

SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SSTAC)

San Joaquin Council of Governments
555 East Weber Ave.
Stockton, CA 95202
Wednesday, October 7, 2009

MINUTES

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

The SSTAC meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm. by Ms. Julia Tyack. Introductions were made.

Committee Members Present:

Kathy Selsor	Caltrans, District 10
Julia Tyack	City of Lodi
John Andoh	City of Escalon
Teresa Vargas	City of Lathrop
Ed Lovell	City of Tracy
Joni Bauer	Community Center for the Blind
Angelica Holguin	Human Services Agency- Department of Aging
Michael Moser	UCP
Nathan Atherstone	SJRTD
Tammy Kramp	SJRTD

Committee Members Not Present:

Johanna Ferreira	City of Manteca
Al Lacson Gali	City of Lathrop
Annette DePauli	Human Services Agency – Department of Aging
Sean Reilly	Transportation Consumer
Ann Fisler	San Joaquin ARC
Wilma Murray	Valley Mountain Regional Center

Other Parties Present:

Duane Peterson	City of Escalon
George Lewis	State Council Development Disability
Robert Balderama	Visitor

SJCOG Staff Present:

Tanisha Taylor	Senior Regional Planner
Aaron Hoyt	Associate Regional Planner
Katy Castro	Office Assistant I

2. **Public Comment:** None

3. **Approval of Minutes from August 5, 2009 Meeting:**

It was moved/seconded (**Lovell/Bauer**) to approve Minutes from August 5, 2009.

4. **Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Transit Systems Performance Objectives:**

Mr. Hoyt briefly gave an update on FY 2010-2011 Transit Systems Performance Objectives. He stated the recommendations that came out of the Regional Transit System Plan have identify these criterion; operating cost per revenue hour; passenger per revenue hour and Subsidy per passenger. These three measures are what SJCOG staff is recommending to evaluate the transit operators. He stated that it was approved by TAC and the Board committee. He discussed Table 1; the interim, three-year, and three-year maximum targets for each indicator by transit operator.

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

5. **Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Unmet Transit Needs Definition of Cost Effectiveness:**

Mr. Hoyt gave a briefly update on the FY 2010-2011 UTN definitions of cost effectiveness. There has been a change in the Methodology. He discussed the recommended changes to the definition and cost effectiveness calculation Methodology. SJCOG staff recommends revising the cost effectiveness.

The first step is to look at the overall cost effectiveness; it will be used for transit operators that are not require to use fare box recovery. This is not applicable to RTD. The maximum the transit operators could go is 5 percent above the base line; this was adopted part of 2010-2011 for the Transit Systems Performance Objectives.

Mr. Atherstone asked if any addition would have to be below that 5 percent.

Ms. Taylor stated the cost per hour is 110 percent for RTD; it would be lower than the fare box due to its performance measure that they can't exceed. It would be higher than their transit system performance measure but it will be look at into detail before a decision is made.

Mr. Atherstone commented on the overall revenue from last year. He asked if there is a carried over clause. If it does come in place if the revenue is indentify in the future.

Ms. Taylor discussed the measures. TDA statue states you could not implement a need because the dollars are not there.

Mr. Hoyt stated that once we go through process of calculating the cost effectiveness then we would go the next step. For RTD we would look for any changes below 20 percent for a fixed route; or 10 percent for non-urbanized routes. RTD services to elderly and handicapped; the unmet transit need will be found not reasonable to meet.

Mr. Lewis asked if the farebox recovery is the revenues.

Ms. Taylor explained that out of the total cost 20 percent will come from fares and the rest is subsidy from Federal funds or State funds.

There was a discussion among committee members regarding the 110 percent costs per hour.

Mr. Balderama asked if the transit operators sustained themselves on fares.

Mr. Hoyt stated that transit operators do not generate revenues from fares.

It was moved/seconded (**Lovell/Atherstone**) to approve the recommendations and to move forward to TAC and SJCOG Board.

