

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)**

*Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)*

FINAL Minutes of the Thursday, June 12, 2008 Meeting

TAMC Conference Room

55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

<b>VOTING MEMBERS</b>	<b>Sep 07</b>	<b>Oct 07</b>	<b>Nov 07</b>	<b>Jan 08</b>	<b>Feb 08</b>	<b>Apr 08</b>	<b>Jun 08</b>
Margarita Zarraga, Community Action Partnership <i>Local Social Service Provider for Persons of Limited Means</i>	P	E	P	E	P	P	P
Carol Lieberman, Community Action Commission <i>Local Social Service Provider for Persons of Limited Means</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Teresa Sullivan, Alliance on Aging <i>Local Social Service Providers for Seniors</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	E
Denika Dallimore, Chair Central Coast Center for Independent Living <i>Persons with Disabilities</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Olivia Quesada, Area Agency on Aging <i>Potential Transit User 60 Years or Older</i>	-	-	-	-	-	P	E
Brandy Abend, Salinas Dialysis Center <i>Local Social Service Providers for Seniors</i>	E	P	E	-	P	E	P
Angel Rodriguez, Hope Services <i>Local Social Service Providers for Disabled Persons</i>	E	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bill Morris, Monterey-Salinas Transit <i>Consolidated Transportation Service Agency</i>	E	P	P	P	E	P	P
Tom Hicks, Monterey-Salinas Transit, Vice Chair <i>Consolidated Transportation Service Agency</i>	E	P	P	P	P	P	E
Lance Atencio, MV Transportation <i>Social Service Transportation Provider</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
E – Excused                      VC – Video Conference A – Alternate                      TC – Teleconference							
<b>TRANSPORTATION AGENCY STAFF</b>							
Debbie Hale, Executive Director	E	P	E	E	E	E	P
Mike Zeller, Associate Transportation Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Don Bachman, Deputy Executive Director	P	E	P	P	P	E	P

Others Present: None

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair, Denika Dallimore, called the meeting to order at 3:21 p.m. Introductions were made and a quorum was confirmed.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

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3. **BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA**

M/S/C Zarraga/Lieberman /unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) meeting of April 9, 2008 with the following amendments:

Bill Morris proposed the following changes under item 6 of the April minutes: Mr. Morris announced that he reported that MST has provided *some* MST Rides clients with *free fair* identification cards that must be presented at the time they board *fixed-route* vehicles. Under Lance Atencio announced that starting in May 2008 only those who are eligible through the Central Coast Alliance would get *medical reimbursed and medical priority transportation operated by MV Transportation*.

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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4. **UPDATE ON THE DRAFT SALES TAX INVESTMENT PLAN**

The Council received a report on Transportation Agency Investment Plan for a proposed ½ cent transportation sales tax.

Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner, presented the Investment Plan for a proposed ½ cent transportation sales tax in Monterey County. He noted that the goal of the plan is to provide additional local funding needed to secure state and federal transportation funds for Monterey County transportation projects, which are intended to reduce congestion and improve safety for the traveling public. The plan will accomplish this by providing funding needed to complete high priority safety and congestion-relief projects on the County's regional roads and highways, provide funding for local streets and roads, and fund meaningful alternatives to driving by investing in significant countywide transit improvements and existing transit services, as well as bicycle and pedestrian projects. The sales tax measure will be placed on the November 2008 ballot for approval by voters, and must obtain at least 67% of the vote to go into effect. Twenty percent of the sales tax funding in the Investment Plan will be dedicated to public transit.

Debbie Hale, Executive Director, reported that more than two-thirds support for a transportation sales tax may exist and participation is needed to persuade the undecided voters. Ms. Hale concluded that success would require a campaign focused on the 16% of voters that have not made up their minds, which include Democrats, women, older voters and those sitting in traffic congestion.

**5. MONTEREY COUNTY REGIONAL TAXI STUDY UPDATE**

The Council received a Draft Monterey County Regional Taxi Feasibility Study.

Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner, reported on the Regional Taxi Authority for Monterey County. The purpose of the study is to provide a comprehensive analysis of institutional options for taxi regulation and monitoring in Monterey County. The intent of this two-phased approach is to establish a centralized regional taxi authority as expeditiously as possible to address the County, and to provide the institutional apparatus needed to implement improvements for consumers, such as the provision of accessible taxis for persons with disabilities. It is currently expected that Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) would be designated as the regional taxi authority as it already performs many of the necessary functions, such as vehicle inspections and background checks. Once the study has been completed and adopted by the Agency, it can be used to begin the main role in that process will be to monitor progress made to from the authority over the course of this fall.

The Agency's main role in that process will be monitor progress made to form the authority, to encourage each jurisdiction and the eventual authority to implement the study's recommendations, and also secure funding needed to purchase accessible cabs and taxi scrip for a countywide program. Mr. Cook concluded that the draft Evaluation of a Proposed Regional Taxi Authority for Monterey County would be available in early August.

**6. MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT RIDES ADVISORY PROGRAM AND COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGENCY ACTIVITIES**

Bill Morris, MST Contract Transportation Manager, reported that the MST Mobility Management Center would be available on July of 2009. It will be a "one-stop shop". The Mobility Management Center will be a one-stop shop and provide transportation services to customers, including older adults, people with disabilities, and individuals with low incomes. Mr. Morris concluded that MST Ride's clients have increased forty-six percent during the months of April and May.

Brandy Abend, mentioned that patients have been supportive and understanding. The level of complaints from patients has gone down at Salinas Dialysis Center.

**7. RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS REGARDING RELATED ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Brandy Abend commented on the need for a staff member of the Central Coast Alliance for Health to attend the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council meetings.

Hunter Harvath, MST, mentioned that the MST Mobility Management Center would be located at 150 Del Monte Avenue. He noted that MST looked at the traffic study, part design, and they have bond funds available for the Mobility Management Center.

Lance Atencio announced that starting in May 2008 only those who are eligible through the Central Coast Alliance would be able to use medical reimbursed priority transportation privately operated by MV Transportation.

Andy Cook announced that Agency staff reached an agreement with the city of Soledad to implement the extended hours for transit service and coordinate with MST's Line 23 schedule. In conclusion, Mr. Cook reported that the new demand-responsive service in the City of Gonzales is the unmet need that is reasonable to meet this year.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair, Denika Dallimore announced that the next Social Service Transportation Advisory Council meeting will be held on September 11, 2008 and adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m.