Transit Coordinating Committee
December 11, 2019 – TCC 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
SACOG Board Room South
1415 L Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA

Members of the public wishing to address the committee on any item not on the agenda may do so at the beginning of the meeting. We ask that members of the public request to speak and keep their remarks brief. Testimony will be limited to a total of ten (10) minutes.

Conference Call Option – SACOG Zoom Meeting 1 - Join Zoom Meeting via laptop, computer, or smartphone: https://zoom.us/my/sacogzoom1
Meeting ID: 373-984-2326. Join with one tap mobile +17207072699, 3739842326# US. Dial in with your phone +1 720 707 2699 US or 877 853 5257 US Toll-free, Meeting ID: 373 984 2326. Please do not put your phone on hold during the conference call; instead please hang up and call back when you’re free.

Attendees:

Mike Rosson, SACOG
Matt Mauk, El Dorado County Transit
Jose Perez, Yolo County Transportation District
Derek Wong, MBI
Mike Costa, e-tran
Lisa Cappellari, Paratransit, Inc.
Brent Bernegger, RT
Jason Johnson, RT
Jeff Flynn, Unitrans
Will Garner, Placer County Transit
Jim Allison, CCJPA
Mikki McDaniel, SCT/Link
Caroline Payne, SACOG
Chris Dougherty, SACOG
Mike Dour, Roseville
Keith Martin, Yuba-Sutter Transit
James Boyle, RT
Tiffani Fink, Paratransit, Inc.
Mary Poole, Citrus Heights
Leah Barret, 50 corridor TMA
Michael Pimentel, CTA
Josh Shaw, CTA
Albert Kennedy, RT
Kyle Gradinger, Caltrans

1) TCC Coordination (Dour/All, 30 minutes)
   a. Public Comment on non-agenda topics
   b. Brief introductions and sharing of significant news about transit systems – Roseville – Working with Caltrans and PCT to do some improvements to Taylor Rd. park and ride lot. 12 commuter buses go in and out each day, accessibility and upgrade shelter. Designs for covered shelters, canopy style/cantilever.
   RT – See RT Board item 8.1. Ridership increase 1.5% from last quarter. Last 12 months ridership increases on both bus and rail. Ridership not down as much as expected after SacRT Forward (1.7%). 42% increase in student ridership Ryde Free RT. Decrease in crime. SmaRT Ride increase in ridership year over year. Increasing SmaRT ride service areas. Roseville – Geofencing? RT – SmaRT Ride considers fended areas based on rider location.
   RT – Delivered Proterra buses (3). 6 green power microtransit shuttles for downtown SmaRT Ride. Fares are the same on fixed route and SmaRT Ride, except groups of 5 or more. More students riding with expansion of SmaRT Ride.
   Roseville – Greenpower 105 Kwh battery storage, 85 miles range. Rotating vehicles in and out. Slow charge capable only. 3 chargers on order that are fast charge capable.
   E-tran – RFP Fleet Plan and ZEV conversion plan to select consultant in February.
   PCT – Awarded a new DAR contract to MV, also operating Health Express. Incumbent contractor. Starting tomorrow TART is free fare – number of funders – initial 2-year pilot. GFI fare boxes will just count people. Winter program for Tahoe area starts tomorrow. Short of bus drivers to implement promised services. Losing assistant manager. RT – how much ridership anticipated? PCT – 30% of fares paid by large properties, 450K for fares all year, hotel tax will pay. Transient Occupancy Tax (hotel tax) Airport district likely to contribute. RT – Cost of collecting fares is costly. PCT – Many western resort areas are doing
similar things. Roseville – watching free fare programs, thought they have other funds. RT – Measure U, and funding from cities and school district. PCT – 30-50% ridership increases from free fares.


