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

MINUTES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Buellton City Council Chambers
140 West Highway 246
Buellton, CA

SBCTAC Members Present

Jim Talbott (Chair)
Petra Löwen (Vice-Chair)
Rick Hummel
Barry Stotts
Ed Zoost
Howard Kraus
Cathy Farrar
Bea Merwin
Michael Seden-Hansen
Vibiana Saavedra
Tully Clifford
Julie Guzman
David Damiano
Victor Suhr
Dean Palius
Ernesto Paredes
Matt Dobberteen
Kathryn Cook

SMOOTH
Independent Living Resource Center
LOVARC
Community Access Network
SMAT/RAC
R&D Transportation
Transit User - Lompoc
Community Partners in Caring
SMAT
Farmworker Population Representative
Santa Ynez Valley Transit
Transit User – South Coast
SBMTD – South Coast
Transit User – South Coast
Santa Ynez Valley People Helping People
Easy Lift - CTSA
County Transit
VTC Enterprises

Others Present

Jim Richardson

SBCAG Board

SBCAG Staff

Michael Powers

Member Agencies

Buellton ■ Carpinteria ■ Goleta ■ Guadalupe ■ Lompoc ■ Santa Barbara ■ Santa Maria ■ Solvang ■ Santa Barbara County

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Talbott asked for public comment and Barry Stotts thanked Jim and County staff for a good presentation to the County Board of Supervisors on the farmworker transportation program.

3. MINUTES

Following a motion by Bea Merwin, seconded by Kathy Farrar, the minutes of October 9, 2007 were approved with the following changes: Page 3, second paragraph, last sentence, replace "mail able" with post card; under paragraph 5, replace Chambers "Executive Director" with CEO; and, last page last sentence, last word, correct spelling of Lompoc.

4. COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Michael Powers summarized the staff report. Jim Talbot asked what the frequency of update and Michael replied about every two years. Matt Dobberteen asked if a continuing farmworker transportation program would be eligible for JARC funding and Michael replied that it was unlikely if it was for continuing existing service but if the program expanded into new areas it would have a greater likelihood for funding. David Damiano suggested that vehicle purchase would be an eligible activity. On a motion by Bea Merwin, seconded by Victor Sur SBCTAC unanimously recommend approval of "Transportation Connections: The Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan for Santa Barbara County."

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Michael Powers summarized the staff report. Barry Stotts recommended reference to ADA special access requirements be added, the notice that is placed on all SBCAG Committee Agendas, to the report. He added that summary Spanish language contact information that is in most SBCAG public notices should be referenced as well. Barry recommended that a table be inserted listing the newspapers, radio, and TV stations (including those in San Luis Obispo and Ventura Counties whose markets are in Santa Barbara County) and that SBCAG attempt to use public access TV, social service agencies and churches in reaching low income and minority communities. Vibiana asked if SBCAG places ads for workshops in School Newspapers and Michael replied no. Vibiana, and others, recommended using College and High School newspapers for workshop notices. She added that churches are another good way to reach low income and minority individuals. David Damiano seconded this suggestion indicating that SBMTD uses Churches in its outreach effort. Jim Talbot asked what has changed recently in SBCAG's outreach activities and Michael replied that with Unmet Transit Needs greater emphasis will be placed in Spanish language media outreach. Dean Palius and others recommended social service non-profits such as Salvation Army and Catholic Charities. Barry suggested a web link between SBCAG and the 211 system and the Chris Directory. Michael replied that prior efforts to place notices in Social Service Agency newsletters met with resistance based on their concerns about diluting their message. David Damiano recommended consideration of web media such as Craig's list.

6. MEASURE D RENEWAL

Michael summarized the two Committee consensus proposals for the Measure D reauthorization. Barry recommended that SBCTAC submit a conceptual letter of support. Vibiana asked Michael if Supervisors Gray and Centeno were on board as they were not at the meeting and Michael replied that he did not know. Ernesto Paredes expressed delight that the Committees came to consensus, were on schedule and included a specialized transit provision. Vibiana expressed concern that Santa Maria lowered its allocation for alternatives from 25% to 15% and thought the plan overemphasized roads and interchanges. Michael replied that the only new interchange was McCoy as 101 and 135 and UVP were on the books for a long time. Jim stated that Santa Maria was behind on infrastructure growth indicating that Santa Barbara as an equivalent size to Santa Maria had many more interchanges. Matt responded to Vibiana's concern and reported that all the Supervisors are on board with the proposals and concluded that support and excitement are important to the passage of Measure D. Dean and Matt cautioned about early SBCTAC action without reviewing the details of the proposals. However, Matt offered that if the letter is sent it should speak to approving in concept a Measure D renewal and repeat the items listed in the August support letter. On a motion by Howard Krause, seconded by Kathy Farrer SBCTAC voted (11 yes, 7 no) to approve in concept a Measure D renewal support letter that repeated the items listed in the August support letter.

7. UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS

Michael Seeden-Hansen announced a local unmet transit needs workshop hosted by SMAT RAC on Saturday Nov. 17, 10:00 AM, Town Center Mall. He distributed flyers on the workshop. Michael Powers asked if the CTSA was involved in the workshop and Michael replied affirmatively and described the outreach activities.

David stated that SBMTD would be holding public outreach meetings in early 2008 and asked if SBCAG staff would attend and Michael Powers answered if was dependent on staff availability. Ernesto added that Easy Lift was involved in the MTD outreach as well.

Barry Stotts asked if pedestrian issues were addressed by SBCAG. Michael replied it was an element of the Regional Transportation Plan.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Seeden-Hansen reported that the Breeze had reached its 100,000 rider and distributed 100,000 candy bars in celebration. SBCTAC members congratulated Michael and expressed appreciation for the Breeze service.

In response to a question by Barry, Jim Talbot reported on the Farmworker Vanpool Transportation Program. He stated that SMOOTH had received 9 used vans from King's County that were being examined and 4 vehicles will be ready for roll out on November 26. Two van drivers had been selected. On November 3 the County submitted an application for State funds for \$3.3 million (over a 2 ½ year period) for 25 vans (6 of which will replace the pilot project vans). The county expects a response by December 14.

9. ADJOURN

There being no other business, Jim Talbot announced that SBCTAC was adjourned until the next scheduled meeting on December 11, 2007