

SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SSTAC)

**San Joaquin Council of Governments
555 East Weber Ave.
Stockton, CA 95202
Wednesday, April 1, 2009**

MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order/Introductions:

The SSTAC meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm. by Ann Fisler. Introductions were made.

Committee Members Present:

Johanna Ferriera	City of Manteca
Annette DePauli	Human Services Agency – Department of Aging
Jean Foletta	SJRTD
Ed Lovell	City of Tracy
Ann Fisler	San Joaquin ARC
Al Lacson Gali	City of Lathrop
Julia Tyack	City of Lodi
Joni Bauer	Community Center for the Blind
Wilma Murray	Valley Mountain Regional Center

Committee Members Not Present:

Nathaniel Atherstone	SJRTD
Julie Bristow	SJRTD
Barbara Hempstead	Caltrans, District 10
Toby Hunter	UCP
Sean Reilly	Transportation Consumer
John Andoh	City of Escalon
Kathy Selsor	Caltrans

Other Parties Present:

SJCOG Staff Present:

Tanisha Taylor	Associate Regional Planner
Anthony Zepeda	Associate Regional Planner
Laurel Boyd	Office Assistant II

2. Approval of Minutes from August 6, 2008, October 1, 2008, December 3, 2008 and February 4, 2009:

Ms. Ferriera stated that the minutes from October 1, 2008, item D should reflect John Ando speaking about the City of Escalon, not the City of Manteca.

It was moved/second (Bauer/Foletta) to approve the minutes of August 6, 2008, October 1, 2008, December 3, 2008 and February 4, 2009 with changes to item D, in the October 1, 2008 minutes.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Unmet Transit Needs Report

Ms. Taylor stated this item will not be an action item. SJCOG staff hasn't had their 30 day comment period for the UTN report. SJCOG staff is looking at holding a special SSTAC meeting in May to take action on the Unmet Transit Needs Report.

Mr. Zepeda stated SJCOG staff is looking at the Wednesday of May 6, 2009 for the special SSTAC meeting. SJCOG staff will email committee members to confirm the time of the Special SSTAC meeting.

Mr. Zepeda continued to state SJCOG staff is wrapping up the FY 2009-10 UTN process. SJCOG staff started the UTN process in September of 2008 with a series of public hearings throughout San Joaquin County. Staff sent out over 8,000 surveys and posted surveys on various websites as well. Staff had 134 responses to the surveys and 62 comments. The Advisory Committee for the UTN met on February 18, 2009 to go through the comments. The majority of comments were technical or not qualified for the Unmet Transit Needs program. Overall, the majority of residents were unaware that the service existed.

Mr. Zepeda stated if there are any more comments or changes to the local agency's Short Range Transit Plans, then to please let him know by May 6, 2009. SJCOG staff will be contacting everyone soon for the next round of the Unmet Transit Needs Report for FY 2010-11.

This item was for discussion only, no action was taken.

5. Transit Funding – SJRRC:

Ms. Taylor stated that the representative from SJRRC, Brian Schmidt is unable to attend because SJRRC is being reviewed by the Feds; however, Mr. Schmidt will be attending the next meeting.

This item was for information only, no action was taken.

6. JARC/NF Program Call for Projects:

Ms. Taylor stated the FTA 5316, JARC is for small urban and rural areas to improve access to transportation services to employment and employment related activities for welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals. The FTA 5317 NF is for small urban and rural areas as well; providing new public transportation services to overcome existing barriers facing Americans with disabilities seeking integration into the workforce and full participation into society. The 5310 program is focused on the elderly and disabled; funding States for the purpose of assisting private nonprofit groups and rural areas in meeting the transportation needs when transportation services are unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate to meeting their needs.

Ms. Taylor continued to state the applicants for 5316 and 5317 programs need to submit their applications to SJCOG by 5 p.m. on June 26, 2009; the 5310 program applicants need to submit their applications also to SJCOG by 5 p.m. on June 5, 2009. The Scoring Committee will score the applications and SJCOG will present the final list of projects to the SJCOG standing

committees for their approval and then the applications will be presented to the SJCOG Board for final approval at the July 23, 2009 meeting. SJCOG staff will then submit the final applications to Caltrans by September 4, 2009 for 5310 and September 25, 2009 for 5316 and 5317 programs for the final scoring and approval.

Ms. Foletta stated the applications should be submitted to SJRTD to make sure the projects qualify for the programs.

Ms. Taylor stated applicants are to submit their projects to SJRTD, who then signs off that the projects do qualify for the program, then SJCOG staff scores the applications and then submits the projects to Caltrans.

This item was for discussion only, no action was taken.

7. 5310 Program Call for Projects:

Ms. Taylor stated the call for projects was presented in the previous item. Ms. Taylor continued to state that the City of Escalon was successful last year and received their 5310 vehicle; however SJRTD was unsuccessful, but should another agency's project fall of the list, SJRTD's project would be next in line.

This item was for information only, no action was taken.

8. Reports/Updates from Committee Members:

Ms. Bauer stated the Community Center for the Blind doesn't have any updates.

Ms. Fisler stated San Joaquin ARC is struggling with the budget, but sweating it out right now. San Joaquin ARC's funding is getting cut significantly. Staff is always looking for creative ways to fund their programs. There will be a Town Hall meeting on Thursday, April 02, 2009 at 2:30 pm with Assemblymember Cathleen Galgiani listening to the Stakeholder's concerns.

Ms. DePauli stated Human Services Agency is having their Senior Awareness day out at Micke's Grove Park on Thursday, May 28, 2009 from 8:00 – 1:00. HSA is trying to hang in there with the budget. The areas that are receiving money are in Energy Assistance Programs. HSA's directory is almost complete and hopes to have it ready for Senior Awareness Day.

Ms. Murray stated Valley Mountain Regional Center is looking at significant funding cuts for next fiscal year. There has been a lot of talk amongst staff with cutting hours just to keep programs running.

This item was for information only, no action was taken.

9. Reports/Updates from Transit Providers

Ms. Foletta stated the Mall Transfer station opens on April 22, 2009. The project consists of upgraded crosswalks and lights, facility upgrades and security. Prior to the opening of the Mall Transfer project, SJRTD staff wants to work with the disabled as well as seniors because boarding the bus is different than at the Downtown station.

Ms. Ferriera stated the City of Manteca is busy with testing their Short Range Transit Plan. The City of Manteca is recommending that we add a subsidized taxi for after hours starting July 1, 2009. Staff is also working hard on grants and the stimulus program.

Ms. Bauer asked who will be using the taxi.

Ms. Ferriera stated the subsidized taxi will be available for disabled individuals and seniors.

Ms. Tyack asked if individuals who call in for the One Stop Shop, do they get directed to that cities dispatch.

Ms. Foletta stated the individuals are usually assisted right then and there or staff can transfer the calls to whomever at dispatch.

Ms. Tyack stated the City of Lodi's Short Range Transit Plan is set to go to the Council meeting in April. The City of Lodi is trying to update their website. For Easter Sunday, the City of Lodi will be shortening their hours for all transit services.

Ms. Foletta added that SJRTD will also be modifying service to one Dial-A-Ride on Easter Sunday as well.

Mr. Lovell stated March 2, 2009 the City of Tracy held an open house for their Short Range Transit Plan and the plan should be going out within the next few weeks for public comment. The City of Tracy's transit isn't changing much and they are working on the stimulus package.

This item was for information only, no action was taken.

10. Access Advisory Committee Update

Ms. Foletta stated there weren't enough people to hold a quorum, so there are no updates at this time.

This item was for information only, no action was taken.

11. Adjourn – Next Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday, May 6, 2009.