AGENDA

SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
of the
BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Wednesday – February 10, 2016
1:00 p.m.

Butte County Association of Governments – Conference Room
2580 Sierra Sunrise Terrace, Suite 100, Chico, CA

1. Introductions

2. SSTAC Minutes – May 5, 2015

3. Unmet Transit Needs Assessment and Findings for FY 2016/17

4. Other Items for discussion
The following minutes are a summary of the SSTAC meeting.

The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) of the Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) was held at the BCAG office on May 5, 2015, located at 2580 Sierra Sunrise Terrace, Suite 100 in Chico, California.

Item #1 – Introductions

The meeting started off with each person present stating their name and agency, if any, they are affiliated with.

Item #2 – Oral Communication

The council discussed various transit issues, no action was taken.
Item #3 – SSTAC Minutes – March 18, 2014 Minutes

No comments were received. On motion by Councilmember O’Brien seconded by Councilmember Churchill, the Minutes were unanimously approved.

Item #4 – Unmet Transit Needs Assessment and Findings for FY 2015/16

Staff explained the Unmet Transit Needs annual process and stated that public comments are taken throughout the year. Although there are unmet transit needs, there were no unmet transit needs that were found under definition to be reasonable to meet. Therefore, no findings were made.

Councilmember Harlan questioned the need for Sunday service in Chico and Magalia. Staff clarified that Chico would need 20% ridership and Magalia didn’t come close to meeting farebox so it would not make it an unmet need that is reasonable to meet.

No further comments were received regarding the Assessment. On motion by Councilmember Harlan seconded by Councilmember Jones, the 2015/16 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment was unanimously approved.

Item #5 – Other Items

The council discussed old bus shelters and the need to move them to areas where they could be used now that the bus routes have changed. Staff stated they are evaluating which sheds to move. The main focus for the route changes was route 15 and getting it to be on time. Now that the route is running more on time, the next focus is the local routes in Paradise and Oroville.

Councilmember Churchill brought up the fact that there are not enough wheelchair spaces on the buses and when looking at new buses, consider if there is an option to create more spaces than two. There are times she is not able to board due to no spots available.

Councilmember Harlan is working with Tehama County to get service to Butte County. Staff said they have not yet been contacted by Tehama County staff on this subject.

Councilmember Schroeder said the B-Line Tracker is having the same issue of giving the time of the next stop if the bus is more than 5 minutes late. Staff will check it out. She suggested a stop that is closer to Winco area so people don’t have to walk as far. Staff will look into, however, they do not want stops too close together.

Staff will check on the status of the ADA Transition Plan and bus stop survey conducted by Nelson/Nygaard.

No other items were presented.
BCAG Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee

February 10, 2016

UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND FINDINGS FOR FY 2016/17

PREPARED BY: Jim Peplow, Senior Planner

ISSUE: BCAG is required to prepare the Unmet Transit Needs Assessment each year as the administrator of Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds for Butte County.

DISCUSSION: Each year, BCAG must identify any unmet public transit needs that may exist in Butte County in order to receive state funding. If unmet transit needs are found, a further determination must be made as to whether those needs are reasonable to meet. All unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet must be met before TDA funds are expended for non-transit uses, such as streets and roads.

Testimony has been collected through a series of public meetings that were held during December and compiled into an analysis report. Attached is the Draft Unmet Transit Needs Assessment - 2016/2017. The Assessment examines transit dependent groups, adequacy of existing transit services, a detailed summary of the public testimony received during this year’s outreach process, and staff’s analysis of whether the testimony meets the definitions of unmet transit needs and reasonable to meet.

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.

Based on the testimony and analysis with the adopted definitions of unmet transit needs and reasonable to meet, the BCAG Board of Directors is required to make one of three findings:

1. There are no unmet transit needs,
2. There are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet,
3. There are unmet transit needs, including needs that are reasonable to meet.
Findings for the 2016/17 Fiscal Year

Based on the testimony received and on staff’s analysis with the adopted definitions of unmet transit needs and reasonable to meet, BCAG staff is recommending that the following finding be made by the BCAG Board of Directors:

There are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet.

This recommendation will be presented to the BCAG Board of Directors at the February 25, 2016 Board meeting.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff requests the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council support staff’s recommendation to the BCAG Board of Directors to accept the Unmet Transit Needs Assessment for the 2016/17 fiscal year and find that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet.

Key staff:       Jim Peplow, Senior Planner
                 Cheryl Massae, Human Resources Manager