michael Pisano, Caroline Lamb, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Nadia Noriega, Alicia Morales, and Patty Talbott voting in favor.*

6. Received RTC Meeting Highlights
7. Received Information Items

- a. Coastal Rail Trail Segment 7 - Phase II Groundbreaking flyer

*A motion (Pisano/ Bojorquez) was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Lisa Berkowitz, Jesus Bojorquez, Daniel Zaragoza, Michael Pisano, Caroline Lamb, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Nadia Noriega, Alicia Morales, and Patty Talbott voting in favor.*

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

8. Received Program Updates
  - a. Volunteer Center

Tara Ireland communicated that the Volunteer Center is continuing to recruit new volunteers and hiring a coordinator position.

- b. Community Bridges – TDA Second Quarter Summary Report

Jesus Bojorquez presented the TDA Second Quarter Summary Report. Community Bridges Lift Line is in the process of hiring a new scheduler/dispatcher and Nadia Noriega is now the Operations Manager.

Lisa Berkowitz updated the committee that Community Bridges is negotiating with the Live Oak School District to continue to have the same Meals on Wheels location. Community Bridges is additionally working on re-opening the Live Oak Senior Center Meals on Wheels dining site. Last year 225,000 meals were delivered through the Meals on Wheels program.

c. Santa Cruz METRO

Daniel Zaragoza announced that METRO ParaCruz provided 62,006 rides in FY 21-22. METRO is in the process of hiring 7 new ParaCruz Operators and conducting interviews for a new Mobility Coordinator.

d. SCCRTC

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner, informed the committee that the conference room at the RTC office is in the process of setting up the capability to have hybrid meetings.

Ms. Marino announced that the RTC was accepted to be the Access Fund Administrator for TNC access for All Program to fund on-demand paratransit services in Santa Cruz County.

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 is additionally monitoring the public meetings and projects of local jurisdictions throughout Santa Cruz County. Ms. Elsea provided an update on the projects they are monitoring. She also identified the grant funding opportunities to support increased safe pedestrian infrastructure.

10. 2022 Guide to Specialized Transportation Services Update

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner, communicated that the Guide to

Specialized Transportation Services for Seniors and People with Disabilities in Santa Cruz County is published by the RTC and Copies are available in English and Spanish. The Guide lists all known accessible transportation services available in Santa Cruz County.

Chair Veronica Elsea suggested to consider adding the Vista Center to the guide that provides services to people who are blind or visually impaired.

*No action taken.*

#### 11. Ecology Action Safe Routes to School Youth Education Program

Kira Ticus, Ecology Action Staff, presented an overview of the Youth Safe Routes to School Education Program that includes the Walk Smart Program and Bike Smart Program teaching pedestrian and bike safety techniques to elementary school students. Committee members encouraged Ecology Action staff to prioritize teaching students how to navigate walking and cycling when in contact with a person with disabilities.

*No action taken.*

#### 9. (Moved after Item 11) FY 22-23 State of Good Repair (SGR) Project List

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner, presented the staff recommendation for the FY 22-23 State of Good Repair (SGR) Project List. Wondimu Mengistu, METRO staff, provided an overview of the bus replacement project.

*A motion (Lamb/Pisano) was made to recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission approve FY 22-23 State of Good Repair (SGR) Project List. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Daniel Zaragoza, Michael Pisano, Caroline Lamb, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Nadia Noriega, Alicia Morales, and Patty Talbott voting in favor. Lisa Berkowitz was not present for the vote.*

#### 12. The Scotts Valley – Bean Creak Road Rehabilitation Project

Chris Lamm, City of Scotts Valley Public Works Director, and Angela Hershberger, MME Civil + Structural Engineering, presented an overview of the Bean Creak Road Rehabilitation Project highlighting new pedestrian safety and accessibility features.

*No action taken.*

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:15 pm.

The next E&D TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. NOTE: Teleconference may be necessary due to COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Marino, Staff