



MINUTES

KCAG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

Thursday, January 26, 2023

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 10:04 a.m. on January 26, 2023 at the Kings County Human Services Agency Cedar Room and via teleconference, in accordance with COVID-19 Public Meeting Protocol.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Angie Dow, Kings County Area Public Transit Agency
Craig Wilson, MV Transportation
Valerie Bega, Corcoran Area Transit
Katie Arnst, Kings County Behavioral Health
Bobbie Wartson, Kings County Commission on Aging
Anthony Yun, Kings County Public Health
Barbara Lemos, Kings County HHSA Employment Training
Rey Leon, Latino Environmental Advancement & Policy
Troy Young, Reestablishing Stratford

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

VISITORS PRESENT: Mark Pedreiro, Kings County Area Public Transit Agency

A. UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES

None.

B. MINUTES

It was moved and seconded (Dow / Wartson) to approve the Minutes of May 26, 2022 as submitted. Motion approved.

It was moved and seconded (Dow / Wilson) to approve the Minutes of January 27, 2022 as submitted. Motion approved with 1 abstention (Arnst).

II. TRANSPORTATION

A. SSTAC New Member Orientation

Ms. Nickell discussed the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) 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 KCAG Transportation Policy Committee (TPC). The SSTAC's responsibilities include to review annual performance data of the Kings Area Rural Transit (KART) and Corcoran Area Transit (CAT) systems, and to review the assessment of "unmet transit needs" using the qualifying criteria set forth by the TPC including the Transportation Development Act's definitions. The TPC conducts public hearings annually in April and May 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 including those from both the Kings County Area Public Transit Agency's (KCAPTA) and the City of Corcoran's public hearings 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 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) monies 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 and background 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, FTA 5311, 5307, 5310 and 5339. An overview was provided of the KCAG as a regional transportation planning agency and a Metropolitan Planning Organization, membership of the KCAG TPC and the KCAG Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of local public works and planning directors and representatives. Ms. Nickell discussed the KART public transit services for paratransit, commuter, and fixed route bus services and KCAPTA as a joint powers agency and activities. Also, the City of Corcoran provides its own transit service for residents with the Corcoran Area Transit's demand response service or Dial-A-Ride for paratransit.

B. Transit Agency Updates

Ms. Dow provided an update to the new transit center planned for downtown Hanford on 7th Street by Brown and Harris Streets. The site is 4 acres, and KCAPTA will send the construction bid out in March to complete the construction of the site by January 2025. There will be a Park and Ride lot including a dozen EV chargers for public use, to be installed under SCE's Charge Ready Transport Program with infrastructure charging equipment build options.

KART's GO-KART service currently utilizes 1 EV van in Hanford, KCAPTA is preparing to purchase JEST EV buses for Hanford paratransit, on demand Uber service, and for Saturday service. Up to 8 buses are planned.

KCAPTA has started working on their transition to zero emission buses with a consultant team. The KART Hanford Fixed Route Schedule Study has been completed for the bus redesign of the Hanford fixed routes that will start and connect at the new KART Center location in 2025.

Ms. Bega of Corcoran Area Transit (CAT) provided an update that their bus system will receive new cameras.

Ms. Nickell mentioned that the KCAG TPC accepted the Final KART Hanford Fixed Route Schedule Study yesterday. KCAG is working with KCAPTA and the City of Corcoran and a consultant to develop Zero Emission Bus Implementation roll-out plans for each operator in conformance with the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) air quality requirements. Transition of bus fleets will either be to electric, hydrogen fuel cell, or both.

Future Meetings

Ms. Nickell provided a review of the public hearing dates for Unmet Transit Needs within the County and for Tulare County. City of Corcoran's public hearing will be held March 14, 2023. KCAPTA's public hearings will be held February 22 and March 22, 2023. KCAG's public hearings will be held April 26 and May 24, 2023. TCAG's public hearing will be held March 20, 2023 in Visalia.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the KCAG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, the meeting was adjourned on January 26, 2023 at 10:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Nickell

Teresa Nickell, KCAG Regional Planner