

MINUTES
SOCAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
AT 3:00 P.M. ON OCTOBER 13, 2020

Present: Chuck Clarkson, Redwood Coast Transit
Carmen Fong-Chavez, Del Norte Dept. of Health & Human Services
Aaron Goodwin, Veterans Service Officer
Dan Herron, Redwood Coast Transit
Lisa McKeown, Mission Possible
Thomas Pogue, Center for Business & Policy Research
Suresh Ratnam, Caltrans
Suleyma Vergara-Tapia, Center for Business & Policy Research
Joe Rye, Redwood Coast Transit
Lea Simpson, Caltrans
Debbie West, Redwood Coast Regional Center

Absent: Charlene Mazzei, Del Norte Senior Center
Brandi Natt, Yurok Tribe

Also Present: Tamera Leighton, DNLTC

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Tamera Leighton called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made by the Council.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Public comments are welcome and encouraged; however, no proposed action can be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda. Public Comments are limited to three minutes.

The following person(s) addressed the Committee: None

4. COORDINATED PLAN FOR TRANSIT SERVICES

Thomas Pogue, Center for Business & Policy Research, reviewed the sections of the Coordinated Plan. Section One contains the context, purpose, relevant legislation, and awareness of funding streams. Section Two identifies the demand for services and demographic analysis. Section Three assesses the available supply of transit services in the community. Section Four discusses how the demand and supply for transit are working, addresses key issues and coordination challenges. Section Five outlines previous strategies and accomplishments and identifies further needs. Thomas then opened the discussion to service gaps, unmet needs, and available resources. Joe Rye asked how COVID-19 is being addressed in the plan. Thomas replied that this is a five-year plan and it is assumed that COVID will not be an issue for 5 years, but there will be a section discussing the specific challenges due to the COVID- 19 pandemic. Tamera Leighton reviewed the 2019 Unmet Needs with the SSTAC and asked for changes or

suggestions to the list. The SSTAC reviewed and discussed removing Transit Training because it is in progress, however, the training has stalled due to the virus and will resume when possible. After hours transit service can be removed because the demand is reduced, again due to COVID. The members discussed adding food and grocery delivery service being an unmet need, especially during the pandemic as many residents are homebound and may require food delivery options. Bus shelters and bus stops continue to be an unmet need. Thomas Pogue informed the members that they should submit other ideas, comments and suggestions to him to be considered for the Coordinated Plan.

5. REVIEW UNMET NEEDS

Suggested Action: Identify and prioritize unmet needs. Report to DNLTC.

Tamera Leighton explained that the Social Services Transportation Committee (SSTAC) reviews the annual list of unmet needs, discusses additional unmet needs, and prioritizes the list which will then be presented to the Del Norte Local Transportation Commission for the adoption of a resolution certifying Unmet Transit Needs. Tamera Leighton presented an overview of the previous list of unmet needs for discussion. Currently, there is no funding to address Unmet Needs and transportation funding cannot be diverted to address Unmet Needs.

The SSTAC members discussed the previous unmet needs and agreed to keep the previous years' unmet needs list as is.

The Agreed priority list is as follows:

- One: Food and Grocery Delivery
- Two: Non-Emergency Medical Transportation
- Three: Public Transit Information & Education
- Four: Bus Shelters at more Stops


Chuck Clarkson moved to recommend DNLTC adopt a resolution certifying the Unmet Needs as discussed, seconded by Suresh Ratnam, and unanimously carried; the Social Services Technical Advisory Council recommends DNLTC adopt a resolution certifying the Unmet Needs as discussed.

6. RECEIVE STATUS REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

7. ADJOURN

Tamera Leighton adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tamera Leighton, Executive Director
Del Norte Local Transportation Commission