

APPROVED MEETING NOTES

Shasta County
Regional Transportation Planning Agency

SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Shasta Senior Nutrition Programs
100 Mercy Oaks Drive
Redding, CA 96002
Tuesday, January 17, 2006
1:30 p.m.

(NOTE: These notes are not intended to serve as a transcript or verbatim record of the proceedings of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee, 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.)

The following members were present:

Roy Torum	-	Shasta Senior Nutrition Program (SSNP)
Virginia Webster	-	Shasta Senior Nutrition Program (SSNP)
Debbie McClung	-	Shasta Senior Nutrition Program (SSNP)
Cindy Dodds	-	Tri-Counties Community Network
Sharon Howard	-	Department of Social Services
Sandra VanLarson	-	Independent Living Services
Hart Rumbolz	-	Additional Member
Janice Galloway	-	Shasta County Mental Health

The following members were absent:

Mike Evans	-	ACCA Faithworks
Ray Duryee	-	Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA)
Larry Scarborough	-	Far Northern Regional Center
Kay Hudelson	-	Golden Umbrella
Jeanette Myers	-	Disabled Citizen
Mary Onweiler	-	Additional Member

The following nonmembers were present:

Sue Hanson	-	Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA)
Debbie Pedersen	-	Caltrans District 2
Sue Crowe	-	Shasta County RTPA Staff
Janie Coffman	-	Shasta County RTPA Staff
Hallie Fonseca	-	Connex ATC (Forsyth)

1. Call to Order and Introductions:

Sharon Howard called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m. Sharon introduced herself and gave some personal background. Sharon stated how she had discovered that other counties have the same problems that Shasta County does concerning transportation. She noted that Shasta County falls between the cracks - some counties get grants because they are so poor, others because they have so much. Shasta County is in between these, so loses out on these grants.

Sharon continued to state that she wanted to focus on past accomplishments and not just on the needs that are out there. She wants to start with fresh ideas. Sharon requested that those present, state who they are and what one thing is they would like to see accomplished this year while on the SSTAC committee.

1. Hart Rumbolz: Bus service to run north and south on Airport Road, between Shasta College and the Airport area every 15 minutes with a connect to Palo Cedro.
2. Sue Crowe/Janie Coffman-Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA): Better attendance (all members) at the SSTAC meetings and more communication/information, such as CalACT, to the SSTAC members.
3. Debbie McClung-SSNP: End of the year report on what has been accomplished.
4. Virginia Webster-SSNP: More people to attend the CTSA meetings. Also, coordinate with other transportation providers and develop a maintenance program.
5. Sandra VanLarsen-Independent Living Services: Sunday bus service.
6. Cindy Dodds- Tri-Counties Community Network: Transportation to be remembered outside the I-5 corridor.
7. Janice Galloway-Shasta County Mental Health: Bus service to run later in the evenings.
8. Debbie Pedersen-Caltrans District 2: Busses connecting with other counties. At least start dialoging.
9. Roy Torum-SSNP: Roy announced his last day at SSNP will be February 10, 2006. Maintenance costs reduced for vehicles. Not necessarily with RABA: other agencies, companies, care homes and churches have one or two busses. Have a meeting with them and see if there is a way to get a reduced rate somewhere. Would also like to see more focus in the rural area.
10. Sue Hanson-Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA): See a committee that stays together, participates, learns what RABA is up against in terms of the Governmental side so that SSTAC has a better understanding, so better

decisions can be made. Sue also noted that the Area of Aging Committee would like to participate in helping seniors in how to use transit.

Virginia Webster noted that when Trish Clark went to the Whitehouse Conference on Aging, 3rd out of 75 on the list of concerns was transportation. She continued to state that there is currently a big move legislatively for transportation for the elderly and mobility impaired. Rural areas are being looked at; CalACT is doing a lot as well as there is a team called TTT - Transportation Task Team. California is making strides towards transportation more so than the other states. A lot of things are on the horizon.

Sandra VanLarsen suggested for bus maintenance contacting Bill Pride of Restoration Enterprises. It is an organization that helps ex-cons to do repairs on vehicles and previously had a contract with CalWORKS.

Sue Hanson stated that many Social Services agencies have transportation dollars that they do not share with RABA. They expect RABA to carry the whole thing, and RABA cannot afford to carry the whole thing. By the Social Service agencies not passing down those dollars, excluding Mental Health who is trying to get transportation dollars to RABA, they lose the money and it goes back to the Feds.

Sharon Howard noted that CalWORKS suffered a major hit, not only in their transportation pocket but in contracts as well. Their budget has been curtailed very much.

11. Hallie Fonseca-of Connex ATC (Forsyth): Agreed with what everyone said and would like to see the Seniors get educated.

2. Consider Approval of the November 15, 2005 SSTAC Minutes:

By motion made and seconded (Webster/Torum) the minutes passed unanimously.

3A. Met Needs:

Sharon recommended using a flip chart at future meetings when discussing unmet needs. Everyone agreed with the idea and Virginia volunteered to keep it in her office.

Sue Crowe noted the accomplishments that had been made in 2005:

1. Mental Health focus group was held
2. Anderson only bus service and express route to Redding are running
3. Burney express is meeting farebox
4. RTPA/RABA held a joint workshop
5. RTPA reduced the farebox to 15% for 2006
6. RABA did fare increases and developed a ten-year plan
7. Valley Post requested to reprint a transit article from the Transporter newsletter

8. The RTPA authorized \$50,000 from OWP funding for a RABA transit study

Sandra VanLarsen recommended some of these accomplishments be published.

Sharon Howard recommended working with the RTPA board throughout the whole year and not just at the unmet needs hearing. She suggested inviting them from time to time to come to SSTAC meetings. Sharon also recommended going on KIXE, Channel 11, and/or getting a spot on KRCR - it does not cost anything and lets the public know the accomplishments that have been made concerning transit.

3B. Unmet Needs:

Sharon Howard noted that she does not want to go before the Board in February with a repetitious report that will just pass over their heads. She wants to go with something more predictable and realistic. She requested input from the whole group so she is not the maker and presenter.

Sue Crowe noted that with the transit study being done there will be opportunities for adjustments. The consultant will be finding out where the highest population is, etc. It could be asked if some of the information such as Sunday service and longer hours could be incorporated into the transit study.

Sue Crowe noted that there is an intercity grant program that SSTAC could also look into. At least dialogue could be started with Trinity and Shasta County and maybe Tehama County as well.

Discussion was held on the Cottonwood and Airport Road pilot projects and what it takes to get people to ride the bus.

4. Elect New Vice-Chair

Sharon Howard nominated Cindy Dodd for Vice-Chair, Virginia Webster second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sharon Howard inquired about a previous discussion at SSTAC concerning a transit rider attending the SSTAC meetings.

Sandra VanLarsen will get someone from Dogfight to attend.

The next SSTAC meeting was scheduled for February 7, 2006, at 1:30 p.m., at SSNP.

Adjourn:

There being no further committee business, Sharon Howard adjourned the meeting at 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janie Coffman
Recording Secretary