

Transit Paratransit Coordinating Committee

MEETING AGENDA

May 17, 2016 – 1:30 p.m.

Sonoma County Transportation Authority
SCTA Large Conference Room
490 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 206
Santa Rosa, California 95401

ITEM

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Meeting Notes: March 15, 2016 - **DISCUSSION / ACTION***
3. Roundtable Updates
 - 3.1. Transit / Paratransit Operators
 - 3.2. Other Entities
4. Paratransit Fare Structure – Updated Staff Report – INFORMATION*
5. STA Coordinated Claim - **DISCUSSION / ACTION***
6. Public Comment
7. Articles and Events of Interest - Information
 - 7.1. Rolling on the Creek, May 14, 2016 outing geared towards folks in wheelchairs and their families/caregivers - www.landpaths.org/eventdetails.aspx?EventId=28210
8. Other Business / Comments / Announcements
9. Adjourn - **ACTION**

*Materials attached

**Materials to be handed out

The next **SCTA/RCPA** meeting will be held June 13, 2016

The next **TPCC** meeting will be held July 19, 2016

Copies of the full Agenda Packet are available at www.sctainfo.org

DISABLED ACCOMMODATION: If you have a disability that requires the agenda materials to be in an alternate format or that requires an interpreter or other person to assist you while attending this meeting, please contact SCTA at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to ensure arrangements for accommodation.

SB 343 DOCUMENTS RELATED TO OPEN SESSION AGENDAS: Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the **Transit Paratransit Coordinating Committee** after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Sonoma County Transportation Authority office at 490 Mendocino Ave., Suite 206, during normal business hours.

Pagers, cellular telephones and all other communication devices should be turned off during the committee meeting to avoid electrical interference with the sound recording system.

TRANSIT PARATRANSIT COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Meeting Notes of March 15, 2016

1. Introductions

Meeting called to order at 1:34 p.m. by Dennis Battenberg, Chair.

Committee Members: Dennis Battenberg, Chair; Stan Gow, Vice Chair; Bob Cuneo, Citizen, Senior Representative; Norine Doherty, Area Agency on Aging; Steven Schmitz, Sonoma County Transit

Guests: Bettina O'Brien, Citizen

Staff: Nina Donofrio, Dana Turr y

2. Approval of Meeting Notes: January 19, 2016 – **DISCUSSION / ACTION***
Meeting notes approved as submitted.

3. Roundtable Updates

4.1. Transit / Paratransit Operators
Sonoma County Transit:

Steven Schmitz reported that activity is stepping up in coordinating with SMART and its possible implementation earlier than the original December 2016 date.

Mr. Schmitz summarized new routes and scheduling, including a circulator route to the Santa Rosa Airport.

Other Entities:

Area Agency on Aging:

Norine Doherty announced that the Caltrans standard agreement for the 5310 funds that will allow for expansion of volunteer driver programs is on the way. A Sonoma Access Coordinated Transportation Services Consortium meeting focusing on Clipper is scheduled.

Additional funding through MTC has been secured for expansion of the Sonoma Access web site.

4. Coordinated Claim – **DISCUSSION / ACTION****

Dana Turr y distributed the updated TDA and STA Coordinated Claim. She noted that overall funding is estimated to be approximately one-half percent lower than last year. She noted that this was reviewed by the Transit Technical Advisory Committee and approved with the exception of STA Revenue-Based Funds, which were not included in MTC's fund estimate. Ms. Turr y said she would update the Committee when STA Revenue-Based Fund estimates are available.

Mr. Schmitz explained changes in eligibility and the resulting delay in STA Revenue-Based Fund estimates.

Motion by Stan Gow, seconded by Bob Cuneo, to approve the Coordinated Claim as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Paratransit Fare Structure – Staff Report – **INFORMATION***

Ms. Turr y shared information regarding paratransit requirements and fare structure. Discussion followed regarding local operator fares, including Santa Rosa CityBus and Sonoma County Transit's paratransit fare policy. Further discussion took place regarding zones and the average cost to transit operators to provide paratransit service.

Mr. Schmitz reported some corrections to the fare schedule for Sonoma County Transit, as follows: Paratransit fares \$3.00-\$9.60; fixed



route adult fares \$1.50-\$4.80; and for the disabled at 50% off, \$0.75-\$2.40.

Ms. Turréy will distribute an updated staff report at the next meeting.

6. Public Comment

Bettina O'Brien addressed issues involved in taking transit, particularly in warmer weather.

**7. Other Business / Comments /
Announcements**

Ms. Turréy responded to questions regarding drop-off service for paratransit by Golden Gate Transit, and their policy regarding out-of-area home drop-off service.

8. Adjourn – ACTION

2:25 p.m.

Staff Report

To: Transit Paratransit Coordinating Committee
From: Dana Turréy, Transportation Planner
Item: Paratransit Fare Structure – Updated May 2016
Date: May 17, 2016

Issue:

What are the current paratransit and fixed-route fares in Sonoma County?

Background:

The Federal Transportation Authority (FTA) sets regulations around paratransit service under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Transit agencies are required to provide complementary paratransit service to persons unable to use the fixed-route system when operating fixed-route transportation service for the general public. This requirement does not apply to commuter bus, commuter rail and intercity rail systems. Paratransit service must serve geographic areas within three-fourths of a mile of the public transit operator’s fixed-route service corridors and set fares that do not exceed twice the cost of adult fare on fixed-route service. All bus services in Sonoma County comply with these requirements.

