



Transit Coordinating Committee

October 16, 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 – Call in number: 1 (888) 585-9008 and Conference Room Number/Access code: 904767451. **Please do not put your phone on hold during the conference call; instead please hang up and call back when you're free.**

Attendees:

Jim Allison, CCJPA

Greg Taylor, City of Sacramento

Mike Rosson, SACOG

Barbara VaughanBechtold, SACOG

Jeff Flynn, Unitrans

Mike Costa, e-tran

Caroline Payne, SACOG

Lisa Cappellari, PI

Chris Dougherty, SACOG

Mike Dour, Roseville Transit

Tiffani Fink, Paratransit, Inc.

Keith Martin, Yuba-Sutter Transit

Paul Bruzzone, ARUP

Mary Poole, Citrus Heights

Eileen Bruggeman, Roseville Transit

Brian James, El Dorado Transit

Lisa Heim, RT

Brent Bernegger, RT

Rick Williams, Michael Baker International

State Controller's Office staff

Teri Duarte, SMAQMD

Matt Mauk, El Dorado Transit

Dustin Foster, SACOG

1) TCC Coordination (Dour/All, 15 minutes)

- a. Public Comment on non-agenda topics
- b. Brief introductions and sharing of significant news about transit systems – Roseville – preliminary findings of ZEB transition study, have a grant to purchase 5 battery electric buses, looking forward to converting the whole fleet to ZEB per CARB requirements, analysis shows we can make commute runs and use depot charging only. More of a challenge for local buses – looking at on route charging since purchasing more buses in order to make depot only charging is cost prohibitive.
 - e-tran: For depot charging did plan identify how many charges would be needed?
 - Roseville: Yes, really need chargers for commuter system. Asked our contractor to look at dial-a-ride system. 450 Kw chargers with three chargers at each station.
 - Unitrans – We're in final engineering and planning for 14 charging stations and facility improvement. Ridership is up 10% YTD.
 - RT – Hired Jason Johnson new OMB Director. 6 Electric bus with some charging, and putting in infrastructure for up to 20 ZEBs. Students ride free initiative. 45% increase in ridership from students with a 5% increase in ridership overall. Free ride days to help with new route optimization.
 - e-tran: Any capacity issues with students ride free?
 - RT – Heard of a few pass-ups but another bus put on or the route was adjusted to accommodate larger loads.
 - PI – Ending ADA partnership with RT. Continue to operate CTSA and non-ADA services – level of service won't change. The change will start on March 29, 2020.
 - Yuba-Sutter Transit – Change service contractor after 21 years to Storer. Replacing half of the fleet. Looking at a next generation facility due to ZEB initiative study. Submitting a COA grant app to Caltrans. Ridership is down.

- c. Joint Transit Operator Project or Training Opportunities – ZEB study – coming up with specs to ZEBs and chargers procuring at the same time including performance measures.

SMAQMD – grant opportunities – competitive limited AB 617 community (south Sacramento) one grant up to \$40K ADA compliance and passenger cooling amenities, lighting and passenger information. Urban heat island study funded by Caltrans grant. 20 to 50% of people were concerned with comfort at bus stations. 38% more likely to use bus if stops were more shaded. Application period opens today and open for one month on website under incentive programs. Will announce by the end of January. Target emission reductions is specific to Florin.

PI – Who would apply if a bus stop was on an operator's property but the service provided was from another operator.

SMAQMD – Property owner would apply.

RT – Match?

SMAQMD – No.

SMAQMD – There is \$130 million for up to 400K per vehicle via the VW settlement. Funding administered on a first come first serve basis, on October 21st. vw.busmoney.valleyair.com. Questions contact SMAQMD.

SACOG – Considering it is first come first serve, is there any information currently to prepare responses to application in a timely manner. No pre-application information is available.

SMAQMD – Can contact air district staff with questions.

Roseville – The available information only lists school buses and shuttles. Can it be a commuter or fixed route bus?

SMAQMD – email Paul Philley for more information.

- d. General TCC Information

- SACOG submitted Caltrans Strategic Transit Partnerships grant – Emergency Evacuation Planning
- SACOG Unmet Transit Needs hearings – www.sacog.org/unmet-transit-needs & Placer County Unmet Transit Needs – see attachment
- CA Fuel Cell Partnership – Fuel Cell Electric Bus Road Map - <https://cafcop.org/sites/default/files/2019-CaFCP-FCEB-Road-Map.pdf>

2) Review and Approve August 21, 2019 TCC Minutes (Dour/All, 5 minutes) – see attachment Keith Martin motioned, and Mike Costa seconded. Approved unanimously.

3) Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans (PTASP) (Rosson/All, 20 minutes) – see attachment – plan does not need to be submitted to FTA, but will be reviewed as part of the FTA Triennial Review. There won't be a penalty, but if an agency is not trying to follow the process some FTA funding may be held back. If you have subcontractors as part of your agency the subcontractor will be held to the same requirements as the agency. Yolo has started their process partnering with their operations contractor. Working with legal to combine agency needs with contractor.

