



AGENDA

SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL of the BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS & COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION WORKING GROUP

Wednesday – November 17, 2010 – 2:00 p.m.
Butte County Public Health, Tahoe Room
202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville CA
(530) 879-2468

1. INTRODUCTIONS

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA DURING CONSIDERATION OF THAT ITEM.

2. ORAL COMMUNICATION

PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS OR COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA MAY DO SO AT THIS TIME. COMMENTS ARE LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER PERSON. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.
FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA, NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AT THIS TIME. IF IT REQUIRES ACTION, IT WILL BE REFERRED TO STAFF AND OR PLACED ON THE NEXT AGENDA.

COPIES OF STAFF REPORTS OR OTHER WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION RELATING TO ITEMS OF BUSINESS REFERRED TO ON THE AGENDA ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (BCAG). PERSONS WITH QUESTIONS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS MAY CALL BCAG TO MAKE INQUIRIES REGARDING THE NATURE OF THE ITEM DESCRIBED ON THE AGENDA.

ITEM

STAFF

3. Welcome/Introductions

4. SSTAC/CTWG Minutes for March 4, 2010

Kristy Bonnifet

5. Unmet Transit Needs Public Workshops Schedule

Kristy Bonnifet

6. Market Based Transit Study Implementation

Robin Van Valkenburgh

7. Transit Update – Verbal

Robin Van Valkenburgh

8. Other Items



ITEM # 4

**Butte County Association of Governments
Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)
&
Coordinated Transportation Working Group (CTWG)
Draft Summary Meeting Minutes
For March 4, 2010**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Shawn O'Brien	Butte County Public Works
Mary Neumann	Passages Adult Resource Ctr.
Jay Harris	Independent Living Services
William A. Moline	Butte County DESS - CALWORKS
Michael Worley	At Large Appointment
Joyce Macomber	Citizen-Oroville
Jo Anne Hurley	Citizen-Oroville
Kelly Laugenour for Diane Cooper Puckett	Peg Taylor Center
Julianna L Roberts for Tom Tenorio	CAA of Butte County, Inc.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Crump	Butte County Public Works
Diane Cooper-Puckett	Peg Taylor Center
John L. McCash	Feather River Tribal Health, Inc.
Cameron Wise	Work Training Center
Tom Tenorio	CAA of Butte County, Inc.

STAFF PRESENT

Jim Peplow	Senior Planner
Kristy Bonnifet	Associate Planner
Robin Van Valkenburgh	Senior Planner

OTHERS PRESENT

None

The following minutes are a summary of the SSTAC/CTWG

The joint meeting of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) and Coordinated Transportation Working Group (CTWG) of the Butte County Association of Governments was held at the BCAG office on March 2, located at 2580 Sierra Sunrise Terrace, Suite 100, in Chico.

Item #1 – Introductions

Self introductions were made.

Item #2 – Oral Communication

Council Member Joyce Macomber formally requested bus stop signs at the following locations:

1. Boulder Creek Apartments (Oroville)
2. Monte Vista & Lower Wyandotte
3. At Subway on Oro Dam and Myers

Item # 3 – December 2009 Minutes

No comments were received. The minutes were accepted by the group.

Item #4 – Draft ADA Paratransit & Dial-a-Ride Applications for Review

BCAG is required to maintain a paratransit certification process to determine eligibility for use of the B-Line paratransit service. The certification process has been contracted to ADARIDE since September 2007. Staff informed the group that they are planning to recommend to the BCAG Board that they terminate the contract with ADARIDE at the end of the fiscal year and bring the certification process in house for the 2010/11 fiscal year. This is anticipated to lead to significant savings, estimated at approximately \$30,000 annually and should result in improved customer service.

Staff has revised the current ADA Paratransit and Dial-a-Ride applications and asked both committees to review the applications and provide feedback prior to implementing the applications. Suggestions to incorporate included:

1. On cover page: Add a bolded statement directed at healthcare/social service professionals directing them to the portion of the application they need to read and fill out.
2. Change the term “healthcare professional” to “professional” throughout application after first description of who can fill out medical portion of application.

Item #5 – 2009/10 Second Quarter Report for Butte Regional Transit

Staff presented key financial and statistical information of the second quarter for Butte Regional Transit. Overall, the system is running well and performing at or above expectations. There has been a minor decrease in ridership in both urban and rural fixed routes which was expected based upon the record ridership numbers seen in the prior year and the current stability of fuel prices.