6. Fiscal Year 2010-11 Unmet Transit Needs Public Outreach:

Mr. Hoyt gave an update on UTN public hearing. Letters were sent out to every eligible jurisdiction to schedule and host public hearings. SJCOG staff has prepared flyers; inserts; and surveys to assist in the public outreach process. He discussed the survey that will be posted on the SJCOG website and the UTN public hearing schedule. In the December SSTAC meeting there will be a final public hearing. SJCOG staff will receive public comments; comments will then be reviewed by the committee. In February the draft UTN process study will be completed for SSTAC's review and that draft will go to the Board in February for review and adoption.

Mr. Atherstone asked if a SJCOG representative will be at every public hearing.

Mr. Hoyt stated that it might be challenging to have SJCOG staff at every meeting since there is more than one meeting in one night. He asked the committee members to let him know if they require SJCOG staff to be at their meeting so that it could be coordinated. The UTN survey will be provided electronically and could be completed and submitted on the SJCOG website.

Ms. Tyack asked if there would be a Spanish version.

Mr. Taylor stated the survey will be available in Spanish.

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

7. Federal Fiscal Year 2009-2010 5316 JARC/ 5317 New Freedom Grant Application:

Mr. Hoyt discussed the Federal FY 09-10 5316 JARC/5317 New Freedom; the grant applications are in process and are due to Caltrans for review on October 31. The 5316 grant focuses on improving access to transportation employment services to the low income; welfare recipients and transport residents from urbanized areas to the non-urbanized areas. 5316 focuses on welfare needs. 5317 New Freedom grant can be used to purchase or retrofit vehicles additional services. The match for the capitol grant is a 20 percent match from local agency or not profit and a 50 percent match on the operating cost. Only one application was received. In March the call for project was released by Caltrans to both public agency as well as non-profit. The application was received by United Cerebral Palsy of San Joaquin; Calaveras; and Amador Counties for both the 5316 JARC and 5317 NF grant programs. The JARC grant is for the purchase of minivan and radio equipment purchase. The purpose is to provide transportation services to UCP Supported Employment Crew Cleaning program in the City of Manteca.

New Freedom is for UCP Minivan and Radio Equipment Purchase. The purpose is to support UCP transportation services for one employment crew during the first year of funding and two employment crews during the second year funding.

Mr. Atherstone asked if we have received notice of what revenue stream would be for the match funding for the City of Manteca and if they are using TDA funds and how does that affect their transit system.

Ms. Taylor commented that source of fund is not identify the dollar figure for the funds further along the process, once Caltrans has approved, then they will identify the source of those funds.

Mr. Hoyt stated after this meeting the scoring committee will be scoring the grants and anyone is welcome to participate. SJCOG staff will be presenting the applications to the TAC; and the SJCOG Board for approval later this month. Mr. Hoyt discussed the two additional 5316 JARC and 5317 NF regional grant opportunities and the regional fare box coordination study. He asked committee to approve regional box coronation boxes.

It was moved/seconded (**Atherstone/Andoh**) to approve motion to endorse each of these projects and the score will be presented to TAC and Board for adoption.

8. Transit Funding in San Joaquin County (RTD):

Mr. Atherstone gave a brief overview of SJRTD transit funding in San Joaquin. He stated RTD currently receives funding from three main tax revenue resources. The jurisdiction provided by the federal government; the state government; and through local government. The funding resources fall in two categories capitol funding and operation funding. The Act of transportation is SAFETEA-LU the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act. The Federal Transit Administration oversees the distribution of funds through the Act.

The 5307 funds are their larges capitol program funds for RTD. These funds pay for preventative maintenance; mechanics; for parts; replacement of buses and planning services. The 5309 are discretionary funds apply for independently for new starts. 5310 fund is a compatible fund program that the State of California oversees for State projects. The funds go to transportation needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities. 5311 funds are rural operating funds they use a portion of those funds for County ADA services the other portion to support Hopper and Intercity operations in the rural portion of the County. The City of Escalon also receives 5311 funds to support operations and that must be match 50/50 with another local source of funds. The 5316 and 5317 funds are job access and Reverse commute.

