



City of Ceres • City of Hughson • City of Modesto • City of Newman • City of Oakdale • City of Patterson  
City of Riverbank • City of Turlock • City of Waterford • County of Stanislaus

## Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

*Wednesday, November 12, 2008*

*10:00 a.m.*

*StanCOG Conference Room*

*900 H Street, Suite D*

*Modesto, California*

Any member of the public may speak on any item on the agenda. The Council will only allow comments by members of the public on an item on the agenda during consideration of the item. When the item is called, please raise your hand if you desire to address the Council.

1. Roll call
2. Comments from the Public
3. Approval of Minutes for September 10, 2008 Motion
4. Approval of 2009 Meeting Calendar Motion
5. Review of SSTAC Member Classifications Discussion
6. Adoption of SSTAC Bylaws Motion
7. Review of StanCOG Adopted Definitions of “Unmet Transit Need” and “Reasonable to Meet” Discussion
8. Unmet Transit Needs Update/Roundtable Discussion
9. Transit Managers Reports
10. Executive Director’s Report
11. Comments from Council Members

### Next Scheduled Meeting

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

StanCOG Conference Room

900 H Street, Suite D

Modesto, CA

**California Brown Act Requires:**

This Agenda shall be made available upon request in alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12132) and the Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code § 54954.2). Persons requesting a disability related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact Lark Downs, at (209) 525-4600, during regular business hours, at least twenty-four hours prior to the time of the meeting.

**Notice Regarding Non-English Speakers:**

Pursuant to California Constitution Article III, Section IV, establishing English as the official language for the State of California, and in accordance with California Code of Civil Procedures Section 185, which requires proceedings before any State Court to be in English, notice is hereby given that all proceedings before the StanCOG Policy Board shall be in English and anyone wishing to address the Board is required to have a translator present who will take an oath to make an accurate translation from any language not English into the English language.

Questions: Contact Vince Harris at (209) 525-4600.

**Stanislaus Council of Governments**  
**Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)**  
900 H Street, Suite D  
Modesto, California

Minutes of September 10, 2008

Members Attending: Chair Tom Truax (SHCA); Lynn Ewen (Catholic Charities);  
Greg Gaudio (Alliance Worknet); Sandra Williams (CSA-StanWorks)

Members Not Attending: Kris Rowe, Terry Plett (DRAIL), Misty Ridenour (Howard Training  
Center)

Also Present: Brad Christian (Stanislaus County Transit); Kay Dunkel (City of  
Ceres); Terry Easley (City of Modesto); Janet Jaramillo, Joshua  
Swearingen (Caltrans District 10 Planning); Donna Bridges  
(Riverbank-Oakdale Transit Authority); Victoria Hermosillo (CSA-  
Adult Services); Lark Downs, Scott Philips, Sabrina Pinheiro  
(StanCOG)

Meeting called to order by Chair Tom Truax at 10:03 a.m.

**1. Roll Call**

**2. Comments from the Public**

**3. Approval of Minutes for May 6, 2008**

**MOTION**

**By Motion**, (Greg Gaudio/Sandra Williams) and unanimous vote, the Council approved the May 6, 2008 Minutes.

**4. Election of 2008/09 Officers**

**MOTION**

**A.** Terry Plett was nominated for Vice-Chair  
**By Motion** (Tom Truax/Lynn Ewen)

**B.** Tom Truax was nominated for Chairman  
**By Motion** (Greg Gaudio/Sandra Williams)

By Vote, Tom Truax was elected Chairman, and Terry Plett was elected Vice-chair.

**5. Update of County Transit Needs Assessment Study – Brad Christian, Stanislaus County  
Transit Manager** **DISCUSSION**

Brad Christian (Stanislaus County Transit)

- Assembling existing conditions.
- List/review all the existing charities in Stanislaus County
- Will hold at least 12 stakeholder meetings
- From all of this information gathered, the consultant will formulate the answer to the question: How can we meet the transit needs of individuals with disabilities
- What needs have been met?
- How can these needs be funded?
- This is the most extensive study ever done in regards to the services and the people with disabilities

Tom Truax asked and addressed the following questions and concerns:

- Is this study current? Meeting recommendations for today?
- Locating people with special needs so that they can be accommodated i.e. Dial a Ride
- Goal is to tie people to services and know what those services are
- This study is very critical because funding is not designated for any disability needs transportation in the Measure S Expenditure Plan
- It is very important for us to recognize these individual needs

**6. JARC/New Freedom - \$85,000 for Social Service Agencies**

**DISCUSSION**

Scott Philips updated the Council on the latest JARC/New Freedom activities and projects.

