Transit Paratransit Coordinating Committee

MEETING AGENDA

July 15, 2014 1:30-3:00 PM**
Sonoma County Transportation Authority
SCTA Large Conference Room
490 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 206
Santa Rosa, California 95401

ITEM
1. Introductions
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Meeting Notes: May 20, 2014 – DISCUSSION / ACTION*
4. Roundtable Updates
   4.1. Transit / Paratransit Operators
   4.2. Other Entities
5. New Members – DISCUSSION
6. Other Business / Comments / Announcements
7. Adjourn – ACTION

*Materials attached.

The next SCTA meeting will be held September 8, 2014
The next TPCC meeting will be held September 16, 2014

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.
Meeting Notes of May 20, 2014

1. Introductions
Meeting called to order by Chair Dennis Battenberg at 1:39 p.m.

TPCC Member Attendees: Dennis Battenberg, Chair; Stan Gow, Vice Chair; Steve Birdlebough, Sonoma County Transportation and Land Use Coalition; Bob Cuneo; Bryan Albee, Sonoma County Transit.

Guest Attendees: Gregory Fearon, citizen; Linda Picton, Occupy Transit.

Staff: Janet Spilman, Nina Donofrio.

2. Public Comment
Gregory Fearon introduced himself and summarized his background in public transit, including introducing legislation that allows funds collected for parking on community colleges to also be used for public transit.

At Janet Spilman’s request, the Countywide Transportation Plan Update will be added to the agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes: April 1, 2014 – DISCUSSION / ACTION*

4. Roundtable Updates

4.1. Transit / Paratransit Operators
Sonoma County Transit:

Bryan Albee reported that nine new 42 ft. CNG buses have been introduced into service throughout the County. The County has options for 21 additional vehicles over the next five years. Two 30-ft. buses are expected to be put into service in the Sonoma Valley early next year.

Old Sonoma County Transit vehicles were sold to Yolo Transit.

Construction of the natural gas facility is complete.

The Cotati Intermodal Facility (future SMART rail station) is expected to be complete by the end of June. A dedication ceremony to include City staff will likely take place in the fall.

Paratransit service is up 12%. Fixed route service is up by 2%.

Route 29 summer service to the coast will be starting the weekend after July 4 and will continue through Labor Day.

4.2. Other Entities

SMART:

Steve Birdlebough announced that construction is in progress in Marin County. The rail cars are being delivered from Japan to Chicago, where they will be reassembled and tested. They will then be delivered to Colorado for testing, and are expected to arrive here mid-next year.

Construction of a second track is in progress in Rohnert Park and possibly Cotati.

Discussion is beginning to take place regarding scheduling and operations. Approximately 20 new staff are expected to be hired next year for operations.

Segments of the multi-use pathway are under construction as small amounts of funding become available.

Janet Spilman next provided an update on the Countywide Transportation Plan (CTP), starting with goals and objectives. Staff will be examining maintenance, reducing congestion,
reducing GHG emissions and planning for safety and health. The Board has also asked staff to add another goal, promoting economic vitality. Staff’s next task is to look at objectives; particularly those with numeric targets, to see what progress is being made in meeting these. Policies will also be addressed; including maintenance and reducing VMT.

Staff is also trying to developing methodology working with the TAC to conduct performance assessments. She noted that the Board had requested this, and that MTC is changing their guidelines and may require this by the end of the year.

5. Paratransit Efficiency Report (Michael Ivory) – DISCUSSION*
This was tabled for the next meeting due to Mr. Ivory’s absence.

6. New Members – DISCUSSION
Discussion took place regarding vacancies on the Committee and attendance, as well as the possibility of adding new members. Ms. Spilman said she would follow up and examine the bylaws for this Committee.

Additional discussion took place regarding the timing of sending agendas and following up with reminders to the Committee. It was determined that the agenda would continue to be sent out two weeks in advance, followed up by a reminder contact to the Committee on the Friday prior to the meeting.

7. Other Business / Comments / Announcements
Mr. Gow announced that the Area Agency on Aging has assumed administration of Sonoma Access and that the second meeting took place of the Sonoma Access Consortium. There were over 30 in attendance.

Linda Picton announced that a community cleanup of the Joe Rodota Trail recently took place.

Ms. Picton next addressed the issue of bicyclists getting turned away from taking the bus because of limited storage capacity for bicycles.

Ms. Picton next announced that Larry Hall has been under the weather but he does have computer access.

Due to lack of a quorum, meeting minutes will be considered at the next meeting.

As noted previously, Michael Ivory will present the Paratransit Efficiency Report at the next Committee meeting.

8. Adjourn – ACTION
2:08 p.m.