



MINUTES

KCAG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

Thursday, January 27, 2022

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting of the Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) was called to order by Ms. Teresa Nickell, KCAG Regional Planner, at 2:00 p.m. on January 27, 2022 via teleconference, in accordance with COVID-19 Public Meeting Protocol.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bobbie Wartson, Kings County Commission on Aging
 Angie Dow, Kings County Area Public Transit Agency
 Heather Corder, Kings County Area Public Transit Agency
 Valerie Bega, Corcoran Area Transit

STAFF PRESENT: Terri King, Executive Director
 Teresa Nickell, Regional Planner

VISITORS PRESENT: None

A. UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES

None.

B. MINUTES

It was moved and seconded (Dow / Arnst) to approve the Minutes of June 2, 2020 as submitted. Motion approved with 1 abstention (Russell).

II. TRANSPORTATION

A. SSTAC New Member Orientation

Ms. Nickell discussed the membership representation of seniors, disabled transit users, local social service providers for the elderly, disabled, and persons of limited means, and additional members that may be appointed by the transportation planning agency. The SSTAC's responsibilities include to review annual performance data of the Kings Area Rural Transit (KART) and Corcoran Area Transit (CAT) systems. The TPC conducts public hearings annually to determine if any "unmet public transit needs" which are "reasonable to meet" exist in Kings County or the cities of Avenal, Corcoran, Hanford, and Lemoore. The SSTAC will meet to review any unmet transit requests and recommend action in June to the KCAG TPC, with one of three findings to be adopted by resolution, that there are no unmet transit needs, there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet, or there are unmet transit needs, including needs that are reasonable to meet. Before the TPC may allocate the LTF claimed for streets and roads, it must make certain specific findings concerning unmet transit needs, and whether the needs can be reasonably met. Ms. Nickell provided an overview of funding for public transit through local, state and federal sources: the Transportation Development Act Fund, Local Transportation Funds and State Transit Assistance Funds, State of Good Repair Program from SB-1 for eligible transit maintenance, rehabilitation and capital projects to keep transit systems in a state of good repair, FTA 5311 and FTA 5307 for small urban area public transportation providers,

FTA 5310 for transportation services to meet the needs of elderly persons and persons with disabilities, and FTA Section 5339 for bus and bus facilities. An overview was provided of the KCAG as a regional transportation planning agency and a Metropolitan Planning Organization, the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee board members, and the Technical Advisory Committee of local directors and representatives. Ms. Nickell discussed the KART public transit provides paratransit, commuter, and fixed route bus services and KCAPTA as a joint powers agency and their activities. The City of Corcoran provides its own transit service for Corcoran residents with the Corcoran Area Transit's demand response service or Dial-A-Ride available to its citizens.

B. Transit Agency Updates

Ms. Dow discussed Route 13 from Hanford to Corcoran to add a 10:00 a.m. express route to increase ridership, as Covid-19 impacts to ridership has decreased levels. Ridership increased to 30,000 in December 2021 (peak was 45,000 passenger trips pre-Covid). Future electric vehicle (EV) charging station will be constructed in Avenal, partnering with MioCar for a volunteer driver program with City of Avenal and to provide five EV charging ports with grant funds.

The KART Fixed Route Study is underway for the bus redesign for the new KART Center. KCAPTA, Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG), City of Visalia are jointly applying for a State grant through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) for construction, EV buses, and frequency in trips to Visalia.

C. Future Meetings

Ms. Nickell provided a review of the public hearing dates for Unmet Transit Needs within the County and for Tulare County.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the KCAG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, the meeting was adjourned on January 27, 2022 at 2:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Nickell, KCAG Regional Planner