Terry Easley, (City of Modesto)

- Typically this is a 3 week process getting everything to council, but we did it in 7 days
- JARC funds are used for late night service for people who work late

Tom Truax (SHCA)

- Who else have we contacted and do we have a list to provide to members?
- Allocations on an annual basis since it has our FTA number

**7. Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 – Elderly and Disabled Specialized Transit Program**

**DISCUSSION**

Mr. Philips updated the Council on the latest FTA Section 5310 activities

- Section 5310 Funding
- 3 Applicants, scored well , 30 days to grade the applications (Catholic Charities, Ralston Towers and Millers Place)
- Tom Truax will make contact with Ralston Towers in regards to obtaining a Senior Representative for SSTAC

**8. Unmet Transit Needs Update/Roundtable**

**DISCUSSION**

- Definition of “Reasonable to meet”

- Responsibility of this council to make any changes before going to Policy Board
- Mail-out definition unmet needs and by-laws to SSTAC members and include the excerpt from TDA
- Get it out in time to give everyone a week or two before next meeting
- Wait a month due to Notice not getting published link in to the County Transit study.

## 9. Transit Managers Report

Kay Dunkel (City of Ceres)

- Looking at changing fares as of January 1<sup>st</sup>
- Pilot done on five buses (AVL System)
  - On-time performance
  - Each bus will have its own model with a computer
  - Security Measures
- Changes will be impacting five (5) different routes, so it's important to know what we are going to be doing with our routing

Donna Bridges (Riverbank/Oakdale Transit Authority)

- Storer is considering operating a shuttle

Brad Christian (Stanislaus County -- Planning/Transit)

- Senior event on October 10<sup>th</sup> at Doubletree, over 15,000 people attended last year
- Enable us to do a 31 day pass, three (3) new buses with lower load capacities

## 10. Executive Director's Report

A. Update on Blueprint Planning process activities

B. Have been working on presenting Measure S to various clubs and agencies, such as the Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs and the Kiwanis Clubs

The SSTAC Committee Meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.



Lark Downs  
Senior Planner

Next Meeting: November 12, 2008, 10:00 a.m.  
StanCOG Conference Room  
900 H Street, Suite D  
Modesto, CA 95354



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TO: Social Services Transportation  
Advisory Council (SSTAC)

**Staff Report**  
**MOTION**

FROM: Lark Downs, Sr. Planner

SUBJECT: 2009 Meeting Calendar

DATE: November 3, 2008

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the Stanislaus Council of Governments Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) schedule as listed below. The meetings will be held at the StanCOG Offices at 900 H Street, Suite D, and Modesto, CA.

| <b>2009 MEETING SCHEDULE</b><br><b>StanCOG</b><br><b>SSTAC</b><br><b>10:00 a.m.</b> |
|---|
| JANUARY 14  |
| FEBRUARY 11   |
| MARCH 11  |
| APRIL 8   |
| MAY 13  |
| JUNE 10   |
| JULY 8  |
| AUGUST 12   |
| SEPTEMBER 9   |
| OCTOBER 14  |
| NOVEMBER 18   |
| DECEMBER 9  |
| The SSTAC meets the second<br>Wednesday of each month,<br>unless otherwise noted.   |

Stanislaus Council of Governments  
Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

October 2008

- One Representative of Potential Transit Users 60 Years of Age or Older  
Vacant

- Member with Disability  
**Kris Rowe** (February 2006 - January 2009)  
DRAIL

- Two Representatives of the Local Social Service Providers for Seniors, Including One Representative of a Social Service Transportation Provider

Transportation Provider > **Lynn Ewen** (February 2006 – January 2009)  
Catholic Charities

