

Others Present:

1. CALL TO ORDER

The acting Chair, Denika Dallimore, called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m. Introductions were made and a quorum was confirmed.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Lieberman /Zarraga/unanimous

- 3.1** Approved minutes of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) meeting of January 10, 2008.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

M/S/C Zarraga/ Lieberman/unanimous

The Council elected Denika Dallimore as the Chair and Tom Hicks as Vice-Chair for 2008, which would serve a one-year term upon election and discussed committee membership and recruitment efforts.

Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner, reported that the committee Bylaws specifies that the Council annually elect a Chair and Vice-Chair at its first meeting of the calendar year. Mr. Cook announced that a new Council member, Olivia Quezada of the Central Coast Center for Independent Living (CCCIL) will be appointed to the Council to replace Jean Wang, who resigned her seat as of the January Council meeting.

Margarita Zarraga commented on the need for Council representatives to attend the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council meetings. Ms. Zarraga mentioned someone from the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) might be interested in serving on the Council. Denika Dallimore mentioned that Teresa Sullivan of Alliance on Aging is also interested in a staff person serving on the Council. Staff agreed to contact Ms. Sullivan regarding Council membership.

5. UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009 FUNDING

The Council recommended approval of the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Unmet Transit Needs finding to the Transportation Agency Board of Directors.

Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner, reported that California state law requires the Transportation Agency to make a finding on Unmet Transit Needs prior to allocating Local Transportation Funds. The current unmet needs process has identified several potential transit improvements that are either “Reasonable to Meet,” or possibly reasonable to meet pending analysis. Agency staff is recommending that the Council adopt a finding that new demand responsive transit service in the City of Gonzales is an unmet transit need that is reasonable to meet based on analysis prepared by the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments in the latest adopted Salinas Valley Short Range Transit Plan. Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) will most likely be responsible for implementing this service, which may not be possible until late 2008 or early 2009. Staff is therefore proposing to withhold fiscal year 2008-2009 local funds to pay for this service. Staff has discussed this finding with the City, who is willing to work with MST on a plan to initiate service.

M/S/C Dallimore/Lieberman/unanimous

The Council approved a motion recommending that the Board of Directors adopt a finding that there are unmet transit needs in Monterey County, that new demand-responsive service in the City of Gonzales is an unmet need that is reasonable to meet, that extended hours for transit service operated by the City of Soledad to coordinate with the MST Line 23 schedule is an unmet need that is possibly reasonable to meet pending additional discussions with City staff, and that sufficient Local Transportation Funds for operating the new services be withheld until a final determination of the cost of implementing these new services and an implementation schedule is agreed-upon between the Transportation Agency and the City of Soledad.

In response to the Council’s request, staff agreed to provide a report to the Council at its April meeting on the unmet transit needs finding being recommended to the Board of Directors for Fiscal Year 2008-09 funding.

6. FTA SECTION 5310 REGIONAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The Council selected Carole Lieberman and Brandy Abend to serve on the Regional Evaluation Committee to score eligible FTA Section 5310 grant applications.

Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner, reported that the Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 grant program is available to private nonprofit and public agencies for capital purchases to provide transportation to elderly persons and persons with disabilities. The process is competitive, requiring that the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) score and prioritize eligible regional projects prior to statewide review by a Caltrans committee. The Section 5310 Grant Application process has been delayed by about one year due to a new federal requirement that projects applying for grant funding be derived from, or included in, a coordinated human services transportation plan.

7. MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT RIDES ADVISORY PROGRAM AND COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGENCY ACTIVITIES

Tom Hicks, Coordinated Transportation Services Agency, reported that the Monterey-Salinas Transit is working with United Way Monterey County to develop a “211” telephone information program.

Denika Dallimore requested that a discussion item on proposed 2-1-1 services be agendaized for the Council’s April meeting.

Lance Atencio, MV Transportation, announced he received an excellence award at the January TAMC Board and express gratitude to the Council for the nomination. Mr. Atencio reported that MV Transportation passed their annual California Highway Patrol (CHP) inspection.

8. RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS REGARDING RELATED ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Tom Hicks reported that staff for the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency and possibly the Monterey-Salinas Transit RIDES program will be moving to the new MST Mobility Management Center located at 150 Del Monte Avenue, Monterey when construction on that facility is completed.

9. TAKE COUCIL GROUP PHOTO FOR 2008

This item was postponed to a future meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair, Denika Dallimore announced that the next Social Service Transportation Advisory Council meeting will be held on April 10, 2008 and adjourned the meeting at 4:32 p.m.