PI – We are working with TSA.

Unitrans – Template doesn't seem too onerous.

SACOG – FTA is including more worksheets on their website to help assess risk. Adding steps on how to incorporate agency TAM Plan into Safety Plan.

4) Next Generation Transit (Carpenter/Rosson/All, 20 minutes) – see attachment

- Request for Qualifications – Roseville – how is consultant selected? SACOG – usually internal staff reviews, but also considering bringing in outside agency staff as part of the proposal review process.
Unitrans – Concerned that the study will show that existing transit is not the "future".
SACOG – Part of consultant work is to go out to each transit agency and see what challenges and successes are out there. Also, bring best practices to region.
Roseville – What is the timing?
SACOG – Bring to SACOG Board at the end of October. Put out RFQ by the end of the year. Have responses by January or February of 2020.
Yuba-Sutter Transit – Suburban operators are concerned that the SACOG Board may not understand the differences in cost for services depending on geography. Talk about what is happening. Not how do we get to these things. Less leading the potential contractor to a destination rather than looking at the service in place and seeing what we need to do to improve service.
SACOG – RFQ – topical questions such as fares to get more integrated fare structure to make paying fares more seamless for users. Circulate updated draft to the TCC.
Roseville – Is there an opportunity for TCC comment?
PI – Look at funding sustainability. Pilots don't have sustainable funding and even if successful they don't continue because there is no dedicated funding to move forward.
e-tran – Is there a strategy from SACOG Board to consider dedicating specific funding or funding incentives to implement these services?
YST – What the public loves and what is cost effective aren't necessarily the same. Can't just do pilot project after pilot project without anything sustainable, even for successful services. Concerned about a realistic look at these things.
SACOG – Coming out of this study with these subcommittees to get input from transit agency staff along with policy makers/board members. Continue to work on this issue not just a study to put on a shelf.
RT – Look at this from a fare look. State is looking at fares is something bigger that they can handle. Every operator is using different fare processing systems. How do you manage fares amongst agencies? Have agencies heard from their riders about seamless fare payment. Better to make fares more simplistic.
SACOG – Not a fare rate issue. CA initiative plan, but leave it up to each region to come up with their simplistic fare process. Riders just want to tap and get on without worrying about how the fares are processed on the backend.
RT – Big issue is that everything looks different on each operator for paying fares.

YST – Sell very few combined passes. Statewide initiative is about fare card used. TDA says you can't give transit away. That conversation needs to be held. Access to low income people, the underbanked, and unbanked(equity) needs to be considered as well

RT – Been to TDA Task Force meetings. More performance based standards with less focus on farebox. If you don't meet farebox recovery currently TDA requires funds to be used for capital or pulled. If you don't meet standards seek input from other agencies so there is ability to improve.

YST – Trying to compare apples to apples.

RT – Have to have a lot of latitude

SACOG – Looking at reducing farebox recovery.

RT – Have people there raising uniqueness concerns.

Roseville – Who at CTA is leading this effort. Josh Shaw? The current TDA Task Force seems to be a "black box" process with no communication or sharing of information to all TDA stakeholders.

RT – Trying to be as diplomatic as possible. Trying to get representation from all areas of the state. Let RT know what needs to be brought up.

PI – Gets to idea of fare collection. Trying to get more to the backend so takes some ownership off of the riders.

CCJPA – CA Integrated Travel Project sponsor – state fare study. Great topic for committee. Payments route so the public can use their existing payment media (credit card etc.). How to make exceptions for different groups. Also, an issue with GTFIS that public can plan a trip but can't pay for trip in one place. Relates to bus procurement of fare hardware.

Unitrans – When are comments due and when taking out.

SACOG – Taking RFQ comments now. SACOG can push release date back, December 2019 isn't hard and fast date.

5) State Controller's Office – STA SGR Revisions Process (SCO staff/All, 20 minutes) –How often does the SCO make adjustments? The SCO makes two estimates in January and August 99312.7. January estimates use prior prior year information, and August estimates use just prior year information. Most recent August estimate is based on FY 17-18.

e-tran: January estimate 2 years prior, and August 1 year prior?

SCO: Yes

RT: This is common?

SCO: Yes

SCO: Estimated amount of funding from proposed/enacted budget.

RT – Amount allocated can change due to funds available.

Roseville – August estimate changes throughout the year based on what is taken in quarterly.

Yuba-Sutter Transit– Financial transaction report – how transparent is that process because of big changes from one operator can affect all operators throughout the state. Can we appeal before new numbers come out?

Roseville – Is it clear that what revenue is being considered?

RT – What constitutes operating revenue vs. overall revenue?