Non-transportation Provider > Vacant

- Two Representatives of the Local Social Service Providers for Individuals with a Disability, Including One Representative of a Social Service Transportation Provider

Non-transportation Provider > **Tom Truax** (February 2006 – January 2009)  
Society for Handicapped

Transportation Provider > Vacant

- One Representative of a Local Social Service Provider for Persons of Limited Means

**Sandra Williams** (September 2008 – August 2011)  
StanWORK's

- Additional Members

**Greg Gaudio** (February 2006 - January 2009)  
Stan Alliance

**Terry Plett** (October 2008 – September 2011)  
DRAIL


**Misty Ridenour** (September 2008 – August 2011)  
Howard Training Center



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To: StanCOG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council  
(SSTAC) Members

From: Lark Downs 

Date: October 15, 2008

Subject: Review of Draft SSTAC Bylaws

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At the October 8, 2008 meeting of the StanCOG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC), the members reviewed the current SSTAC Bylaws. This is in conformance with Article X, Section 2 of the Bylaws requiring review every three years.

The Council requested revisions, which are included in the attached draft Bylaws. Approval of the attached Draft Bylaws is scheduled for your next meeting of Wednesday, November 12, 2008.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please respond via e-mail to [larkdowns@stancog.org](mailto:larkdowns@stancog.org) or call me direct at 525-4635.

A blue handwritten signature, appearing to read 'Lark Downs', is written over a horizontal line.



# DRAFT

**STANISLAUS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I**

**FUNCTION**

Section 1: The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council shall be a standing committee of the Stanislaus Council of Governmental. The Committee shall advise the Council and have the following responsibilities:

1. Annually participate in the identification of transit needs in the jurisdiction, including unmet transit needs that may exist within the jurisdiction of the Stanislaus Council of Governments and that may be reasonable to meet by establishing or contracting for new public transportation or specialized transportation services or by expanding existing services.
2. Annually review and recommend action by the Council of Governments for the area within the Council of Governments' jurisdiction which finds by resolution, that:
  - A. there are no unmet transit needs; or
  - B. there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet; or
  - C. there are unmet transit needs, including needs that are reasonable to meet.
  - D. there are unmet transit needs, including those needs that are NOT reasonable to meet under the Transportation Development Act (TDA) definition.
3. Advise the Council of Governments on any other major transit issues, including the coordination and consolidation of specialized transportation services.

## ARTICLE II

### MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council shall consist of the following members who are residents of Stanislaus County:

1. One representative of potential transit users who is 60 years of age or older.
2. One representative of potential transit users who is ~~handicapped~~ a person with a disability.
3. Two representatives of the local social service providers for seniors, including one representative of a social service transportation provider, if one exists.
4. Two representatives of local social service providers for ~~the handicapped~~ persons with disabilities, including one representative of a social service transportation provider, if one exists.
5. One representative of a local social service provider for persons of limited means.
6. Two representatives from the local consolidated transportation service agency, designated pursuant to Subdivision (a) of Section 15975 of the Government Code, if one exists, including one representative from an operator, if one exists.
7. ~~Up to two (2)~~ Additional representatives, if desired by the Council and appointed by the Executive Committee.

Section 2: A quorum shall constitute one-half (1/2) of the current membership.

## ARTICLE III

### TERM OF OFFICE

Section 1: Of the initial appointments to the Council, one-third of them shall be for a one-year term, one-third shall be for a two-year term, and one-third shall be for a three-year term.

Section 2: Subsequent to the initial appointment, the term of appointment shall be for three years, which may be renewed for an additional three-year term.