Jim Allison CCJPA – Partnership with SACOG to develop TIRCP application. Support letters – will provide new template shortly.

c. Joint Transit Operator Project or Training Opportunities

d. General TCC Information
   - California Assembly Transportation Committee – Reduced Transit Fare Programs Survey, [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/reduced-transit-fare-survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/reduced-transit-fare-survey)
   - Transit Marketing Opportunity - SEIU transit reimbursement increased to $100 per month – see attachment.
   - RT Airport Express Bus Service - [https://www.sacrt.com/apps/express-airport-bus-service/](https://www.sacrt.com/apps/express-airport-bus-service/) - RT – January 5th service starts. Meeting with airport staff. Work with as closely as possible with Yolobus to develop a schedule to complement each other. Long span of service for airport workers. Following the same routes that Yolobus runs now in downtown Sacramento. Goal to convert this service to electric.
   - Causeway Connection - UC Davis to Sacramento (UCD Medical Center) service – see attachment
   - TCC representative items – Let us know what you might want to present to the TCC.
   - Other

2) Review and Approve October 16, 2019 TCC Minutes (Dour/All, 5 minutes) – see attachment Mike Costa, e-tran motion and Brent Bernegger, RT second. Approved.

3) California Integrated Travel Program (Jim Allison, CCJPA & Kyle Gradinger, Caltrans/All, 20 minutes) – see presentation – TIRCP grant funded – payment and trip planning statewide. Only so many people working on this plan and many transit operators so it will take time to get pilots started.

   Idea that transit agencies were spending up to 20% of fares on fare collection processing. How do we make it easier to plan a trip across the state on multiple operators and modes? Reduce the costs of collecting fares and increase ridership. Equity and how we pay for fares are an issue. TNCs have all modes in one app (PV, Pooling, Scooters, and Bikes). Declining ridership an issue. Getting away from proprietary and to open payment solutions (“credit card”). Mobile phones are here to stay. Cash handling is more costly challenging. Getting credit cards into the hands of those that don’t have them.

   RT – on unbanked or underbanked about having low or no entry cost accounts. Kyle – Apple getting in now getting into banking sector. RT – would be to banking sector advantage get $ from credit processing fees. Could move away from Connect Card by reducing fees initially, and down the road creating a single payment system. Kyle – Get a good rate first but won’t require operators to use but make it so attractive that they’ll want to. Jim – Rail situation – CCJPA pull off payment processing from Amtrak and be first on MSA. Roseville – some operators are part of City but will the MSA be open to other entities. Kyle – a lot of non-transit entities

4) TDA Task Force/TDA Reform (Shaw, CTA/All, 15 minutes) – TDA Reform Task Force – Draft Reform Proposals. What is this process? Legislative Transportation Committee Chairs asked CTA to set-up task force to examine TDA performance measures and produce legislative recommendation. Task Force has focused on TDA performance measures – farebox (LTF) and CPI (STA). Two regions in state in 2018 brought forward legislation Stanislaus (sunset next year) and Kern counties and submitted legislation to address farebox issue. TC tired of piecemeal legislation and help all the states in 17 agencies appointed to task force, executive committee selected, reflect balance across service type, geography, etc. Seven meetings of task force. Subcommittees formed. UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies – do some research to augment the task force’s process. Two pieces – compiled 6 recommendations. Report findings – 6-8 agencies have moved into the penalty phase (central valley and central coast) annually. Political issues or policy issues. Acknowledgement that farebox recovery ratio is problematic since it prevents innovation and may lead to cuts in productive service. When an operator is working to increase ridership to meet farebox then RTPA has to take away LTF funds. Surgical changes to assist operators that have trouble meeting farebox, and not harm successful operators. Throw the whole TDA out. One outcomes task force would be to eliminate the penalty for those agencies that struggle to meet farebox recovery. Throw out all of TDA don’t mess up what the transit operators are doing. Keep political consensus is important. Identify moving pieces and deal with any issues. Have not settled on a basic concept. Attachment out of date. Subcommittee resolved around a concept might help the agencies most in trouble. Now What – The task force has agreed to take time to deliberate thoroughly then and
only then will roll out basic concept. Set up a process set up a webinar. Outreach will go out to all RTPAs and transit operators. Task Force recommendations – have to be vetted by CTA Executive Committee. Cut the financial penalties of missing farebox. Retain current system but help most challenged rural and suburban operators. Can do one on ones. Legislative process – January 6 reconvene, all bills have to be submitted by February 21st. Won’t have anything to submit by that date. May have to go forward with interim relief. Outreach in Jan., Feb., March 2020.