RTD has not received a lot of funding at the State level this year. The TDA is a dedicated funding source available to public transit, and it is the primary source of RTD operating revenues. He stated there is no STA funding for transit purpose at this time. The Local Transportation Tax fund is provided out of the PTA. He discussed the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program; Proposition 1B; Local Fund Program; and Local Property Tax. RTD advertises on all of their buses to generate revenues. They are working on adopting public partnership. He discussed the adopted strategies adopted by RTD's Board. RTD's goal is to maintain existing baseline level of transit services. RTD anticipates on increasing services at the result of the BRT. Their major capitol strategy is updating their fleet. RTD is planning to consolidate their operations to reduce their operating cost.

9. Reports/ Updates from Committee Members:

No updates

10. Reports/ Updates from Transit Providers:

Mr. Lovell gave an update on City of Tracy Transit Station is schedule to be finish in December 2009 the grand opening will be in January 2010.

Mr. Atherstone stated that RTD has made an adjustment to the way they are providing Dial-A-Ride operations. The Metro Hopper started on Monday; things are running smoothly for RTD. RTD is lacking operators; therefore there were some delays. RTD has received appeal request regarding classification for some individuals. RTD has received 30 appeals; which are less then what they had anticipated. He said they anticipated to have a lower cost per passenger.

Mr. Lewis asked for clarification about the number of riders the Hopper currently has.

Mr. Atherstone stated they have 280 riders.

Mr. Andoh asked if they have door to door Dial-a-Ride.

Mr. Atherstone stated they still provide door to door services for those who are certify under the A classification.

Mr. Balderama asked who determines who is on is on class A or B list.

Ms. Tyack state is based the ability to understand the system and your physical ability to get to the bus stop. They request that people explained the obstacles they face.

Mr. Balderama commented on individuals known to him that physically could not get to the fixed route and would physically put themselves in danger that should be on the A list.

Ms. Taylor stated a doctor referral form is on the application. In some cases they might be denied due to the lack of information. She stated they are rank to what is writing on the document by the doctor.

There was a discussion regarding the appeal process.

Mr. Atherstone stated to contact One Stop Shop at (209) 955-8444 for more information.

Mr. Andoh gave an update for City of Escalon; he stated they are out for bid for a new Transit Provider. Their driver who had being their driver for 29 years has retired.

Ms. Tyack commented on the Short Safe meeting; council discussed service reduction. They also discussed the possibility of the removal of same day service for Dial-a-Ride. City of Lodi are thinking about reducing fixed route services to Monday -Friday 8-5 p.m. Council discussed eliminating Saturday and Sunday fixed routes; they discussed on the option of providing services on Saturday 9-4. Eliminating transit services three additional Holidays and 8 furlough Days. Ms. Tyack stated nothing has been voted on it was just for discussion. City of Lodi is seeking public comments regarding these possible changes.

There was a discussion among committee members about concerns that the transit system will not be operating during furlough days.

Ms. Tyack stated any comments are welcome and stated Council communication is on their website. City of Lodi will be taking public comments to the October 21st Council meeting.

Mr. Atherstone asked how that affects local transportation funds use and would you be decreasing your use to less than 100 percent associated with these changes.

Ms. Taylor stated that City of Lodi's cost is greater than LTF.

Ms. Tyack continues to state they will maintain express way Monday- Friday. City of Lodi are thinking about reducing their operation cost. Ms. Tyack offered the new route changes schedule which has the bus stop locations.

Mr. Peterson stated Mckanery Avenue in Escalon will be close for a month.

Ms. Vargas gave an update for City of Lathrop. City of Lathrop's is trying to put together real numbers by adding deviated bus route. Ms. Vargas stated these changes will double their estimate. She commented on funding and their public hearing being held on November 3. City of Lathrop has been putting out information for the UTN process. City of Lathrop has remove Stop signs in Lathrop Road and Matthew to increase the flow going to Lathrop and alleviate the problem they are having.

11. Access Advisory Committee Update:

None

12. Adjourn – Next Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2009 3:00 p.m.