



PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF NEW MEETING LOCATION

**Social Services Transportation Advisory Council
1111 I Street, Suite 308
Modesto, CA
September 10, 2009
9:00 A.M.**

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 Sabrina Pinheiro, 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 advised to have an interpreter or give StanCOG a 48 hour notice so that StanCOG can provide an interpreter from any language not English into the English language.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Matters not on the posted agenda may be addressed by the general public at the beginning of the regular agenda and any off-agenda matters before the Committee for consideration. However, California law prohibits taking action on any matter which is not on the posted agenda unless it is determined to be an emergency by the Committee. Any member of the public wishing to address the Committee will be limited to five minutes or the discretion of the Chair.

Questions: Contact Cindy Malekos at (209) 525-4600.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

These matters may be presented only by interested persons in the audience. Discussion is limited to five minutes, or at the discretion of the Chair.

4. MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES (8/13/09)
5. DISCUSS APPRECIATION RESOLUTION/AWARD FOR (StaRT) BUS DRIVER
6. UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS UPDATE/ROUNDTABLE
 - A. Update on Change for Definition of Unmet Transit Needs
 - B. Next Steps for Unmet Transit Needs Process
7. TRANSIT MANAGERS' REPORTS
8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
9. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS
10. ADJOURNMENT

Next regularly scheduled SSTAC meeting:

October 8, 2009 (THURSDAY) @ 9:00 A.M.
1111 I Street, Suite 308
MODESTO, CA



**SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY
COUNCIL (SSTAC) MEETING
Alliance Free Enterprise Center
1020 10th Street, Suite 102
Modesto, California**

Minutes of August 13, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Tom Truax (DMC Foundation); Terry Plett (DRAIL); Misty Ridenour (Howard Training Center); Margie Palomino (Area Agency on Aging); Simona Rios (Catholic Charities)

ALSO PRESENT:

Fred Cavanah (City of Modesto); Brad Christian (Stanislaus County); Kay Dunkel (City of Ceres); Janet P. Jaramillo, Joshua Swearingen (CalTrans); Bill Latham (City of Modesto); Scott Medeiros (City of Turlock) Bertha Burrell-Greene; Vince Harris, Rosa Park, Debbie Molloy (StanCOG)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Truax called the meeting to order at 9:07 A.M.

2. ROLL CALL

A sign-in sheet was circulated and Chairman Truax asked for introductions.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Terry Plett asked for clarification on the MAX bus driver and if that person was identified. Terry would like to know if any recognition has been done for the driver. Bill Latham commented that he was not aware of the circumstances and would look into it.

4. MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF July 15, 2009

***By Motion (Terry Plett/Margie Palomino)** and unanimous vote, the Council approved the minutes of July 15, 2009.

5. UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS UPDATE/ROUNDTABLE

A. Update on Unmet Transit Needs Definition

Vince Harris gave a brief up to date overview of the process and mentioned that a Sub Group Committee is presenting a final draft of the Unmet Transit Needs Definition to the SSTAC group for discussion. The new program will have a new name and the Sub Group is considering "Thru Door Service".

Two options were discussed and one clearly identified that we would try to prioritize the different transit services in the region. We found that collaboration between the services

would work better because they are all important. The final draft gives a compilation of the two options into one to address the various concerns that have been raised.

Chairman Truax commented that he is pleased with the final draft and is ready to send forward to the Policy Board for approval. He asked for comments on the final draft.

Chairman Truax said that the language gives us the opportunity to go forward and see if the Policy Board is willing to fund a program if it makes sense and it is determined that it is reasonable to meet. He also mentioned that the definition goes beyond the potential LTF funding that could be used and provides the opportunity for other resources to be acknowledged as well. Terry Plett reiterated that it is important to recognize that the Unmet Needs definition is beyond the realm of LTF. This document provides background and assurances as well as quantitative and qualitative information.

Margie Palomino asked for clarification on a couple of items: Who determines what is available for transit and what is left for specialized. Vince Harris gave a brief explanation on the sharing of funds and how they are split between jurisdictions. The definition is an attempt to make it clear that there is a sharing of funds, but gives the StanCOG Policy Board an opportunity to make a determination on how the funds are distributed.

By Motion (Terry Plett/Margie Palomino) and unanimous vote, the Council approved the final draft of the Unmet Transit Needs Definition and recommended it be sent to the Policy Board for approval.

6. TRANSIT MANAGERS REPORTS

Scott Medeiros (City of Turlock) reported that design of a new Building and Transit Hub will begin over the next year. The Council has approved the project and funding will be through the FTA. Public involvement took place with this project as far as the placement of the Hub. The City will be holding a public input workshop and then a petition will go out to get the public involved regarding route design, rate adjustments, and short range transit plan.

Fred Cavanah (City of Modesto) reported that as of August 15, 2009 there will be some schedule changes to service hours on the MAX buses. The routes that will be affected by these changes are those that have the lowest ridership. This will allow other routes to have extra hours to routes with need. Seven new buses have been ordered and delivery is expected by the end of the year. City Council Finance Committee will soon meet with regards to the bus maintenance facility design. Once the Finance Committee approves the contract with the architect to finish the design it will then go forward to City Council in September for approval. If approved, construction is planned to be underway this time next year.

Kay Dunkel (City of Ceres) reported that ridership is down and considerations are being given to reduce service hours on Dial-A-Ride. A fare increase took place on July 1st and a route change on CAT Route B.

Janet Jaramillo (CalTrans) mentioned that they are reviewing invoices for Stanislaus County at this time.

Bill Latham (City of Modesto) reported that he monitors the CA High Speed Rail Authority and this year will be the first time that the State will put real money towards the project. Phase one will focus on the San Francisco area down the Peninsula across the Gilroy/Pacheco Pass, Merced down to the San Diego area. Currently this region is focused on phase two from Merced to Sacramento. Contractors are on board beginning the project level EIR processes on phase two. He indicated that this project has the potential to change the way we look at transit from Northern to Southern parts of the State. Bill referred all to the website for more information www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov.

Vince Harris mentioned that StanCOG has been heavily involved in following this project. Vince appeared in front of the CA High Speed Rail Authority providing testimony to during the environmental phase presenting the Policy Board's support position of the Altamont Pass alignment.

Brad Christian (Stanislaus County) reported that August 3rd the annual service changes took place. Cut backs in Waterford with Dial-A-Ride due to ridership being down. The County added a small bus on Route 10 due to MJC students back in session. The county is working on 4 projects: Countywide Trip Planning Software, another para transit bus which will be the new tripper bus, security cameras on all buses through Prop1b money, and electronic fare boxes.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Vince Harris wanted to thank the group for their efforts on the Unmet Transit Needs Definition. He also mentioned our recent move to the new facility at 1111 I Street, Suite 308.

8. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Terry Plett asked if at the next meeting there could be a formal agenda item regarding the MAX bus driver. He also wanted to know if the video on transit is still current.

Brad Christian mentioned that he would bring the video to show Council at the next meeting.

Vince Harris invited all Council to attend the Policy Board Meeting on September 9, 2009 at 6pm.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Truax adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting:

Thursday, September 10, 2009 @ 9:00 A.M.

StanCOG Board Room

1111 I Street, Suite 308

Modesto, CA

Signed


Minutes prepared by Debbie Molloy, Administrative Technician