Section 3: In no case shall any member of the Council serve on the Council longer than eight consecutive years.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **APPOINTMENT**

- Section 1: Any qualified resident of Stanislaus County may apply for membership on the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council. The Secretary of the Council of Governments shall maintain a current list of all applicants. Each application for membership on the Council shall be valid for a period of two years. After this time, the applicant's name may be removed from the list of applicants.
- Section 2: The Executive Committee of the Council of Governments shall appoint, from the list of applicants, the members of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council. All matters pertaining to appointments shall be considered in Executive session.
- Section 3: Additional nominees for the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council may be supplied by the Commission on Aging, the Mayor's Committee for Employment of Persons with Disabilities, and the United Way.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **PERFORMANCE**

- Section 1: The members of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council will be expected to attend the meetings of the Council on a regular basis. Any member of the Council who is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Council without prior approval of the Secretary of the Council/Executive Committee, shall be dismissed from the Council.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **REMOVAL**

- Section 1: The Executive Committee of the Council of Governments may, at any time, recommend the removal of any member of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council. A majority vote of the representatives of the Council of Governments shall be required to approve any removal. All matters pertaining to removals shall be considered in executive session.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **OFFICERS AND RULES**

- Section 1: The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council shall elect from among its membership a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson. The term of office shall be for one year.
- Section 2: The Council shall adopt rules and procedures for its meetings. Said rules and procedures shall be subject to approval by the Council of Governments.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **STAFF**

- Section 1: The Executive Director of the Council of Governments, or his or her appointee, shall serve as the Secretary of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council and shall provide the Council with normal staff assistance.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **FINANCING**

- Section 1: Except as specifically provided by the Council of Governments, the members of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council shall receive no compensation for their service.
- Section 2: The Council of Governments shall provide the Committee with the financial support the Council of Governments deems necessary for the successful functioning of the Council.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **REVIEW AND AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS**

- Section 1: Changes or amendments to these Bylaws shall be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the members of that Council present and voting, and shall be subject to the majority approval of the Stanislaus Council of Governments Policy Board members present and voting. In no case shall a vote on a proposed amendment be conducted unless the said proposed amendment

has been submitted in writing to the members of the Council at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting at which a vote is to be taken.

*Section 2: At a minimum, Bylaws will be reviewed every three (3) years. This review shall be completed by the Chair and the Vice-chair, who shall report all findings to the full Council.*

StanCOG Adopted Definitions  
of  
“Unmet Transit Need”  
&  
“Reasonable To Meet”

# StanCOG

## Definition of Unmet Transit Need

The StanCOG Policy Board adopted the current definitions of "Unmet Transit Need" and "Reasonable to Meet" on September 8, 2004.

An "unmet transit need" is any inadequacy in the system of public transit services, specialized transit/paratransit service, or private transportation service within the jurisdictions of Stanislaus County process which has not been funded and implemented and which has been accurately documented on the Unmet Transit Need "Request for Transit Service" form. Potential transit needs may be identified by community members or through a local or regional planning process. Although some services may be restricted or give priority to traditionally transit-dependent populations (such as elderly, youths, persons with disabilities, or low-income persons), all eligible users should have equivalent access or opportunity to use the service. At a minimum, this may include requests for transportation services which are identified through the annual TDA Unmet Transit Needs hearings, by the SSTAC, in the Regional Transportation Plan, in the Short-Range Transit Plan of any transit operator, or in the compliance plan for the Americans with Disabilities Act as prepared by any public or private entity. Unmet transit needs are not:

1. Trips, which would duplicate transportation services
2. A need for transportation service beyond the fiscal year under consideration
3. Provision of escorts or attendants

## Definition of Reasonable to Meet

An identified unmet transit need will be determined to be "reasonable to meet" if it is demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the StanCOG Policy Board, that the transit need can be met within the following performance and financial standards:

1. A potential unmet transit need shall achieve at least 50% the system-wide performance standards, except in the case of an extension of service determined to be a necessary lifeline\* service for transit dependent populations.

*Lifeline Service: A service necessary to access community services within Stanislaus County that are needed to sustain an individual's physical and mental health.*

2. A potential unmet transit need shall not cause the system of which it is a part to fail to meet the systemwide performance standards.
3. The unmet transit need will not require the expenditure of more Local Transportation Funds than are available to the jurisdiction for transit.

The determination of whether an unmet transit need is "reasonable to meet" shall take into account as appropriate:

1. If the time period needed to implement the required corrective action (e.g. major

purchases, planning requirements) is greater than one year, an unmet transit need may be declared not reasonable to meet. An unmet transit need shall not be determined unreasonable to meet more than once on these grounds.

