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City of Riverbank • City of Turlock • City of Waterford • County of Stanislaus*

**SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
STANCOG BOARD ROOM
1111 I STREET, SUITE 308
MODESTO, CA
OCTOBER 30, 2012 (TUESDAY)
8:30 AM**

Committee Agendas and Minutes: Committee agendas, minutes and copies of items to be considered by the StanCOG Committee are available at least 72 hours prior to the meeting at the StanCOG offices located at 1111 "I" Street, Suite 308, Modesto, CA during normal business hours. The documents are also available on StanCOG's website at www.stancog.org/committees.shtm.

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the address listed above during normal business hours. These documents are also available on StanCOG's website, subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

Public Comment Period: Matters under the jurisdiction of the Committee, and 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 the Committee from 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 during the "Public Comment" period will be limited to 5 minutes unless the Chair of the Committee grants a longer period of time. At a Special Meeting, members of the public may address the Board on any item on the Agenda at the time the item is considered by the Board.

Public Participation on a Matter on the Agenda: Please step to the podium at the time the agenda item is announced by the Chairperson. In order to ensure that interested parties have an opportunity to speak, any person addressing the Committee will be limited to a maximum of 5 minutes unless the Chair of the Committee grants a longer period of time.

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Aviso con Respecto a Personas que no Hablan el Idioma de Inglés: Las reuniones del los Comités del Consejo de Gobiernos de Stanislaus son conducidas en Inglés y traducciones a otros idiomas no son disponibles. Cualquier persona que desea dirigirse al Comité se le aconseja que traiga su propio intérprete o llame a Cindy Malekos al (209) 525-4600 durante horas de oficina regulares o a lo menos 72 horas antes de la reunión del Consejo de Gobiernos de Stanislaus, para proporcionarle con un intérprete.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public may comment on each item on the agenda as it arises.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Update

5. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. Motion to Approve SSTAC Minutes of 9-4-12
- B. FY 2013/14 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment – Initial Public Hearing
- C. Transit Origin and Destination Survey

6. INFORMATION – None

7. TRANSIT MANAGER’S/CTSA REPORT

8. CALTRANS REPORT

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

10. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

11. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regularly Scheduled SSTAC Meeting:
November 27, 2012 (Tuesday) @ 8:30 am
StanCOG Board Room
1111 I Street, Suite 308
Modesto, CA



Item 5A

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SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (SSTAC) MEETING
StanCOG Board Room
1111 I Street, Suite 308
Modesto, CA

Minutes of September 4, 2012 (Tuesday)
8:30 am

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fred Cavanah (City of Modesto); Jean Foletta (CTSA); Monica Ramos (Catholic Charities); George Sharp (DRAIL); Christina Ulloa (DMC Foundation)

ALSO PRESENT: Kay Dunkel (City of Ceres); Terry Easley (City of Modesto); Mike Pitcock (City of Turlock); Eunice Lovi (Stanislaus County); Donna Bridges (ROTA); Barbara Hempstead (Caltrans); Carlos Yamzon, Rosa Park, Mike Costa, Jeanette Fabela, Debbie Trujillo (StanCOG); Yvette Davis, Mike Swearingen (Commute Connection)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair George Sharp called the meeting to order at approximately 8:38 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Rideshare Week in Stanislaus County, October 1-5, 2012

Yvette Davis provided information about the StanCOG Commute Connection program and the planned 2012 Rideshare Week activities.

5. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Motion to Approve SSTAC Minutes of 6-5-12

By Motion (Jean Foletta/Fred Cavanah), and unanimous vote, the Council approved the minutes of 6-5-12.

B. Motion to Recommend Policy Board Approve Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2013

Carlos Yamzon reviewed the meeting schedule for calendar year 2013.

By Motion (Jean Foletta/Fred Cavanah), and unanimous vote, the Council approved the Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2013.

C. Discussion – FY 2013/14 Unmet Needs Assessment Commencement

Mike Costa briefly discussed the process for the upcoming fiscal year and that regular updates would be brought forward to the Council regarding any potential unmet transit needs received. He mentioned that staff would expand the public hearings to outer areas of the county to accommodate those that would not be able to attend hearings at the StanCOG office. Fred Cavanah asked if the SSTAC could revisit the "unmet transit need" and "reasonable to meet" definitions, specifically to address any unmet transit needs that are being met now but may arise in the future due to service reductions. Staff replied that they would bring the item before the Council in the future. George Sharp identified the lack of transit service from Tuolumne County to Stanislaus County.

D. Discussion – MAP 21 Update

Jeanette Fabela gave an update of the recent transportation bill which was signed into law on July 6, 2012. She mentioned that MAP 21 replaced SAFETEA-LU.

6. INFORMATION

A. StanCOG Quarterly E-Newsletter

Carlos Yamzon briefly discussed the newsletter and invited the council to submit suggestions to staff for upcoming newsletters.

7. TRANSIT MANAGER'S/CTSA REPORT

Fred Cavanah reported that ridership was up 5% for FY 11/12 compared to FY 10/11. He mentioned that a new contractor had been signed to operate the Modesto Area Express buses. Viola Transportation Services will begin on September 29, 2012. He also reported that the bus maintenance facility was still in the final stages of completion and looked to be operational at the end of September.

Kay Dunkel reported that a new ride guide was available with changes. She mentioned that CAT Route D had been developed and operates Monday through Friday and runs twice a day. She said this route would serve the Cesar Chavez Junior High and commercial areas. She mentioned that CAT Route B would not operate at the same time of Route D.

