



■ 260 North San Antonio Road., Suite B ■ Santa Barbara, CA ■ 93110  
■ Phone: 805/961-8900 ■ Fax: 805/961-8901 ■ www.sbcag.org

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

**MINUTES  
Tuesday, November 14, 2006**

Buellton City Council Chambers  
140 West Highway 246  
Buellton, CA

---

**SBCTAC Members Present**

Petra Lowen (Chair)	Independent Living Resource Center
Michael Seden-Hansen	SMAT Transit Agency
Barry Stotts	Community Access Network
Ed Zoost	SMAT/RAC
Howard Kraus	R&D Transportation
Rick Hummel	LOVARC
Cathy Farrar	Transit User – North County
Jim Talbott	SMOOTH Transportation
Bea Merwin	Community Partners in Caring
Julie Kahn	Transit User – South County
Jerry Davis	Easy Lift
Dean Palius	Santa Ynez Valley People Helping People
Julie Guzman	Santa Barbara Community Services
Richard Fernbaugh	COLT Transit Agency
David Damiano	SBMTD
Matt Dobberteen	Santa Barbara County Transit

**SBCAG Staff**

Michael Powers  
Sarkes Khachek

**Others Present**

Pat Mickelson	Caltrans – District 5
Vibiana Saavedra	Santa Maria Transit Advocate
Richard Davis	Lompoc
Cynthia Boche	SBMTD

**Member Agencies**

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

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

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Lowen asked for public comment and Barry Stotts reported that Victor Suhr could not attend the meeting due to lack of transportation.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Michael Seden-Hansen noted changes to the October 2006 meeting minutes. Julie Kahn moved and Bea Merwin seconded the approval of the minutes of October 10, 2006 with the changes as noted. The motion passed unanimously with David Damiano abstaining.

**4. DEFINITIONS**

Michael Powers presented the report.

David Damiano asked if the 15% farebox recovery measure was derived from Transportation Development Act (TDA) and Michael Powers responded that it was an estimate between the measures for fixed and rural services.

Matt Dobberteen asked if there were issues with measuring farebox recovery for new services as part of the Transit Needs Assessment and Michael Powers responded that staff encountered challenges in the previous assessment and that the issues were addressed in the staff report.

Jerry Davis mentioned there is a statewide effort to eliminate the farebox recovery requirement for rural transit services.

Michael Seden-Hansen noted that an example of urban service would be from Santa Maria to Lompoc.

Michael Powers noted that the Bridge House extension in Lompoc was paid for by the County and Richard Fernbaugh added that it was a minor extension.

Matt Dobberteen did not agree with comparing a new service's farebox recovery ratio with the existing systemwide farebox recovery ratio of which it would belong to.

Michael Seden-Hansen noted that 15% farebox recovery ratio could be used for small urban services.

Dean Palius motioned to remove Criteria 3b, 3c, and 4 along with amending Criteria #6 to include "10% in non urbanized areas serving urban areas."

The motion was seconded by Jerry Davis and passed with David Damiano opposed.

David Damiano was opposed to removing Criteria 3b in the Reasonable to Meet definition because he felt it was important to include ridership data as part of the assessment.

Jim Talbott asked if the committee review wished to address concerns raised by Marc Chytilo and Alex Pujo in their letters to the committee. Committee members stated that they had considered these letters.

Dean Palius asked if operational issues were determined by the TDA or by SBCAG and Michael Powers responded that they were determined by SBCAG.

## **5. CONSOLIDATED PLAN**

Sarkes Khachek presented the report.

Jim Talbott recommended adding another week to the deadline for survey submittals.

Barry Stotts mentioned that surveys can be distributed at upcoming workshops.

Jim Talbott recommended addressing the letter to Directors of agencies and including bullet points to address main points of the letter. Jim also mentioned that Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies could be added as contacts for advice on financial issues.

Jerry Davis noted that Easy Lift could be included as a contact for the South Coast.

Dean Palius asked if funding was available for agencies as part of the plan's purpose and Michael Powers responded affirmatively.

## **6. STATE PROPOSITIONS**

Michael Powers presented the report.

Petra Löwen asked if there were plans for how the available funding would be spent and Michael Powers responded that allocations had yet to be determined.

## **7. TRANSIT OPERATOR BRIEFING**

David Damiano provided an update on Santa Barbara MTD's Transit Village project. David noted that the project is currently undergoing a feasibility study and should be completed by January 2007.

David mentioned the feasibility study would include a scenario with and without Greyhound Bus Services located at the transit center. He added that at this time the concept has parking underground and workforce housing above the transit center.

Matt Dobberteen asked if there was any update in regards to the Sak's property and David responded that discussions were ongoing.

Matt asked if there would be a bike station included at the transit village and David responded the design is only conceptual right now.

Jerry Davis asked of the status of the Calle Real property and David responded that the project is on hold.

David Damiano reported that MTD conducted two public input workshops in Santa Barbara on Monday. MTD would be conducting two more hearings in Goleta. David noted that additional funding would be available to provide increased service on Lines 1 and 2. Julie Kahn requested additional service on line 12 and David replied that it is rising on their priority list for improvements.

Richard Fernbaugh notified the committee of a public workshop on transit for City of Lompoc at 7PM on November 14.

Michael Seden-Hansen announced a public workshop on transit for City of Santa Maria at 10AM on Saturday, November 18.

**8. ANNOUNCEMENT**

Michael Powers announced that the North County Transit Plan was adopted by the SBCAG Board at its October 2006 meeting.

Barry Stotts mentioned that the Santa Barbara Train Station was recently added to the National Registry.

**9. ADJOURN**

There being no other business, SBCTAC adjourned till the next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, December 12, 2006 at 1:30 PM.