2. The fact that an identified transit need cannot be fully met based on available resources shall not be the sole reason for a finding that a transit need is not reasonable to meet.
3. An agency's determination of needs that are reasonable to meet shall not be made by comparing unmet transit needs with the need for streets and roads.



Additional Definitions  
of  
“Unmet Transit Need”  
&  
“Reasonable To Meet”

From misc. Councils of  
Governments



# “Unmet Transit Needs” & “Reasonable to Meet”

## DEFINITIONS

### Unmet Transit Needs

Those public transportation services which have not been funded or implemented but have been identified through public input, including the annual unmet transit needs public hearing, transit needs studies and other methods approved by the Commission.

Unmet transit needs specifically include:

- Public transit services not currently provided for persons who rely on public transit to reach: employment, medical assistance, shop for food or clothing, to obtain social services such as health care, county welfare programs and educational programs.
- Trips requested by the transit dependent or transit disadvantaged persons, for which there is no other available means of transportation. Transit dependent or transit disadvantaged shall include, but not be limited to, the elderly, the disabled and persons of limited means.

### Reasonable to Meet

The definition of Reasonable to Meet is based on the requirements of the Transportation Development Act (TDA). More specifically, those public transportation services that are Reasonable to Meet are those which meet the following criteria:

1. Pursuant to the requirements of PUC Section 99401.5 (c), a determination of needs that are reasonable to meet shall not be made by comparing unmet transit needs with the need for streets and roads. The fact that an identified need cannot fully be met based on available resources shall not be the sole reason for finding that a transit need is not reasonable to meet.
2. Services which, if implemented or funded, complies with a 10% farebox recovery ratio and/or TDA section 99268 et.seq.
3. Services which, if implemented or funded, would not duplicate or replace existing services. The \_\_\_\_\_ may use the following as a determinant in the implementation of new services:
  - a) Forecast of anticipated ridership if service is provided.
  - b) Estimate of capital and operating costs for the provision of such services.
  - c) Estimate of farebox recovery ratio.
4. Services which, if implemented or funded, would not cause the responsible operator to incur expenditures in excess of the maximum amount of:
  - a) Local Transportation Funds and State Transit Assistance Funds which may be available for such operator to claim.
  - b) Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) Funds or other support for public transportation services which are committed by federal and /or state agencies by formula or tentative approval of specific grant requests.
  - c) Farebox and local funding in compliance with PUC Section 99268 et.seq.

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### Unmet Transit Needs

----- defines "unmet transit needs" as those identified in each county's 5-year plan and ADA Complementary Paratransit Plans for which services have not been implemented, and as further considered by MTC as a result of unmet transit needs hearings process.

### Reasonable to Meet

- 1) Unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet shall include all of the following:
  - a) All service required to fully implement the paratransit and fixed route accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
  - b) Funds necessary to implement transit or rail improvement projects in the Highway 101 Corridor as determined by -----.
  
- 2) Unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet may also include issues which do not fit in category (1), above, but are raised in the unmet transit needs public participation process (i.e., public hearings, discussions of the Social Service Transportation Advisory Committees/Paratransit Coordinating Councils; and other communication with MTC). Each of these issues must be resolved by the local jurisdiction prior to the Commission's action on TDA allocations for streets and roads purposes by accomplishing the following:
  - a) Implementing or improving the service on a permanent or demonstration basis, or
  - b) Completing an analysis in the countywide plan which shows that service is not reasonable to meet based on locally established standards, taking into consideration alternative methods of meeting the identified need, if applicable.

### Unmet Transit Needs

Unmet transit needs is any deficiency in the system of public transit services, specialized transportation services, paratransit services or private transportation services within ----- which has been identified by community members or through the regional planning process and which has not been funded and implemented. Unmet needs may include desires for transportation services which are identified through the annual unmet transit needs public hearing, or by the -----, or in the "1998 Social Services Transportation Implementation Plan Update" report, or the 1999 "Transit Marketing Plan". The consideration of unmet transit needs is not limited to the foregoing methods. It is the practice of the ----- to consider input relative to transit needs from any group or member of the public wishing to express such needs.