Eunice Lovi reported that ridership for the last fiscal year was up 10% overall compared to the previous fiscal year. She mentioned that the County was working on extending the contract with Storer Transit Systems. She also said that the county continues to work with ROTA on consolidation with StaRT.

Mike Pitcock reported that ridership had increased by 11% on BLAST and Dial-a-Ride was up 27% from last July to this July. He announced the opening of the Turlock Regional Transit Center. He said there would be 64 stops a day for BLAST, and StaRT would use the center for 27 stops a day. The center also has a 23 space park and ride lot as well as a taxi stand. He mentioned that the funds for this facility were from Prop 1B and ARRA.

Donna Bridges reported that ROTA continues to work with Stanislaus County on consolidation. She mentioned that ROTA has a 5310 vehicle to transfer to another agency.

Jean Foletta reported that the CTSA was conducting a lot of outreach for the Bridges Program and the Travel Training Program to senior centers and mobile home parks. She mentioned that the Bridges Program was being used by individuals to go out of the County for specialized medical transportation.

8. CALTRANS REPORT

Barbara Hempstead reported that the FY 12/13 planning grants had been announced and that the City of Modesto had been awarded an Environmental Justice grant for the Crows Landing Road Corridor study.

9. INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Carlos Yamzon mentioned to members the importance of transit within the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). He also mentioned the SR132W project and the Caltrans community forum that was held to provide information regarding the test results of the hazardous materials stockpiles. He said that the initial findings have shown that the levels of toxicity were not harmful to humans. He commented that these tests would take place every four months for one year.

10. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Fred Cavanah commented that the SR132W project was important to transit. With the development of the SR132W, buses could travel that route and save time on the commute for transit riders. He also requested that StanCOG have a presentation of the SCS at the SSTAC meeting.

George Sharp mentioned that he continues to work with Assemblymember Kristin Olsen's office regarding the advertising supplementation for fare recovery.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair George Sharp adjourned the meeting at 9:37 a.m.

Next Regularly Scheduled SSTAC Meeting:

October 2, 2012 (Tuesday) @ 8:30 am

StanCOG Board Room

1111 I Street, Suite 308

Modesto, CA

Minutes Prepared By:



Debbie Trujillo, Administrative Technician



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TO: Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) **Staff Report**
Discussion

THROUGH: Carlos Yamzon, Interim Executive Director

FROM: Rosa De León Park, Transit, Programming, and Planning Manager 
Mike Costa, Associate Transit/Programming Planner **MAC**

DATE: October 19, 2012

SUBJECT: FY 2013/14 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment – Initial Public Hearing

Background

Staff is requesting that the Policy Board hold an initial public hearing at its November 14, 2012 meeting for the purpose of receiving potential unmet transit needs from the public for the 2013/14 fiscal year.

Pursuant to the Transportation Development Act (TDA), regional transportation planning agencies must annually complete an Unmet Transit Needs (UTN) assessment process. This process identifies and analyzes potential transit needs for reasonableness based upon adopted state and local guidelines. The purpose of the unmet transit needs assessment process is to identify any unmet transit need(s) that may be present anywhere in the County and determine whether any identified are reasonable to meet. If an unmet need is identified as “reasonable to meet”, it must be funded prior to local TDA funds being allocated for non-transit purposes, such as local streets and roads.

Discussion

The primary intent for the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) is to fund needed transit. The UTN assessment process has been established to identify potential transit needs within the County, which are not being met by current public transit operators. Any identified need presented at the November 14th unmet transit needs public hearing will be reviewed per the Policy Board’s adopted procedures and definitions. Where a proposal satisfies the definition of an “unmet transit need”, it then must be analyzed pursuant to the regulations established for the “reasonable to meet” definition.



Should a proposal be found to be both an unmet transit need and reasonable to meet, LTF must be budgeted to fund that service for the upcoming 2013/14 fiscal year.



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TO: Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) **Staff Report**
Discussion

THROUGH: Carlos Yamzon, Executive Director

FROM: Rosa Park, Transit, Programing and Planning Manager 
Jim Schoeffling, Transportation Modeler 

DATE: October 22, 2012

SUBJECT: Transit Origin and Destination Survey

Background

In 2010, StanCOG received a Federal Transit Administration grant of \$ 100,000 for the purpose of collecting travel data on alternative transportation modes in the StanCOG region. The modal share data are to be used to assess peoples’ modal share and their sensitivities to using alternative modes among passenger car, transit, rail, bicycle and walk. As part of the grant, a specific “on board” transit survey will be conducted to determine the origins and the destinations of transit riders on fixed route transit systems and on interregional transit routes too. The information will be used to set parameters in the StanCOG Regional Model as well as provide key transit information about transit ridership patterns in our area. Ultimately, the survey information could be used to secure either “new start” or “small start” funding through FTA, if a transit project could be identified. StanCOG requested proposals from consultants to administer surveys and assemble the data in the Fall of 2011.

Discussion

In January 2102, StanCOG staff, in coordination with the region’s transit operators, selected ETC Institute of Olathe, Kansas to administer the transit on board survey. A final report is expected from ETC in February of 2013. In November, transit riders on the interregional routes will be surveyed. In December, transit riders on the fixed routes such as MAX and BLAST will be surveyed using I-PADS. ETC and the transit operators met with StanCOG staff on October 16, 2012 to review schedule, staffing and additional data needed from the transit agencies prior to the study. StanCOG staff is pleased to have secured a contract with ETC for managing the study. Chris is recognized by the FTA and by other transit agencies in the United States as a “top” consultant in the field of survey research. It is believed that the StanCOG Origin and Destination Survey could be a showcase for mid size urban areas in the United States.

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