Roseville – Placer County got transient occupancy tax that affected overall revenue.

Yuba-Sutter Transit – Over the last 5 years SCO made major changes. Don't know what is going to happen. Funding sources are now fares but aren't really fares.

SCO – Timing issues being looked at. SCR due January 31st, but will work with operators to make sure it is correct. STA operator verification has to be done by June. Working on a way to make information reviewable by operators. Can bring audit related questions to the audit division. 99314 – what revenue is included. There is an FAQ for revenue included.

RT – As an operator how do we get comfort that these other agencies are following these definitions of revenue that should be included. SCO less audit driven. How do we understand process? How do we define percentages in major categories?

SCO – Make a massive change to FTR to bring SCO into compliance to tie the estimate back to a CAFR. We don't look at every line item. Look at totals to make sure it lines up with audited financial statement.

RT – CAFR doesn't require much detail.

PI – Put together a fact sheet of what type of revenue is eligible. How are other agencies viewing this? What goes in the FTR from larger agencies?

RT – There is a review in process because of agencies have significant STA revenue changes?

SCO – Run all changes or need for changes through legal office. There is the potential for August 1st estimate to change this year.

Yuba-Sutter Transit – What is the definition of an operator?

SCO – The TPA is now certifying which agencies are operators.

SCO – State budget and FTR are the only things SCO looks at for estimate.

SCO – Population is allocated to RTPA, only breakdown by operator for revenue basis.

Yuba-Sutter Transit – Potential for review August 31st estimate again? Will we have to go through a revised claim process? Can something be done at the SACOG Board level to avoid having to continually do revised claims?

SACOG – Requirement by TDA law is if there is a revision to estimates the SACOG Board must approve actual amount claimed.

PI – Can operator have a non-specific resolution?

SACOG – TDA funds claim resolutions can be non-specific relating to the funding amounts, though many claimant governing bodies do not allow this.

Yuba-Sutter Transit – Is there some way to have SACOG Board delegate to staff to make changes within a certain percentage.

SACOG – The only way to make that allowable would be a legislative change to the TDA.

SCO – Made changes to FTR reporting and will have training in early December 2019.

Yuba-Sutter Transit – How will outreach go out?

SCO – Letter to all operators – STA program staff and accounting staff should attend.

MBI – Also posted on SCO website?

SCO – Yes.

6) Sacramento Valley Station (Taylor, City of Sacramento/Allison, CCJPA/Bruzzone, ARUP/All, 30 minutes) – see attachment

Bus mobility center – Hope to give benefit to transit operators. TIRCP grant City of Sacramento and CCJPA partner on grant.

PI – Layover at SVS if train is late, need layover space. ADA/lift service specific area for service and layover.

SVS – Making connections on rail not just fastest train possible. Need transit operator service commitments and timing/implementation.

RT – How many buses could layover under the freeway?

SVS – On the southside of space can have open air for electrical charging.

Unitrans – Are you seeking letters of support or commitments by the end of the year.

SVS – Three tiers of support.

PI – Have a template.

SVS – Consultant can get template. Frequency, average trip length, ridership, etc. Looking at match opportunity. Mid-November for transit service numbers.

Unitrans – Planned improvements to Amtrak service.

SVS – Not at this point because of UP limitations.

Unitrans – Projections for residential and employment density.

SVS – Yes. County court will come online by 2022 with no parking. Multiple other developments coming online. Will distribute development timing information table.

Yuba-Sutter Transit – What is committed to go there? Don't know who future passengers will be and where they'll need and want to go.

PI – When is DGS development project going to open.

SVS – 5-6K employees at new facility that DGS is going to build. BOE 1/3 and other 2/3 consolidating other state agencies.

Roseville – Have been asked by DGS if we will stop at new state facility at Richards and 7th Street. Can we drop off on the side?

SVS – Side not in final design. Opportunity for a stop on Richards between 6th and 7th streets.

Roseville – ZEB study coming over the top of I-5 and can't use peak charging model.

El Dorado – Layover opportunities are good.

Yuba-Sutter Transit – Secure facility and charging.

SVS – Have to design to all the charging options.

El Dorado – Thought to the potential for hydrogen charging?

SVS – Currently working with SMUD to look at electrical capacity at sites.

Yuba-Sutter Transit – Hydrogen won't have to fuel midday because of better mileage.

7) Meetings/Events/Updates (All, 5 minutes)

a. Meetings or Events

b. Updates on Other Items - CEC – CalEVip incentive funding – October 23rd workshop. See online TCC agenda or handout. Focus on PEV charging.

Workshop on how to introduce electrical vehicles to your operation.

8) Set Next Meeting Dates (All, 5 minutes)

a. Next TCC meeting on December 11, 2019 – at SACOG Tiffani Fink motion, and Keith Martin second. Approved Unanimously.

b. Adjourn TCC

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