Additionally, both paratransit services are showing increases in the rate of productivity (Passengers per Revenue Hour) versus prior year. Unfortunately, Urban Paratransit is still not meeting the mandated 10% farebox recovery rate. Staff is currently exploring

possible remedies for this and will report any changes made in recovery rate or policy based on action taken. Staff also noted on-time performance for the paratransit system has remained exceptional at an average of 92.8% for the second quarter.

There was discussion about the fact that urban paratransit had increased ridership and passengers per hour but was still showing poor farebox performance. BCAG staff stated that BCAG is investigating if this is due to reporting problems, where resources and expenditures are being allocated to, etc. Staff indicated that this will be the third year in a row that paratransit doesn't meet the minimum farebox recovery ratio of 10% and if it is not increased, BCAG will have to make up the difference using TDA funds.

Item #6 - Transit Update

Staff briefly updated the group on current transit issues:

- Electronic fareboxes have recently been installed on the paratransit fleet and new fare media will be available shortly.
- Production is currently underway for the AVL/GPS system equipment that will be placed on all paratransit vehicles. The goal is to have the paratransit vehicle fleet outfitted with the AVL/GPS equipment by June for testing. Fixed route vehicle equipment production will follow shortly after.
- New bus shelters have begun being installed by Stott Outdoor Advertising during the past week. Fifty new bus shelters should be installed within a three month period.
- The Market-Based Transit Study is moving along and recommendations have been presented to the Project Development Team. Input is currently being received from this team and when a consensus recommendation is reached by this team, the potential alternatives will be presented at public meetings.
- Six new paratransit vehicles have been purchased and received; these will replace six older vehicles that have already surpassed their useful lives.

Item #7 – Other Items

Citizen Cook inquired about the Transit Administrative Oversight Committee, specifically who sits on the committee and how the public is made aware of information presented to the committee. Staff explained that finance and administrative staff from each of the jurisdictions sit on the committee and it is up to them how they relay the information presented at the committee meetings to their respective jurisdictions. Citizen Cook asked if it looks like transit will be remaining whole in the upcoming transit budget. Staff stated that the intention is to keep transit whole and it currently looks like that will be the case, but this is dependent on the funding situation with the state.

Council Member Macomber stated that she would like to see extended fixed route hours in Oroville. Staff stated that this will not be possible at the current time, considering the fact that staff is struggling just to keep the services intact that are currently in place.

No other items were presented.



BCAG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council Coordinated Transportation Working Group

**Item #5
Information**

November 3, 2010

UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS PUBLIC WORKSHOPS SCHEDULE

PREPARED BY: Kristy Bonnifet, Associate Planner

ISSUE: As the administrator of Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds for Butte County, BCAG is responsible for performing the annual Unmet Transit Needs (UTN) process. This process requires at least one public hearing for the purpose of soliciting comments on unmet transit needs that may exist within the jurisdiction.

DISCUSSION: In Butte County the UTN process entails a comprehensive public outreach program and series of open house style meetings throughout the county, in addition to the public hearing before the BCAG Board of Directors. At each of the meetings, testimony is solicited regarding perceived unmet transit needs that may be reasonable to meet. The purpose of this process is to ensure that all unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet are met before funds are expended for non-transit uses, such as streets and roads.

Once the testimony is obtained, it is analyzed to determine if there are any transit needs that meet the adopted definitions of "Unmet Transit Need" and "Reasonable to Meet". This analysis report, called the Transit Needs Assessment, is reviewed by the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC), which provides a recommendation for Unmet Transit Needs Findings to the BCAG Board of Directors. If the Board determines there are unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet, the affected jurisdiction must satisfy those needs before any TDA funds may be expended for non-transit purposes.

This year's meetings are going to be held in conjunction with a series of transit outreach meetings that BCAG will be holding to inform the public of upcoming changes to the system as a result of the Market Based Transit Study. These meetings will be held during November-December. The public hearing will be held December 9, 2010 before the BCAG Board of Directors at its normally scheduled time. The attached complete schedule will be published in the local newspapers, posted on BCAG's website and posted in each of the B-Line buses.

BCAG SSTAC/CTWG Meeting
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STAFF RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for information only.

Key Staff: Robin Van Valkenburgh, Senior Planner
Jim Peplow, Senior Planner
Kristy Bonnifet, Associate Planner

B-LINE IS HOSTING A SERIES OF 2-PART PUBLIC WORKSHOPS:

Meetings are Open
House—Drop-ins
welcome any time
during scheduled
meetings

- **B-Line Informational Sessions**

- * New Schedules/Changes to the System
- * Valuable Information about Riding the Bus
- * Question & Answer Period

- **Unmet Transit Needs Sessions**

- * Tell us about Locations you would like Served that are not Currently being Served.