### Reasonable to Meet

The ----- has defined an unmet transit need as "reasonable to meet" if the following conditions prevail:

- A. Service which, if implemented or funded, would not cause the operator to incur expenditures in excess of the maximum amount of Transportation Development Act Funds available to -----county.
- B. The projected passengers per hour and farebox recovery ratio are at least 80% of the current system average.
- C. The proposed service does not duplicate transit services currently provided either publicly or privately.

- D. The proposed service has community acceptance from the general public or ----- county.
- E. The proposed service is in response to an existing rather than a future need.
- F. The cost of providing the proposed service does not exceed 5 dollars per passenger as calculated based on an average operating cost of 42 dollars per hour.

\*\*\*\*\*

Unmet Transit Needs

This ----- adopts a definition of unmet needs as those needs which are currently not being met and embodied in the resolution passed which is consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan.

Reasonable to Meet

Recognizing that the Transportation Development Act has permitted this -----to "take into consideration such factors as equity, timing, feasibility, community acceptance, economy (short term and long term), cost effectiveness and other factors related to transit services", by motion to accept this resolution, this -----has adopted a definition of "reasonable to meet" as being a transit system or service which meets a 25% fares versus operating cost ratio. Newly implemented services may operate at a 15% fares versus operating cost ratio for the first year.

\*\*\*\*\*

Unmet Transit Need

The need to transport people is not being satisfied through existing public or private resources.

Reasonable to Meet

It is reasonable to meet a transit need if all of the following conditions prevail:

- a) Service will be capable of meeting the Transportation Development Act fare revenue/operating cost requirements and established ----- criteria for new services.
- b) Transit services designed or intended to address an unmet transit need shall not duplicate transit services currently provided either publicly or privately.
- c) The claimant that is expected to provide the service shall review, evaluate and indicate that the service is operationally feasible, and vehicles shall be currently available in the market place.
- d) Funds are available, or there is a reasonable expectation that funds will become available.

\*\*\*\*\*

Unmet Transit Needs

Unmet transit needs are all essential requests by transit dependent persons for which there is no other available means of transportation.

Reasonable to Meet

Those transit requests that can be met by all public and /or special transportation services that:

- a) can be proven operationally feasible;
- b) can demonstrate community acceptance;
- c) would serve a significant number of the population;
- d) can be proven to be economical; and
- e) can demonstrate cost effectiveness by having a ratio of fare revenue total operational cost of at least ten percent.

\*\*\*\*\*

Unmet Transit Needs

Unmet transit needs includes all essential trip requests by transit-dependent persons for which there is no other convenient means of transportation.

Reasonable to Meet

It shall apply to all related public or specialized transportation services that:

- 1) are feasible;
- 2) have community acceptance;
- 3) serve a significant number of the population;
- 4) are economical; and
- 5) can demonstrate cost effectiveness

by having a ratio of fare revenues to operating cost at least equal to 10 percent, and the ----- has determined that its definition of the term "reasonable to meet" shall also apply to all service requests which do not abuse or obscure the intent of such transportation services once they are established.

\*\*\*\*\*

Unmet Transit Need

Unmet transit need is any transportation need, identified through the public hearing process, that could be met through the implementation or improvement of transit or paratransit services.

Reasonable to Meet

Any unmet transit need that can be met, in whole or in part, through the allocation of additional transit revenue and be operated in a cost-efficient and service-effective manner, without negatively impacting existing public and private transit options.

\*\*\*\*\*

Unmet Transit Needs

An unmet transit need is any deficiency in the system of public transit services, specialized transit services, and private transportation services within the jurisdiction of the ----- which has been identified by community members or through a local

or regional planning process and which has not been funded and implemented. At a minimum, this may include desires for transportation services which are identified through the annual TDA Unmet Transit Needs public hearing, by the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council, in ----- Transit Development Plan, in the Regional Transportation Plan, or in the compliance plan for the Americans with Disabilities Act as prepared by any public or private entity.

