

APPROVED MINUTES

SHASTA COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCY (MPO)
Tuesday, February 27, 2001, 4:00 p.m.
City of Redding, City Council Chambers
777 Cypress Avenue, Redding, California

(Note: These minutes are not intended to serve as a transcript or verbatim record of the proceedings of the Shasta County Regional Transportation Planning Agency, but rather as a record of meeting time, place and attendance; the order and general nature of discussion; Agency deliberations; and action taken, if any.)

Agency Members Clarke, Connick, McGeorge, Reno, Wilson and Alternate Members Fust and Stegall were present. Agency Members Hawes and Kight were absent. Representatives of the RTPA, Shasta County staff, Caltrans, City of Redding, City of Anderson, Shasta Senior Nutrition Programs (CTSA) and RABA were present.

Call to Order:

Chair McGeorge called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

Public Comment Period:

Marie Carr Fitzgerald spoke to the Agency concerning the need for an additional underpass/overpass in downtown Redding. She stated that long delays when trains switch and safety issues are the two major reasons this should be considered. She submitted to the Agency a petition with 150 signatures concerning this issue.

Consent Calendar

- 3-1 **Minutes of December 12, 2000, RTPA Meeting**
- 3-2 **Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) Project Status Report**
- 3-3 **RTPA Meeting Schedule Through February 2001**
- 3-4 **Consider Revising Amendment No. 2 to the 2000/01 Overall Work Program (OWP) to Add \$8,321.47 of FHWA PL and TDA Funds to Work Element 601 in Order to Obligate Funds**
- 3-5 **Consider Amendment No. 3 to the 2000/01 Overall Work Program to Add \$10,567.46 of Federal Aviation Funds to Work Element 605 to Fund Late Charges**

By motion made, seconded and carried, the items on the Consent Calendar were approved.

Regular Calendar

4. Consider Resolution Commending John Stokes for Nine Years of Dedicated Service to the Shasta County Regional Transportation Planning Agency - Consider Action:

Dan Kovacich reported that Senior Planner John Stokes recently left the RTPA and went to work for the Department of Resource Management. It is recommended that the Agency approve a resolution commending John for his nine years of dedicated service to the RTPA and to wish him luck in his new endeavor.

By motion made and seconded (Fust/Wilson) the staff recommendation passed by unanimous vote.

5. Approve Resolution of Support for Future Rail Passenger Service from Sacramento to Redding - Consider Action:

Dan Kovacich stated a report prepared by Caltrans supports that an extension of the San Joaquin Line passenger rail service from Sacramento through Roseville and Chico and eventually terminating in Redding may become feasible in the year 2006. Although there appears to be a demand for this service, no identifiable funding source has been established at this time. It is estimated the annual operating cost for the extension would be approximately \$3 million. The purpose of bringing this item before the Agency is to approve a resolution indicating its support for passenger rail service extension consistent with the final draft of the Rail Program Passenger Report prepared by Caltrans' Rail Program.

Dan Kovacich added he would like thank John Hoeflich for keeping staff up to date concerning this issue. Agency Member Fust also thanked Mr. Hoeflich for working with staff on the passenger rail matter.

Mark Reno felt that a reference regarding the Agency's support for high speed rail in the Northstate should be added to the resolution.

By motion made and seconded (Fust/Wilson) the staff recommendation with the addition of the Agency's support for high speed rail in the Northstate passed unanimously.

6. Elect Chair and Vice-Chair - Consider Action:

Agency Member Fust made a motion to nominate Norma Cornick as RTPA Chair and Agency Member Wilson seconded it. By unanimous vote, Norma Cornick was elected Chair.

Agency Member McGeorge made a motion to nominate Mark Reno as Vice Chair and Agency Member Stegall seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, Mark Reno was elected Vice-Chair.

7. Consider 2001/02 Transit Needs Assessment and Conduct 2001/02 Unmet Needs Hearing - Consider Action:

Executive Officer Kovacich stated that this is the beginning of the process to make annual fund allocations from Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds. He introduced Dan Little, Senior Public Works Planner for the RTPA. Mr. Little presented an overview of the 2001/02 Transit Needs Assessment. This document includes the framework staff used to address public comments regarding unmet transit needs and provides guidelines for the Agency when making their Unmet Transit Needs Findings each year.

Dan Little gave a Power Point presentation which explained the process. The Transit Needs Assessment takes a look at the general transit performance in the transportation funding issues. The annual Unmet Transit Needs is a four-part process and includes the following:

1. General Assessment of the Transit Needs and Transit Services within Shasta County (2001/02 Transit Needs Assessment document);
2. Public hearing to consider specific transit needs;
3. Participation by Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC); and
4. RTPA findings and allocation of TDA funds

The Transit Needs Assessment addresses where areas of high transit demand are within the county, and how the existing services are doing in meeting those demands. Finally, it looks at the criteria for expanding those services to meet the demands.

Mr. Little provided a brief overview of the existing transit services:

- ☐ **Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA) operated Fixed Route and Demand Response** services are subject to the “unmet need and reasonable to meet” definitions. Primarily it needs to be an identifiable population group that can meet a farebox ratio of 20%.

Demand Response serves people with disabilities that cannot use the conventional fixed route transit. Demand response ridership is almost identical in comparison to the previous two years.

- ☐ **Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA)** services must meet the criteria for a “Community Transit Service.” They must serve intra-community needs and have specialized services for those unable to use conventional transit. CTSA services are limited to 5% of the total TDA allocation and require approval by the RTPA Board. CTSA is run by the Shasta Senior Nutrition Programs.
- ☐ **Lifeline** services are operated by the Shasta Senior Nutrition programs. Lifeline services are specialized services that provide elderly and disabled transportation in rural areas. The targeted rural areas are Happy Valley, Cottonwood, Palo Cedro, Bella Vista, and Burney.
- ☐ **Burney Express and Shingletown Vanpool** services are subject to the “unmet transit need” and “reasonable to meet” definitions, except the minimum farebox

return is 10%. These are commuter-oriented services linking Burney and Shingletown to the Redding area. The ridership for the Burney Express service is down and is being monitored.

- ❑ **Other Non-TDA funded services** such as the Golden Umbrella. The cities and County may provide transit services at their discretion beyond the level required by the RTPA.

Chairman Commick opened the public hearing for 2001/02 Unmet Transit Needs. The following people spoke.

Name/Address	Comments
Mary Onweiler 6945 Amber Lane Redding CA 96002	Restore RABA service on Airport Road near Wooded Acres and Kent's Market
Mike Evans, Chair SSTAC c/o 2227 Flagstone Anderson CA 96007	- Sunday service needed (even if only limited service) - Longer service hours - Express bus service needed from Cottonwood/Anderson to Redding - Burney/Fall River Express Loop bus needed - Expand service to Airport Road Corridor - Eliminate 2nd fare for changing zones - Make Route 4 two-way service instead of loop - Staff should look into Dept of Labor and Welfare to Work grants for additional funding
Robert Smith Fairview Mobile Home Park 20350 Hole In One Dr #163 Redding CA 96003	Need service on Airport Road near Fairway Mobile Home Park
Tish Harris 3135 Stratford Avenue Redding CA 96001	Transit information should be available in Spanish
Laura Larson, Exec Dir Far Northern Reg'l Center 1300 Churn Creek Road	Service for the disabled should be expanded

Name/Address	Comments
Redding CA 96002	
Sandra Van Larson Ind Living Svcs of N Calif 1411 Yuba Street Redding, CA 96001	• Sunday service needed • Bus service on Airport Road needed
Debbie Loyd 635 Orchard Estates Redding CA 96001	• Sunday service needed • Extend evening service hours
Patricia O'Brien 1701 Dana Drive #99 Redding CA 96001	• Need shorter headways (½ hour)
Jim Heyfron Shasta Sr Nutrition Prgms 2225 College View Drive Redding, CA 96003	Per Client Petition • Sunday Service • Extend evening hours • Establish route in Sheena Lane area • Establish route in Oak Lane area in Cottonwood • Shorter headways • Long waits • Extend Demand Response to same day service
Kathleen Gasman 310 Melden Redding, CA 96001	• Extend service hours to at least 8:00 p.m. to accommodate doctor and health clinic schedules
Virginia Webster, Exec Dir Shasta Sr Nutrition Prgms 2225 College View Drive Redding, CA 96003	• Increase in minimum will leave her agency short \$41,000 next fiscal year. May need to cut some services
Karen Bither 4860 Balls Ferry Road Anderson, CA 96007	• Need Anderson route extended to Balls Ferry Road
Robert Athaniason Isabella Cordova 845 Locust Street #16 Redding, CA 96001	Per Petition • Extend evening hours until 10:00 p.m. • Sunday service

Name/Address	Comments
Charles Wade Redding Hotel 148 Market Street Redding, CA 96001	Extend evening hours until 10:00 p.m.
Debbie Bass 1265 Redwood Blvd Redding CA 96003	- Extend service hours in the evening - Expand service to Airport Road Corridor - Expand service to Cottonwood area
James Maline Cottonwood	Extend service hours in the evening
Sandra Konner Cottonwood	Extend service in the evening to accommodate Shasta College students
Virginia Harrington 555 Lea Avenue Redding CA	Extend service hours in the evening
Megan Gibson 3376 Kentwood Redding, CA 96002	Need service in the Kentwood Drive area
Sabrina Sowerby Redding CA	- Needs service from Hilltop Drive to Balls Ferry Road (extend route) - Fixed route stops need covered shelters - Appreciative of Demand Response services
Ember Swan French Gulch, CA	- Consider expanding service area on west side of town - A van in the morning and evening would be nice out to French Gulch area.
Janet Josh	Consider expanding service area on west side of town (Old Shasta/Rock Creek Road area)
Vi Klaseen 2295 Oak Ridge Drive Redding, CA 96001	- Should consider expanding service to people outside RABA service area that have unmet transit needs - TDA funds should be distributed in a way that a higher percentage can go to fund transit - Reduce RABA farebox requirement to

Name/Address	Comments
	15% for new transit starts
John Hoeflich 1948 Laurel Avenue Redding CA 96001	• Extend RABA service area to include Ravenwood Estates area • Increase number of buses during commute times • Need shorter headways • Extend service hours in the evening
Kathy Grey	• Need service in Bella Vista/Palo Cedro area
Gary Dolly	• Need ½ hours headways • Sunday service needed • Extend evening hours until 10:00 or 11:00 p.m.
* Joy Newcom 3702 Fujiyama Way Redding CA 96001	• Open communication lines by posting information in vans • Exceed ADA minimum requirements • Increase availability of Demand Response vans • Sunday Service • Extend evening hours until 10:00 p.m. • Need service on Airport Road Corridor • Purchase environmentally friendly buses • RABA should consult with riders on all policies and decisions before implementation • RABA needs to be compassionate and conscious of the disabled • Supervisors, Commissioners, Consultants & Administrators should take pay cuts to build a better community

* Submitted in writing. To be part of public record.

There being no one else who wished to speak, Chairman Connick closed the public hearing.

Agency Members Wilson and Reno thanked the members of public who spoke and acknowledged the courage it took to go before the Agency and express themselves.

By motion made, seconded, and carried the Board approved staff's recommendation to 1) Present the information generated from the public hearing to the Social Service Transportation Advisory Committee (SSTAC) and claimant agencies for formulation of the recommendation; and 2) Direct staff to prepare recommendations, written responses to comments and draft findings in anticipation of final action at the April 24, 2001 RTPA meeting.

8. Adjourn:
There being no further business to discuss, Chair Cornick adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel J. Kovacich, Executive Officer

/jmg