Transit Fares:

The table below lists current one-way fares for paratransit and fixed-route transit on busses in Sonoma County. All four of the bus operators listed below offer paratransit-eligible riders a fifty percent discount on fixed-route transit trips. Both fixed-route and paratransit fares cover only a very small fraction of the overall cost of the trip and require heavy subsidies. The actual cost of a trip varies depending on distance. For example, the cost to operators in Sonoma County for one-way paratransit trips average between \$30 and \$50, while fixed-route trips average between \$4 and \$10.

Current one-way fares

Transit Operator	Paratransit Fares	Fixed-Route Transit Fares	
		Adult Fare	Disabled - 50% off
<i>Petaluma Transit</i>	\$3.00	\$1.50	\$0.75*
<i>Santa Rosa CityBus</i>	\$3.00	\$1.50	\$0.75*
<i>Sonoma County Transit</i>	\$3.00 - \$9.60	\$1.50 - \$4.80	\$0.75 - \$2.40
<i>Golden Gate Transit</i> <i>Inter-County paratransit</i>	\$7.25 - \$19.50	\$4.50 - \$11.75	\$2.25 - \$5.88

*Petaluma Paratransit and Santa Rosa Paratransit customers who have a plastic paratransit ID card can ride the respective fixed route services free of charge.

Petaluma Transit, Santa Rosa CityBus, Sonoma County Transit, and Golden Gate Transit are in the process of establishing agreements that provide a \$1.50 fare credit on fixed-route for transfers between operators.

Other Resources:

Additional information for riders is provided by Petaluma Transit, Santa Rosa CityBus, Sonoma County Transit, and Golden Gate Transit online. Web links to these resources are included below.

Petaluma Paratransit Riders Guide -

<http://cityofpetaluma.net/pubworks/pdf/transitpdf/Paratransit-Riders-Guide.pdf>

Santa Rosa CityBus Paratransit Users Guide - [http://ci.santa-](http://ci.santa-rosa.ca.us/departments/transit/paratransit_services/howtouseparatransit/Pages/default.aspx)

[rosa.ca.us/departments/transit/paratransit_services/howtouseparatransit/Pages/default.aspx](http://ci.santa-rosa.ca.us/departments/transit/paratransit_services/howtouseparatransit/Pages/default.aspx)

Sonoma County Transit Paratransit Information - <http://sctransit.com/paratransit/>

Golden Gate Transit - <http://www.whistlestop.org/transportation/>

Action:

No action is requested. This is an informational item.

Projected FY 2017 STA Funds Available for Allocation - By Operator

1.4

Entity	Distribution				Total FY 2016 Funds Available for Allocation
	Population-Based	Regional Paratransit	Revenue-Based		
Petaluma Transit	\$153,507	\$41,626	\$4,695		\$199,828
Santa Rosa CityBus	557,767	120,999	\$241,210		919,977
Sonoma County Transit	888,033	184,321	\$182,116		1,254,470
Golden Gate Transit	---	38,550	---		38,550
Total	\$1,599,307	\$385,496	\$428,021		\$2,412,824

* awaiting direction from MTC on FY 2017 STA Revenue-based fund amounts

Projected FY 2017 STA Revenue Estimate

1.4

Operator	Population*	% Population	Distribution			
			Population-Based	Regional Paratransit	Revenue-Based	Total
Petaluma Transit	59,540	11.9979%	\$191,883	\$46,251	\$4,695	\$242,830
Santa Rosa CityBus	173,071	34.8756%	557,767	134,444	\$241,210	933,421
Sonoma County Transit	263,642	53.1265%	849,656	204,801	\$182,116	1,236,573
Golden Gate Transit	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total	496,253	100.0000%	\$1,599,307	\$385,496	\$428,021	\$2,412,824

* awaiting direction from MTC on FY 2017 STA Revenue-based fund amounts

STA Population-Based Fund Summary

		Total	Distribution by Operator		
			Petaluma Transit	Santa Rosa CityBus	Sonoma County Transit
FY 17	Funds Available	\$1,599,307	\$191,883	\$557,767	\$849,656
FY 17	Allocation to Sonoma County Transit		(38,377)	---	38,377
FY 17	Total Funds Available	\$1,599,307	\$153,507	\$557,767	\$888,033

FY 2017 Multi-Jurisdictional STA Project List (Population-Based Funds)

Claimant			Total	Distribution by Operator		
				Petaluma Transit	Santa Rosa CityBus	Sonoma County Transit
ADA Implementation	SCT	\$38,377	\$38,377	---	\$38,377	
Total		\$38,377	\$38,377	---	\$38,377	

STA Regional Paratransit Fund Summary

Claimant		Total	Distribution by Operator		
			Petaluma Transit	Santa Rosa CityBus	Sonoma County Transit
FY 17	Funds Available	\$385,496	\$46,251	\$134,444	\$204,801
FY 17	Regional ADA Support	(38,550)	(4,625)	(13,444)	(20,480)
FY 17	Total Funds Available	\$346,946	\$41,626	\$120,999	\$184,321