

## **Santa Barbara County Transit Advisory Council (SBCTAC)**

### **MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Buellton City Council Chambers  
140 West Highway 246  
Buellton, CA

#### **SBCTAC Members Present**

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Howard Kraus                    | South Coast Transit Rider                             |
| Petra Löwen, Chair              | Social Service Provider for Seniors                   |
| Michael Luther                  | City of Lompoc Transit (COLT)                         |
| Steve Maas                      | Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (MTD)     |
| Nicole Campos                   | CTSA – Easy Lift                                      |
| Fil Simas                       | CTSA – SMOOTH   |
| Barry Stotts                    | Potential Transit User who has a Disability           |
| Victor Suhr                     | Social Service Provider for Persons with Disabilities |
| Jim Talbott                     | Guadalupe Transit                                     |
| Matt van der Linden, Vice Chair | Santa Ynez Valley Transit (SYVT)                      |

#### **SBCAG Staff Present**

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Andrew Orfila | SBCAG |
| Peter Imhof   | SBCAG |

#### **Others Present**

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Lee Diaz          |                     |
| Ed Zoost          |                     |
| Richard Fernbaugh | City of Lompoc      |
| Eustaquio Valdez  | City of Santa Maria |

### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Petra Löwen called the meeting to order and initiated a round of introductions.

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Petra Löwen called for public comment. Barry Stotts mentioned that there were ADA improvements being made to the County courthouse in Santa Barbara.

### **3. MINUTES (Action Item)**

Following a motion by Jim Talbott, seconded by Barry Stotts with Howard Kraus and Michael

Luther abstaining, the committee approved the SBCTAC minutes of Wednesday, April 9, 2014.

4. **UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS ASSESSMENT** (Action Item)

Andrew Orfila presented the staff report. Chair Löwen noted that the dates for the public hearing were incorrect and asked staff to clarify the public hearing date. Staff clarified that the public hearing date is set for January 15, 2015 and that the materials will be updated accordingly.

Barry Stotts asked if Spanish translation services would be made available at the public hearing. Andrew replied that SBCAG would make a Spanish speaker available at the public hearing for those that wish to communicate their comments to the board. Barry asked how much advance notice is required for those requiring special accommodation (such as a sign language interpreter). Andrew replied that these requests typically require about a 72-hour advance notice.

Barry Stotts suggested that staff should add private colleges, North County workforce resource centers, VTC, and Work Inc. to its list of public outreach. Andrew encouraged committee members to contact him with additional outreach sources after the meeting.

Matt van der Linden asked staff to include the Alan Hancock College satellite campuses on its list of public outreach contacts. He stated that Santa Ynez Valley Transit has an on-call stop at the Solvang campus. Andrew stated that he would follow-up and contact staff at Alan Hancock College to distribute materials accordingly.

Andrew stated that he had received notice of COLT's unmet needs workshop, which is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15 at 6:00 pm at Lompoc City Hall. Eustaquio Valdez stated that SMAT is still in the process of scheduling their unmet needs workshop and will probably occur in November. He will notify SBCAG as soon as it is scheduled. Barry encouraged SMAT to post notices and flyers of their Santa Maria unmet needs workshop on their buses to let riders know that the workshop is occurring.

Following a motion by Barry Stotts, seconded by Fil Simas, the committee approved the public outreach materials (as amended) and the public outreach strategy for the 2015 Transit Needs Assessment.

After the item closed, Jim Talbott encouraged staff to outreach to CAUSE. He mentioned that they were actively involved in the Guadalupe Short Range Transit Plan.

5. **SBCTAC MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENT** (Action Item)

Andrew Orfila presented the staff report. Following a motion by Barry Stotts, seconded by Jim Talbott, the committee recommended that the SBCAG Board appoint Ed Zoost as the SBCTAC representative Transit Rider from North County.

Peter Imhof gave an update on the recruitment of the vacant position. He stated that Lee Diaz had indicated an interest in joining the committee and was present today. Lee Diaz introduced himself and gave the committee some background information regarding his experience working on transportation and transit in Santa Barbara County. He is currently volunteering as a board member for Area Agency on Aging. Peter stated that they will bring

back a recommendation for Lee Diaz's appointment to the SBCTAC at the next meeting.

Peter also mentioned that staff will be following up with members that are not coming to the SBCTAC meetings on a regular basis to check in. Steve Maas asked if staff had followed up on legislative changes to the term limits for committee members with Cal ACT. Peter replied that they had and have been unsuccessful so far. Steve suggested working with Das Williams' office directly. Barry Stotts encouraged staff to determine the feasibility of allowing teleconference capabilities for SBCTAC members.

## **6. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Peter Imhof provided a status update on the North County Transit Plan. The consultant is finalizing analysis of the NCTP service scenarios. Matt van der Linden asked for clarification regarding the roles and responsibilities of SBCAG staff and the consultant regarding the preparation of the materials and presentation to subcommittees. Peter Imhof replied that staff are relying on the consultant for developing the scenarios, analysis and subsequent recommendations and are reviewing consultant work for technical accuracy and quality. They will bring draft materials forward to SBCTAC, the Executive Steering Committee and North County Subregional Planning Committee for review in the upcoming months.

Steve Maas announced that Jerry Estrada has been named as interim General Manager of MTD.

Howard Kraus announced that former SBCTAC member Cathy Farrar passed away in July.

Petra Löwen announced an open house event at the Independent Living Resource Center in honor of the retirement of their executive director Jo Black and to welcome their new executive director.

## **7. NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting date is Wednesday, October 8, 2014 (second Wednesday of the month).

## **8. ADJOURN**