Tues. November 30, 2010-4:00pm-6:00pm

Butte County Public Library, Chico
1108 Sherman Avenue

Thurs. December 2, 2010-11:00am-1:00pm

Butte County Public Health, Oroville-Tahoe rm
202 Mira Loma Drive

Wed. December 1, 2010-11:00am-1:00pm

California State University, Chico
BMU Rm. #211
400 W. 1st. Street

Thurs. December 2, 2010-2:30pm-4:30pm

Gridley City Hall Council Chambers
685 Kentucky Street

Wed. December 1, 2010-2:30pm-4:30pm

Butte County Public Library, Paradise
5922 Clark Road

Thurs. December 9, 2010—9:00 am

(UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS HEARING ONLY)
City of Chico Council Chambers
421 Main Street-at regularly scheduled BCAG
Board of Directors Meeting.



If you have unmet transit needs and are unable to attend, please contact BCAG prior to December 10, 2010.

Mail: Butte County Association of Governments, 2580 Sierra Sunrise Terr., Ste 100, Chico, CA 95928

Email: kbonnifet@bcag.org

Phone: (530) 879-2468

Fax: (530) 891-2979



BCAG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council Coordinated Transportation Working Group

Item #6 Information

November 17, 2010

MARKET BASED TRANSIT STUDY IMPLEMENTATION

PREPARED BY: Robin Van Valkenburgh, Senior Planner-Transit

ISSUE: Butte Regional Transit (B-Line) began operating new bus routes and schedules on Monday, November 1, 2010.

DISCUSSION: In February 2009, BCAG contracted with Transit Resource Center (TRC) to perform a Market Based Transit Study for Butte Regional Transit fixed route services.

This study was undertaken to help B-Line grow ridership and ensure that it is meeting economic, customer service and productivity goals.

B-Line must continue to create transit service which meets the economic guidelines set forth in our funding. B-Line is required to capture 20% and 10% farebox recovery rates for urban and rural bus routes, respectively. In addition, routes must meet productivity goals (i.e. number of passengers per vehicle revenue hour), for both urban and rural routes.

Finally, the Market Based Transit Study was intended to help improve B-Line customer service. B-Line's specific aims were to create routes which:

- Serve the sites most frequently used by passengers
- Serve at the most reasonable frequency possible
- Run on-time consistently and safely

In order to achieve these goals, the study involved:

- Public involvement through 2 sets of public hearings in each jurisdiction
- A Project Development Team which included members of each jurisdiction, key stakeholders and BCAG Board members
- A random telephone survey of Butte County residents
- A targeted online survey
- A 2008 On-Board Passenger Survey
- Veolia management reports

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The resulting plan is based on keeping the status quo in terms of annual service hours (i.e. the hours that the system is actually in service and transporting passengers), yet modifying the overall hours allocation to better meet the public's stated needs. The following are highlights of the system changes for the B-Line fixed route. For a full view of the new schedules and routes please refer to www.blinetransit.com.

CHICO

- New Route 15 provides more frequent service with 15-minute headways during peak periods, and half-hour service through the midday. Route 15 is a combination of old routes 1, 6 & 10.
- A new transfer point has been established on Forest Ave (near Wal-Mart). This will allow connectivity between several routes (5, 7, 15, 20, 40 & 41), and also allow the regional routes from Oroville and Paradise direct access to the Chico Mall area without having to transfer to the local Chico routes.
- Route 7 is interlined with Route 2 during peak commute hours, providing better connection between the east side of Chico and Downtown; and also decreasing the need for transfers.
- Route 5 has been extended to Notre Dame and Forest Ave to provide broader coverage and enhance transfer opportunities. It is also being rerouted to Ivy Street to replace the old Route 6.
- An additional early morning run has been added to Route 4 to help school and commuter connections.
- Routes 8 and 9 will now run until 9:30 and 10 pm, respectively, Mon-Thurs.

OROVILLE

- Oroville will see significant improvements with hourly service on all four routes (24, 25, 26 & 27).
- Service will be available for an additional 1½ hours later into the evening.
- The Kelly Ridge and Orange/Acacia areas will receive regularly scheduled fixed route bus service.

PARADISE

- Both Routes 40 & 41 from Paradise will now serve the Chico Mall area directly before heading downtown, reducing the need to transfer.
- An additional mid-day run on Saturday has been added to Magalia.

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GRIDLEY

- A new direct commuter service, Route 32, has been added between Gridley/Biggs and Chico, via Durham (this route began service in July).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for information only.

Key Staff: Jon Clark, Executive Director
Robin Van Valkenburgh, Senior Planner
Jim Peplow, Senior Planner
Kristy Bonnifet, Associate Planner