

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	4/28/15
SUBJECT:	Transit Coordination Initial Steps
AGENDA ITEM:	11
STAFF CONTACT:	Kathy Urlie, Senior Transportation Planner

SUMMARY:

At the December 9, 2014, meeting, the SRTA Board of Directors accepted the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Review prepared by the IBI Group and approved an agreement with the Shasta Senior Nutrition Programs (SSNP) to continue to provide CTSA transportation services through June 2016. Within the agreement, SRTA accepted undertaking transportation coordination activities during the interim period. The CTSA Review recommended a phased-in approach to coordination that builds on existing opportunities while developing a better understanding of transportation needs in Shasta County over time. SRTA staff has developed some initial coordination activities that have been reviewed by the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC), including a new Shasta Coordinated Transportation Plan.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the SRTA Board of Directors:

1. Review and provide feedback on initial activities proposed for on-going transit coordination (attached); and
2. Authorize issue of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for consultant assistance to develop a coordinated transportation plan update for Shasta County.

DISCUSSION:

Background – The California State Legislature enacted the Social Services Transportation Improvement Act of 1979 (Assembly Bill 120) to improve the quality of transportation services for low-mobility groups. The law also seeks to achieve cost savings through the coordination of various transit services by eliminating redundancies and by sharing resources. To achieve these goals, CTSA's were statutorily created.

A CTSA serves two valuable functions: 1) operates alternative transportation services; and 2) provides coordination between various public transportation service providers. Until recently, both roles were provided by SSNP. In December, the SRTA Board of Directors approved an 18-month contract with SSNP to provide ongoing, public transportation services. In the absence of an agency willing to provide coordination of public transportation services, SRTA assumed an interim – and potentially permanent – role in this area.

Initial Coordination Steps – SRTA's exact role in coordination of services will be defined by an update to the federally-mandated Coordinated Public Transit-Human Health Services Transportation Plan (also known as the Shasta Coordinated Transportation Plan) focusing on:

- Assessing the full range of public and specialized transportation providers and resources available in the region
- Identifying the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes
- Recommending transportation services and coordination activities for funding and implementation

The plan will include near-term strategies for more cost-effective and rider-responsive services as well as longer-term transportation coordination strategies that SRTA and its partners may work toward over time.

ALTERNATIVES:

The board of directors may amend, or add to, the initial activities proposed for transit coordination.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Proposed initial coordination activities were developed in consultation with the SSTAC. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) concurs with the staff recommendation.

FINANCING:

Staff time for transit coordination is funded with Local Transportation Funds budgeted in the Overall Work Program under WE 708.03 (Transportation Development Act Management). Preparation of the Shasta Coordinated Transportation Plan, including \$30,000 for consultant assistance, will be funded with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5303 funding budgeted in the draft FY 2015/16 Overall Work Program under WE 706.02 (Transit Planning).

Daniel S. Little, AICP, Executive Director

Attachment: Transit Coordination Initial Activities

Transit Coordination Initial Activities

1) Initial Steps

- a. SSNP-SRTA Coordination of Services Agreement – December 9, 2014
 - a) SSNP continue to provide transportation services, and SRTA to perform the coordination of services through June 30, 2016.
 - b) Evaluate SSNP-SRTA performance/roles throughout the year. Possible outcomes:
 1. Continue status quo
 2. New contract for CTSA
- b. Coordinated Public Transit-Human Health Services Transportation Plan (also known as Shasta Coordinated Transportation Plan)
 - a) Prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP) for consultant services.
 - b) Update inventory/database of transportation providers.
 - c) Prepare plan.
- c. Update, and post on-line, the Need-A-Ride Brochure
- d. Other suggestions?

2) Transportation Providers Database for Coordinated Plan (Appendix 1)

- a. Feedback on suggested data collection solicited from SSTAC
- b. Other suggestions?

3) Shasta Coordinated Transportation Plan

- a. Per federal regulations, FTA Section 5310 project eligibility is based on coordinated plan inclusion.
- b. Derived from input from public, private, and non-profit providers of transportation and human services—including participation from the public.
- c. Purposes:
 - a) Identify the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes; provide strategies for meeting these needs; and prioritize transportation services for funding and implementation.
 - b) Determine the long-term coordination efforts, and potentially the agency to perform them.

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