



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, October 11, 2022

NOTE: Meeting was held via Zoom.

1. Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Members present:

Tara Ireland, Social Service Provider-Persons of Limited Means
Lisa Berkowitz, CTSA (Community Bridges)
Jesus Bojorquez, CTSA (Lift Line)
Michael Pisano, Potential transit User (60+)
Caroline Lamb, Potential Transit User (Disabled)
Janet Edwards, 1st District
Nadia Noriega, CTSA (Lift Line)
Patty Talbott, Social Service Provider-Seniors
Ed Hutton, 5th District
Eileen Wagley, SCMTD (Metro)
Phil Kipnis, 1st District Alternate

Unexcused absences:

Alex Weske, Social Service Provider – Disabled
Paul Elerick, 2nd District

RTC staff present:

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner
Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner

Others present:

Chris Duymich, AMBAG
Paul Hierling, AMBAG
Miguel Lizarraga, City of Santa Cruz Public Works
Miranda Taylor, AMBAG
Christina Witt, Department of Rehabilitation
Joshua Spangrud, City of Santa Cruz Public Works

Becky Steinbruner, Cabrillo Host Lions Club
Dena Taylor, Member of the Public
Becky Taylor, Member of the Public

2. Introductions
3. Oral communications

Becky Steinbruner, Cabrillo Host Lions Club, announced a public general meeting for the Cabrillo Host Lions Club on October 27th at 7:00 pm at the Aptos Village County Park with Santa Cruz County Public Works Traffic Safety Engineer guest speaker. Ms. Steinbruner informed the committee of the Lions Club International White Cane Safety Day on October 15th.

Vice Chair Janet Edwards encouraged the committee to attend the Budget and Administrative Personnel Committee Meeting on October 13th at 1:30 pm to provide input on the appointment process for the advisory committees by County Supervisors. Ms. Edwards additionally shared with the committee that she did not have access to wheelchair accessible transportation service when a medical emergency occurred.

4. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Approved minutes from August 9, 2022

A motion (Pisano/Berkowitz) was made to approve the minutes. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Lisa Berkowitz, Jesus Bojorquez, Michael Pisano, Caroline Lamb, Janet Edwards, Nadia Noriega, Patty Talbott, Ed Hutton, Eileen Wagley, voting in favor.

6. Received RTC Meeting Highlights
7. Received Information Items

- a. Transportation Development Act (TDA) Fiscal Years 2019-2021 Triennial Performance Audit

A motion (Hutton/Bojorquez) was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Lisa Berkowitz, Jesus Bojorquez, Michael Pisano, Caroline Lamb, Janet Edwards, Nadia Noriega, Patty Talbott, Ed Hutton, Eileen Wagley voting in favor.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. Received Program Updates

a. Volunteer Center

Tara Ireland communicated that the Volunteer Center has gained 5 new volunteers including a dispatcher position that has allowed the Volunteer Center to fulfill 100% of requests.

b. Community Bridges – TDA Second Quarter Summary Report

Jesus Bojorquez updated the committee that Lift Line hired a new scheduler and dispatcher to assist on the weekends. Lift Line has an open Driver Supervisor Trainer position and is accepting applications. More information can be found on:

<https://communitybridges.org/liftline/>

c. Santa Cruz METRO

Eileen Wagley announced that METRO is currently hiring for fixed route transit drivers and recently hired new paratransit drivers. More information can be found at <http://www.scmttd.com/en/agency-info/metro-employment>. Ms. Wagley also noted the installation of new blue benches at transit stops.

d. SCCRTC

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner, announced that the RTC was accepted to be the Access Fund Administrator for the TNC access for All Program to fund on-demand wheelchair accessible vehicle transportation services in Santa Cruz County. In the next coming months, staff will be developing a scope of work for access providers to use these funds. The draft will then be presented to the E&D TAC to review and provide input. Additionally, Ms. Marino announced the next Budget and Administrative Personnel Committee Meeting on Thursday, October 13th at 1:30 pm discussing the appointment process for the advisory committees by County Supervisors.

Ms. Marino informed the committee that the conference room at the RTC office is in the process of setting up the capability to have hybrid meetings. Staff will provide more information on how meetings will be held and the requirements for the new bill AB 2449 to require in-person quorums and limiting the number of times a representative can attend via teleconference.

- e. Pedestrian Ad-Hoc Subcommittee
 - i. Pedestrian Hazard Report

Vice Chair Janet Edwards stated that the subcommittee is continuing to monitor the public meetings and projects of local jurisdictions throughout Santa Cruz County. Ms. Edwards provided an update on the status of the Clare's St. Project including upgrading the corner of 40th avenue. Ms. Edwards informed the committee of the death of a 68-year-old male in an electric wheel chair killed by a drunk driver in Live Oak, and a woman killed at Green Valley Rd in Watsonville crossing the street.

9. Measure D: Five-Year Programs of Projects for Regional Projects

Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner, presented the proposed updates to the Measure D five-year programs of projects for each of the regional transportation categories – Highway Corridors, Active Transportation, and the Rail Corridor, as well as San Lorenzo Valley Highway 9 Corridor Improvements, the Highway 17 Wildlife Crossing. The 5-year Plans, programming anticipated Measure D revenues for FY22/23-26/27, focus on continued implementation of previously approved and/or prioritized projects. The committee provided comments and questions regarding the highway projects and segments of the rail trail.

A motion (Lamb/Bojorquez) was made to recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission approve the Measure D: Five-Year Programs of Projects for Regional Projects. The motion passed with members Tara Ireland, Lisa Berkowitz, Jesus Bojorquez, Michael Pisano, Caroline Lamb, Janet Edwards, Nadia Noriega, Patty Talbott, Ed Hutton, Eileen Wagley voting in favor.

10. Draft 2022 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan

Miranda Taylor, AMBAG Planner, provided information to the committee on the Draft 2022 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan). The purpose of the Coordinated Plan is to create a plan to improve regional transit for individuals that are elderly, disabled, and/or low-income. The projects and strategies identified in this plan are made eligible for federal funding through the FTA Section 5310 grant program. The Draft 2022 Coordinated Plan is available on the AMBAG website at <https://ambag.org/plans/monterey-bay-area-coordinated-public-transit-human-services-transportation-plan>. Committee members provided comments and questions regarding service

providers and partner agency coordination.

No action taken.

11. Regional Early Action Planning Grants 2.0 Program

Paul Hierling and Chris Duymich, AMBAG staff, delivered an update on the Regional Early Action Program (REAP) 2.0 Program including recent feedback and input received from outreach activities. The REAP program integrates housing and climate goals allowing for broader planning and implementation investments, including infrastructure investments that support future housing development. The committee provided suggestions on projects in Santa Cruz County that would benefit from this funding.

No action taken.

12. Ocean St Pavement Rehab & Bike/Ped Upgrades Review

Miguel Lizarraga and Joshua Spangrud, City of Santa Cruz Public Works Staff, presented an overview Ocean Street Pavement Rehab & Bike/Ped Upgrades Project and requested input from the committee prior to the construction of the project. The city of Santa Cruz seeks to make improvements to Ocean Street, due to pavement condition. The rehabilitation work provides an opportunity to make safety improvements including bike and pedestrian infrastructure. The committee provided comments and asked questions regarding ADA accessibility and pedestrian crossings.

No action taken.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:05 pm.

The next E&D TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. NOTE: Teleconference may be necessary due to COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Marino, Staff