

SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SSTAC)

San Joaquin Council of Governments
555 East Weber Ave.
Stockton, CA 95202
Wednesday, October 1, 2008

MINUTES

1. **Call Meeting to Order/Introductions:**

The SSTAC meeting was called to order at 2:00 a.m. by Jean Foletta Introductions were made.

Committee Members Present:

Annette DePauli	Human Services Agency – Department of Aging
Jean Foletta	SJRTD
Kathy Selsor	Caltrans
Barbara Hempstead	Caltrans
Al Lacson Gali	City of Lathrop
Tiffani Fink	City of Lodi
John Andoh	City of Escalon Via Phone

Committee Members Not Present:

Wilma Murray	Valley Mountain Regional Center
Ed Lovell	City of Tracy
Ann Fisler	San Joaquin ARC
Johanna Ferriera	City of Manteca
Toby Hunter	UCP
Johanna Ferriera	City of Manteca
Sean Reilly	Transportation Consumer

Other Parties Present:

Shani Adams	Health Plan of San Joaquin
Julia Tyack	City of Lodi

SJCOG Staff Present:

Tanisha Taylor	Regional Planner
Katy Castro	Office Assistant

2. **Approval of Minutes from August 6, 2008:**

No action was taken due to lack of quorum

3. **Public Comment**

None

4. **Fiscal Year 2008-09 Unmet Transit Needs Process Update:**

Ms. Taylor stated the Unmet Transit Process update began early September, there was one public hearing at the Ripon City Council meeting; no comments were received. SJCOG staff received seventy six surveys which were mailed out as part of the Commute Connection data

base program. Staff will be attending 12 more public hearings in the unincorporated area of San Joaquin County.

**5. Transit Funding in San Joaquin County:
(Presentation by small Urban Transit Operators)**

Ms. Taylor provided a follow up on the multiple funding sources for the various transit operators in the San Joaquin County. Ms. Taylor identified seventy different funding services and stated that not all transit operators will be eligible for all of the funding sources. Ms. Taylor continued to state that the two following presentations that will be presented by Transit Operators from the City of Escalon and the City of Lodi.

Mr. Ando discussed how funding impacts the E-Transit service in the City of Escalon. Mr. Ando stated that the City of Escalon operates two services under a contract with SJRTD. The City of Escalon pays for general public Dial-A-Ride services within the City limit and SJRTD pays for services outside the city limits. The City of Escalon also operates Route 96, which runs the Escalon Park and Ride Lot. The City of Escalon's budget is approximately \$243,000. The City of Escalon uses TDA transit funds and STA 5311. SJRTD then provides a match for 50% of those funds. They also receive reimbursement for providing services to unincorporated county; it also covers a percentage of the city overhead related to the service based on the hours covered in the county area. This year they received a Measure K Bicycle grant.

Ms. Fink stated the City of Lodi operates the second largest system in the county next to RTD. The City of Lodi provides Dial-A-Ride, Fixed Route and Express Route Services to the general public. The City of Lodi has 33 vehicle fleet size vehicles which all run on compressed natural gas. The City of Lodi is running approximately 7,000 Dial-A-Ride trips a year. The City of Lodi's Dial-A-Ride service operates 258 days a year and offering services on Saturday and Sunday. Throughout the week Dial-A-Ride operates from 6:00 am to 9:00 p.m. In the last three months the City of Lodi has seen approximately 4,000 additional students without advertising.

Ms. Kathy Selsor asked what destination the students were headed to.

Ms. Tiffany Fink stated all routes go by all the major schools and the City of Lodi has started three express routes to avoid the capacity issues. The City of Lodi did a significant fare increase offering same day services. Lodi is spending more money annually on Dial-A-Ride services than on fixed route services. City Officials made the decision to keep same day service but double the rate. Ms. Fink discussed how Trapeze works; they have a fixed route tracker on all their busses which are being equipped with GPS and mobile data terminal. Trapeze has a program called Spider which allows remote access; to see all the reservations.

Ms. Foletta asked if any other transit providers are using Trapeze.

Ms. Fink stated that Manteca is still doing manual dispatching and Tracy is talking about updating their system.

Ms. Tyack stated that for the 2007-2008 fiscal year Lodi has a significant amount for capital projects. The City of Lodi has been spending on basic Dial-A-Ride which has shown a slight increase. Ms. Tyack stated that they have also been spending the money on compressed natural gas vehicles, by putting their money on the CNG station and with Lodi Unified School District. The City of Lodi has been trying to encourage the use of public transit which it has been successful.

Ms. Fink stated that their total project budget is \$6.8 million. The City of Lodi received 5307 funds which have to be split with the City of Galt. One of the big things that have been happening in Lodi is sustainability. The City of Lodi went after a capital contribution as well as operating vehicles for Super Wal-mart because the amount of transit demand they would generate. Lodi is currently working on the shelter and bench program in the old part of the city.

Ms. Taylor said we will continue to find out from all transit operators about their transit needs. She also talked about the Governor budget has been passed the main money source has not been suspended the funds will be there.

6. Reports/ Updates from Committee Members:

Ms. DePauli stated that Human Services Agency is trying to recover.

Ms. Foletta asked how bad social services will get hit.

Ms. DePauli stated that Medi-cal, Cal-works, and Senior Employment got hit hard. They are looking for options to keep these programs. Ms. DePauli continued to state that one of the reasons she is here to get input and take it back to her agency.

Ms. Taylor stated that if any time Social Services has topics they want to bring to the committee they more than willing to discuss this with all committee members.

7. Reports/ Updates from Transit Providers:

Ms. Foletta stated the regional fare increase that will take effect on October 5. SJRTD feels very comfortable that the riders understand that the fare increase is coming. They have advertised the changes and outreach programs.

Ms. DePauli asked if riders have purchase tickets in advance, will they still be able to use them after the fare increase.

Ms. Foletta stated even though the fare has changed their machines will still recognize their tickets.

Ms. Fink stated she has seen a huge out take in ridership. The last four months Express routes have seen an increase of approximately 4,000. The Short Reach Plan will be going out this fall for comments. The big project is the Shop that will be completed January 2, 2009.

Mr. John Ando commented that they have been working on the Rider guide, branding their system and transit plan it should be ready by the end of October.

8. Access Advisory Committee Update:

Mr. Foletta stated the last time the Access Advisory Committee met was on September 18, 2008 where they went over the fare increase. There is a disability fair today at Delta College. The One Stop Shop phone number will provide information on transportation service throughout the area. The program is funded by the New Freedom grant which is funded for two years. SJRTD anticipates putting the program on track in December.

9. Adjourn - Next Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday, February 4, 2009, at 10:00 a.m.: