

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA)

**SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING NOTES**

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency, Salmon Room

1255 East Street, Suite 202

Redding, CA 96001

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

1:30 PM - Via Zoom Meeting

(NOTE: These notes are not intended to serve as a transcript or verbatim record of the proceedings of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, but rather as a record of the meeting time, place, attendance, and the order and general nature of the Advisory Council discussion, deliberations, and actions taken, if any.)

Members/Alternates Present:

Patrick Geagan	-	Disabled Transit User (present in-person)
Theresa McCausland	-	Local Social Service Provider for Seniors (Non-Transp) (on-line)
Hallie Fonseca	-	Local Social Service Provider for Seniors (Transportation) (in-person)
Sou Saechao	-	Local Social Service Provider for the Disabled (Transportation) (on-line)
Anne Thomas	-	Shasta Living Streets (on-line)

Members/Alternates Absent:

Sharon Gatt	-	Transit User 60 Years of Age or Older
Jami Brinson	-	Local CTSA Representative (Transportation)
Vacant	-	Local CTSA Representative (Administration)
Del Lockwood	-	Shasta County Opportunity Center
Holly Leaf	-	Shasta County Opportunity Center
Steve Smith	-	Help, Inc.
Robert Hale	-	Citizen
Susan Morris Wilson	-	Citizen
Christina Prosperi	-	Citizen

Members of the Public:

None

Staff Support:

Melissa Estrada	-	Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA)/City of Redding (on-line)
Kathy Grah	-	Caltrans, District 2 (on-line)
Mike Battles	-	Caltrans, District 2 (on-line)
Kathy Urlie	-	Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) (online)
Dan Wayne	-	SRTA (online)
Sean Tiedgen	-	SRTA (online)

1. Call to Order and Introductions:

2020 Chair Patrick Geagan called the meeting to order at 1:34 PM. Introductions were made.

2. Public Comment Period (Limit Three Minutes per Speaker):

No public comments were registered.

3. Update/Announcements:

- **ShastaConnect Sunday Transit Service**

Senior Transportation Planner Sean Tiedgen provided a status update on the service.

- **CTSA Expanded Service**

Senior Transportation Planner Jenn Pollom noted that operations ?

- **Salmon Runner Intercity Service**

Senior Transportation Planner Sean Tiedgen shared some notes from Jennifer Pollom, project manager. There are several new developments with the intercity bus service, also known as the Salmon Runner connecting Redding and Sacramento. SRTA was awarded \$600,000 in FY 2020 FTA 5311(f) funding for operating service in late 2021. The \$600,00 does not cover the full annual operating costs as designed so SRTA is working with Caltrans Division of Rail and Mass Transit on two additional proposals. One to supplement the 5311(f) funding with State Rail Assistance "Bus Gap" funding using traditionally fueled coaches (i.e. diesel fuel), and the second proposal to change the Transit and Intercity Rail Program awarded grant (\$8.641M) from battery electric coach style buses to design and development of a prototype hydrogen fuel cell motorcoach that can meet the range and power requirements of the Salmon Runner.

- **SRTA Long-Range Transit Plan**

Senior Transportation Planner Dan Wayne provided an update. Working on combining public input with Big Data (GPS-style data). Working on developing some future growth scenarios. Once all data and strategies are compiled, come back to SSTAC for review and input. Draft plan – end of October 2020. Final draft – February 2021.

- **Beach Bus**

Senior Transportation Planner Kathy Urlie provided a summary of the Beach Bus and its non-operation in Summer 202 due to COVID-19.

5. Discussion and Action: 2021/22 Unmet Transit Needs (UTN) Process:

Senior Transportation Planner Dan Wayne provided an update. Staff report (April 2020) summarizing the process is available online or can be sent out. Unmet transit needs are being addressed as funding allows. All existing services are essential and should not be discontinued until an alternative is in place. Schedule for this year: Outreach – Oct/Nov, draft findings – Jan 2021; final findings – April 2021.

6. Member/Agency Updates:

- RABA – COVID update: providing a van at Downtown transit center they could provide more social distanced transit; provided free rides for a while; resumed service on the bus system, but: no access to Shasta College. Paratransit has not picked up; dependent on group transportation (Far Northern, SSNP, and ADHC?); doing deep cleaning. September 26 RABA meeting – contract on Burney Express service; update on system performance; State of Good Repair program funds; Salute to Veterans community event (11th event) – at Cornerstone Community Bank (Hartnell). FTA has focused on safety, also presenting an agency safety plan; coincides with Asset Management Plan. Installed first 25 solar powered lights at stations. Kicked off Real-time passenger information (Transit App); online, transit app or text/SMS option. Mentioned that city of Redding launched the DASH (Downtown Area Electric Shuttle) service in downtown Redding; includes one ADA-

equipped vehicle; fares are free; provided by city of Redding and RPD Cadets drive the vehicles. Electric bus has new radio and farebox equipment and is in service; currently being run on the Crosstown Service. Received four additional buses, two which are running on Burney Express.

- DHCL – Shannon provided an update. Huge hit to service due to COVID. Started doing “reverse transit” to provide food items, essential items, etc. to those who need them in the CTSA and RABA service area. Senior center is closed for in-service dining, but is available for drive-thru pickup; also provide frozen meals. ADHC is reopening slowly; 2-6 clients everyday. Bus limitations – 2 riders per vehicle, plus drivers. Some barriers installed behind driver seats.
- Masks required on buses? RABA is doing their best to address this under guidelines. Does not have capacity to enforce, but asking riders to do so.

7. Items for Next Regularly-Scheduled SSTAC Meeting (March 17, 2021):

- 2021 Chair and Vice-Chair Elections
- Unmet Transit Needs 2021-22 Process and Transit Needs Assessment
- Sunday Transit Service Update
- Salmon Runner Intercity Service
- Long-Range Transit Plan Update
- Beach Bus Update

8. Adjourn:

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Geagan dismissed the meeting at 2:18 PM.