E-tran – Was there a mandate/timeline to get this done. CTA – Yes complete task my fall of 2019, but was a mandate originally been changed. Could use a whole another year to figure things out? May be able to set up interim solution before coming back with larger solutions.

RT- opinions are all over the board. Tried to be objective to represent all areas. How to not have penalties in place? Some kind of teeth but make them useful. If you didn’t meet some requirements could work with a group over set time to get better. Any operators worried about hitting farebox recovery.

E-tran – push for free transit fares but can’t supplement with other local or private funds.

CTA – LCTOP fare supplement can’t harm farebox.

SCT/Link – from year to year individual agencies in Sacramento county but lifted by RT.

YST – Bouncing on the bottom of farebox recovery ratios on annual basis.

Yolobus – ADA services costs an issue.

CTA – Looking at excluding all ADA costs, or un-blend costs.

PCT – 85% of services are operated by County employees, and retirement costs an issue.

CTA – Heard a lot about Gasby changes. Refinement to accommodate retirement program issues. Still need to go out on the roads with solutions and take comments.

PCT – Address rumor control. No more LTF for streets and roads.

CTA – Letter from legislature stated that this should be considered. Task Force hasn’t spoken of this at any meetings after beginning.

EL Dorado – how do we stay engaged?

CTA – Newsletter. No way to participate right now since nothing to share yet. Have a mailing list set-up.

Roseville – What types of funding are considered fares?

CTA – Amendment ready – non-state revenues should count as fares.

Roseville – Has the CTA executive committee and state leg committee been briefed each time the task force meets.

5) Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans (PTASP) (Rosson/All, 10 minutes) – PTASP – response from FTA to Q&A. Due July 2020. If there are any concerns, contact SACOG staff and may schedule a message to see if anyone is interested.

6) Next Generation Transit (Carpenter/Rosson/All, 20 minutes) – attachment coming soon – RFQ in the next 1-2 days. Thanks for comments on SOW. SOW will be fluid during the process. Kick-off for consultant in March 2020. Did implement comments received. Continue to provide avenue for contact through. Technical Advisory Committee with rep from each transit operator. RT – How is that selected and give more background on the process? Mike and Chris working on that. SACOG will be reaching out to the agencies to participate in the review panel.

7) RT 3% Administrative Fee on Pass Through Grants (Brent Bernegger, RT/All, 10 minutes) – 1 year ago brought fees for subrecipient monitoring – 5-15% of grant costs can cover admin. 3% of grant for administrative costs. Continual monitoring that must occur and need to recoup funds. Can put some numbers to it at the next meeting.

Roseville – Is there a difference in level of admin oversight for direct recipients vs. subrecipients? Want to understand that.

e-tran – Similar situation e-tran is in with RT with the pass through. What would we be paying for? How many other agencies charge subrecipients for administration?

PCT – Clear on difference between PIN-ing grant vs. subrecipient oversight. Sometimes it may be different or have separate agreements for certain grants.

RT – We can come up with a proposal to cover incurred costs for different kinds of grants. Use the past 5 years for an example.

PCT – What percent does SACOG take for LTF? 3%

RT – percentage of LTF different throughout the staff.

YCTD – We’re all stretched and need a lot more information before would agree to that. Put responsibility on the subrecipient may be better option. A lot of questions before can start having the conversation. Be equitable as possible.

RT – Will be tough to show efficiencies information. Get the need for transparency.

YCTD – YOY what your spending on administration. Same kind of burden we have to do with grants we manage.

RT – Wouldn’t affect existing projects. What is the best mechanism? Monitoring can be a multi-year effort. February agenda item.
8) Meetings/Events/Updates (All, 5 minutes)
   a. Meetings or Events
   b. Updates on Other Items – 7 new SmarT Ride zones. E-tran needs assistance from Thing Tech with updating TAM – SACOG will get with thing tech.
     El Dorado – PCT and Roseville helped with funeral procession for slain sheriff officer.

9) Set Next Meeting Dates (All, 5 minutes)
   a. Next TCC meeting on February 19, 2020– at SACOG
   b. Adjourn TCC – Will and Jose.

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