



MINUTES

KCAG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

Thursday, May 26, 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 10:11 a.m. on May 26, 2022 via teleconference, in accordance with COVID-19 Public Meeting Protocol.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Mendoza, Kings Rehabilitation, Inc.
Ben Fernandez, HNSA Employment
Bobbie Wartson, Kings County Commission on Aging
Angie Dow, Kings County Area Public Transit Agency

STAFF PRESENT: Teresa Nickell, Regional Planner

VISITORS PRESENT: None

A. UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES

None.

B. MINUTES

No quorum was met to approve the minutes of January 27, 2022.

II. TRANSPORTATION

A. Unmet Transit Needs Testimony and Transit System Review

Ms. Nickell provided an overview of the Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds that are available to Kings County with Local Transportation Funds and State Transit Assistance funds, identification and review of unmet transit needs in the region, and the process to seek input from transit dependent persons, such as the elderly, disabled, and persons with limited means. Each member jurisdiction and KCAPTA have submitted claims for TDA funding for FY 2022, and before local streets and roads projects may be funded, unmet transit needs must be received and analyzed with a transit needs assessment and specific performance criteria, analyzed for reasonableness, and any unmet transit need deemed reasonable to meet must be funded prior to the release of TDA funds for streets and roads purposes.

Performance measures and efficiency of the KART public transit system were analyzed for five potential unmet transit needs requests received by KCAPTA. Performance goals were updated with performance metrics established by the recent 2021 Transit Development Plan (TDP).

Ms. Dow indicated KCAPTA is working with Adventist Health to provide service to Corcoran patients using ADA buses, and the Uber transit mobile app will be ready to use shortly to fill gaps in service with curb-to-curb services. Quarterly passes for KART have been successfully used to increase ridership since Covid-19 impacted levels.

B. Unmet Transit Needs Testimony Analysis and Recommendation

Ms. Nickell indicated both the City of Corcoran and the Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) held separate duly noticed public hearings for unmet transit needs and received no testimony. The Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (KCAPTA) received five unmet transit needs requests for the Kings Area Rural Transit (KART) system. Only two of the requests analyzed using transit performance assessment criteria were deemed to be unmet transit needs that were not reasonable to meet, the remaining requests were service requests for extended service and operational bus infrastructure requests, which are not unmet transit needs by definition. Both requests of weekend service to Visalia, Fresno (regional routes) and Lemoore, and of bus service to Del Monte Foods Company in Hanford, are not reasonable to meet and were not included in the 2021 TDP's detailed analysis of transit demand and existing public transportation services nor identified in areas targeted for transit growth within the 5-year planning horizon. Further, there is no supporting data to indicate sufficient ridership potential for the weekend regional route service nor for the Del Monte plant due to a lack of support by employees. There is also existing KART service to Lemoore on Saturdays with KART.

With the assessment and analysis conducted, findings were developed that find Corcoran, Avenal, and Hanford have no unmet transit needs and that the County and Lemoore have no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet.

C. Unmet Transit Needs SSTAC Recommendation Letter

A letter of recommendation will be signed by Mr. Mendoza for the TPC to consider at their June 22nd meeting.

III. Miscellaneous

None.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the KCAG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, the meeting was adjourned on May 26, 2022 at 10:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Nickell, KCAG Regional Planner