----- recognizes that public transportation includes a broad range of users, uses, and destination. Although some services may be restricted or give priority to traditionally transit-dependent populations (such as elderly, disabled, low-income, or youth), all eligible users should have equivalent access or opportunity to use the service. ~~The transportation desires of a small group of individuals or of the clients of particular agencies shall not, in and of themselves, be sufficient to justify a finding of unmet transit need.~~

Trips that would duplicate transportation services to the general public are not considered unmet transit needs. A need for transportation service beyond the fiscal year under consideration shall not be considered to be an unmet transit need at the present time. Provision of escorts or attendants is not a transit need.

#### Reasonable to Meet

An identified unmet transit need can be determined to be "reasonable to meet" if it is demonstrated, based upon staff analysis or other independent evidence, that the transit need can be met within the following performance and financial standards:

- a) The performance standard for fixed-route systems is 10% fare revenue ratio.
- b) All other systems shall achieve at least the fare revenue ratio and passenger productivity standards established in ----- or as established by statute.
- c) An extension of service shall not cause the system of which it is a part to fail to meet the system-wide performance standards. Considered separately, it shall achieve at least half the system-wide performance standards, except in case of an extension of service determined to be a necessary lifeline service for transit dependent populations.
- d) The unmet transit need will not require the expenditure of more than the affected jurisdiction(s) proportional share of Transportation Development Act funds that are apportioned by ----- on the basis of population.

The determination of whether a transit need is reasonable to meet shall also take into account as appropriate:

- 1) Likely demand for service based on transit use rates per capita in comparable communities.
- 2) Whether a service to meet the need would put the system of which it is a part in jeopardy of losing state or federal funding as a result of failing to meet mandated performance or efficiency standards.
- 3) In the case of any new general public transit services, potential Americans with Disabilities Act implications within that service area, including whether or not complementary paratransit service, if required, would impose an "undue financial burden" on the public entity.
- 4) In the case of a paratransit service providing complementary service to fixed-route service by a public entity, whether meeting the need would require spending a greater amount than that required by an undue financial burden waiver approved by the Federal Transit Administration under the American with Disabilities Act.
- 5) Opportunities for coordination among adjoining public entities or with private transportation provider and/or funding agencies. This shall include consideration of

other existing resources (including financial), as well as the legal or customary responsibilities of other entities (e.g., social service agencies, religious organizations, schools, carpools, etc.). Duplication of other services or resources is unnecessary and not a prudent use of public funds.

- 6) An unmet transit need may be determined to be unreasonable to meet because it is not feasible to initiate service within the coming fiscal year, due to the time required for vehicle acquisition, planning, or similar timing factors, or because additional information is needed to determine whether or not the unmet transit need is reasonable to meet. An unmet transit need shall not be determined unreasonable to meet more than once on these grounds.
- 7) The fact that an identified transit need cannot be fully met based on available resources shall not be the sole reason for a finding that a transit need is not reasonable to meet.
- 8) Comparing unmet transit needs with the need for streets and roads shall not make the determination of whether an unmet transit need is reasonable to meet.

\*\*\*\*\*

Unmet transit Need

Whenever a need by a significant number of people to be transported by moderate or low cost transportation to specific destinations for necessary purposes is not being satisfied through existing public or private resources, it is considered as an unmet transit need.

Reasonable to Meet

It is reasonable to meet a transit need if:

- a) Funds are available;
- b) Benefits of services in terms of number of passengers served, and severity of need justify cost; and
- c) Service is capable of meeting the Transportation Development Act fare revenue/operating cost requirements.

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Unmet transit Needs

An unmet transit need exists if an individual of any age or physical condition is unable to transport himself or herself due to deficiencies in the existing transportation system. Excluded are: 1) Those requests for minor operational improvements, and 2) Those improvements funded and scheduled for implementation in the following fiscal year.

Reasonable to Meet

- A. Operational Feasibility. The requested improvement must be safe to operate and there must be adequate roadways for transit vehicles;
- B. Duplication of Service. The proposed service shall not duplicate other transit services;
- C. Timing. The proposed service shall be in response to an existing, rather than a future need;
- D. Service must meet the legally required farebox ratio (PUC Sections 99268.2, 99268.5 and CAC Sections 6633.2, 6633.5) with fares close to fares of similar service.

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