

# TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)

## *Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)*

Final Minutes of the Thursday, March 5, 2009 Meeting

TAMC Conference Room

55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

<b>VOTING MEMBERS</b>	<b>Apr 08</b>	<b>Jun 08</b>	<b>Sep 08</b>	<b>Oct 08</b>	<b>Jan 09</b>	<b>Feb 09</b>	<b>Mar 09</b>
Margarita Zarraga, Community Action Partnership <i>Local Social Service Provider for Persons of Limited Means</i>	P	P	P	P	P	<b>C</b>	P
Carol Lieberman, Vice Chair Community Action Commission <i>Local Social Service Provider for Persons of Limited Means</i>	P	P	P	P	P	<b>A</b>	P
Teresa Sullivan, Alliance on Aging (Tim English) <i>Local Social Service Providers for Seniors</i>	-	E	E	P(A)	P	<b>N</b>	P
Denika Boardman, Central Coast Center for Independent Living <i>Persons with Disabilities</i>	P	P	P	P	E	<b>C</b>	P
Marcie Castro, Area Agency on Aging <i>Potential Transit User 60 Years or Older</i>	-	-	-	-	-	<b>E</b>	P
Brandy Abend, Salinas Dialysis Center <i>Local Social Service Providers for Seniors</i>	E	P	P	E	-	<b>L</b>	-
Vacant, Monterey-Salinas Transit <i>Consolidated Transportation Service Agency</i>	P	P	P	P	P	<b>L</b>	-
Tom Hicks, Monterey-Salinas Transit, Chair <i>Consolidated Transportation Service Agency</i>	P	E	P	P	P	<b>E</b>	P
Lance Atencio, MV Transportation (Brent Boardman) <i>Social Service Transportation Provider</i>	P	P	P(A)	P	P	<b>D</b>	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
Mike Zeller, Associate Transportation Planner	P	P	E	P	E		P
Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant	P	P	P	P	P		P
Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner	P	P	P	P	P		P
Don Bachman, Deputy Executive Director	E	P	P	P	P		P

## OTHERS PRESENT

### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair, Tom Hicks, called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. Introductions were made and a quorum was confirmed.

### 2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman introduced Marcie Castro to the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council.

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### 3. **BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA**

M/S/C Lieberman/Sullivan/unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) meeting of January 8, 2009.

3.2 Approve revised meeting calendar for 2009.

### **END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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### 4. **2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

M/S/C Lieberman/Zarraga/unanimous

The Council approved 2008-09 Social Services Transportation Advisory Council Annual Report

Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner, reported the process of the annual report and discussed the activities, accomplishments and member attendance records of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council. He noted that the report gives the Council an opportunity to review its actions over the past year and to review and discuss its activities in the upcoming year. The committee's activities for 2009 are focused on advising the agency in the unmet transit needs process, and adopting a finding on unmet transit needs for the 2009-10 Fiscal Year. The committee will also reviewed and commented on various Agency programs and projects affecting social services transportation in Monterey County.

Andy Cook reported that the Agency has requested the Central Coast Alliance for Health to join the committee, but has not committed to participating in the committee meetings. It was noted that the Alliance no longer has a major role in transportation funding. The committee discussed the following options:

- Write a letter with questions
- Prepare a list of questions and invite them to report back and answer the questions at a future meeting.

Staff also explained that the list of unmet transit needs comments for the 2009-10 Fiscal Year were provided to the committee and will be presented again as part of the recommended finding on unmet transit needs for consideration in April. Staff agreed to make sure that the information on unmet needs comments for this year was accurately reported and that any mistakes were corrected in the final annual report to be presented to the Board of Directors.

5. **ANNUAL TRANSIT PERFORMANCE REPORT 2008**

The Council reviewed and discussed the 2008 Annual Transit Report on performance of transit operators in Monterey County.

Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner, reported that as the regional transportation planning agency and the recipient of Transit Development Act funds, the Agency is responsible for monitoring the performance of the local transit operators. The 2008 Triennial Performance Audit of the Transportation Agency and county operators prepared by Moore & Associates for the three-year period ending June 30, 2007 made several findings and recommendations for improving performance and compliance with state law, although the operators have generally made significant progress in improving performance and addressing the recommendations of the 2005 performance audit. The Annual Transit Performance report for 2008 will be presented to the committee at its April meeting for approval and submittal to the Board of Directors.

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

Tom Hicks of the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency reported that the RIDES Advisory Committee did not meet in February. MST is proposing to combine the RIDES committee with a new CTSA committee with an expanded scope of responsibilities. Mr. Hicks also announced the following:

- Finalizing all guidelines for the FTA grant to purchase two small buses, four taxi this year, four next year and four the upcoming year.
- Extending the Pacific Meadows senior taxi voucher program.
- The Grand opening of the 2 -1-1 Call Center.

7. **MONTEREY COUNTY REGIONAL TAXI STUDY**

The Council received an update on the Monterey County Regional Taxi Study.

Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner reported that Agency staff has been presenting the draft study to the Cities involved in the Regional Taxi Study. He also mentioned that Agency staff would be taking back the final presentation to the Cities for approval. The Agency's goal is secure the necessary approvals for establishing a Regional Taxi Authority by the summer of this year. Requirements for operating accessible taxicabs and accepting taxi scrip for seniors are included in the program. The Agency is looking at options for expanding taxi scrip programs through the Regional Taxi Authority.

Margarita Zarraga stated that establishing an Authority would mean taxi companies would have to obey the laws. She asked if the following is required from the taxi cabs/drivers:

- Seat belts
- Safety restraints or seats for children
- Use of cell phones
- Penalties for drivers purchasing alcohol/cigarettes for minors
- Regulations prohibiting drivers from carrying their own children with them
- Lack of uniform fares: the cab companies charge different prices

Although most of these issues are addressed through the proposed regulations for the Regional Taxi Authority, staff will report back with a answers to these questions as part of its next Taxi Study update to the committee.

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

Margarita Zarraga asked for an update on the Agricultural worker vanpool study in the City of Greenfield. Andy Cook replied that AMBAG has secured grant funds to evaluate how this program can be implemented across Monterey County. He noted that staff in Kings County California agreed to start the vanpool program in the City of Greenfield and is working to expand the program countywide. Staff agreed to provide an update on the vanpool program, most likely at its June meeting.

The Council requested an update on the Federal Stimulus program. Don Bachman, Deputy Executive Director reported that the Board of Directors authorized a call for projects for federal economic stimulus funds. Mr. Bachman noted that the ranking was considered in a two-tier process. He reported that there is considerable urgency for projects to be ready to proceed when the funding level for the region is finalized. Mr. Bachman noted that there is a “use it or lose it” requirement, noting the money has to be obligated for projects by the jurisdictions within 120 days.

Staff noted that the proposed finding on unmet transit needs will be presented to the committee in April.

**9. COMMITTEE PHOTO**

The Council took its group photo.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair, Tom Hicks adjourned the meeting at 4:32 p.m.