



CONTRA COSTA
transportation
authority

CONTRA COSTA
PARATRANSIT COORDINATING COUNCIL

DATE: Monday, Sept. 19, 2011
TIME: 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: Board Room
Contra Costa Transportation Authority
2999 Oak Road, Suite 110
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance		
2. Introductions		
3. Public comment on issues not on the agenda		Page
4. Minutes of the July 18, 2011 PCC Meeting	ACTION	4
5. Consideration of New Member Representing East County Paratransit Consumer	ACTION	8
6. Informational Brochure	ACTION	9
7. Update on current New Freedom cycle applicants from Contra Costa County	INFORMATION	10
8. Update on the New Freedom funded transportation service provider inventory - AC Transit/CCCTA	INFORMATION	*
9. Roll of PCC with Respect to Issues Involving a Service Operator	DISCUSSION	*

10. SRAC Report	INFORMATION	--
11. Funding opportunities	INFORMATION	--
12. Future agenda items	INFORMATION	--
13. News to share and adjournment of PCC	INFORMATION	--
14. Next Meeting Date - November 21, 2011 @ 2:00pm	INFORMATION	--
* Materials and or presentation will be available at the meeting		

NOTE: If you need assistance in arranging a ride to the meeting, please contact Nikki Simonsen by phone at (925)256-4744 or by email at **nsimonsen@ccta.net**.



**CONTRA COSTA
 PARATRANSIT COORDINATING COUNCIL
 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER
 January 2011**

Membership Category	Member	Term Expires 6/30
A. Paratransit Riders - Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (9)		
West County	Janet Abelson	2011
West County	Vacant	2012
West County	Marvin Dyson	2011
Central County	Vacant	2011
Central County	Vacant	2012
Central County	Vacant	2011
East County	Rod Anderson	2012
East County	D. Daly	2012
East County	Steve Lancaster	2011
B. Paratransit Service Provider Staff (Operators) (9)		
County Connection	Rick Ramacier	N/A
WestCAT	Charlie Anderson	N/A
Tri Delta Transit	Heidi Branson (Chair)	N/A
AC Transit	Mallory Nestor/Kim Huffman	N/A
BART	Laura Timothy	N/A
Richmond	Sam Casas	N/A
El Cerrito	Ellen Paasch	N/A
San Pablo	Lupe Monterrosa	N/A
Antioch	Brenda Perry (Vice Chair)	N/A
C. Service Agency Staff (Agencies Providing Paratransit Services) (6)		
Advisory Council on Aging	Earle Ormiston	2012
PH Commission on Aging	Vacant	2011
Develop Disabilities Council	Penny Musante	2012
Independent Living Resource	Roger Acuna	2013
	Vacant	2011
Mt. Diablo Center	Debbie Toth	2012
D. Funding Agency Staff (Ex-Officio, non-voting Members) (2)		
	Vacant	
	Vacant	

20 members / 11 quorum



CONTRA COSTA PARATRANSIT COORDINATING COUNCIL
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

July 18, 2011

Members Present: *Branson (Chair), Perry (Vice Chair), Abelson, Paasch, Daly, Musante, Ormiston, Anderson, Anderson, Lancaster*

Also Present *Mary Burdick*

Members Excused: *Dyson, Vital, Casas, Ramacier, Timothy, Monterrosa, Tot, Nestor, Huyck*

CCTA Staff: *Peter Engel, Nikki Simonsen*

1. **Pledge of Allegiance** Heidi Branson called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. Charlie Anderson led the PCC in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Introductions** All present made self-introductions.
3. **Public Comment on Issues Not on the Agenda**
Ms. Musante said she was glad Mary Burdick was in attendance. She brought up wheel chair length and asked what is done when a wheel chair is too long for the bus as there are some riders that needed to find special buses at inconvenient times because of wheel chair access. Mr. Anderson recalled a bus driver who disassembled a chair to fit it on the bus. Mary Burdick offered that other options are using private bus or van providers.

4. Minutes of the July 18, 2011 PCC Meeting

Ellen Paasch corrects the spelling of her last name. She also clarified an item from page 6 that the software mentioned in the minutes was going to be purchased in fiscal year 11/12.

Penny motioned to approve May 16 minutes, seconded by Janet Abelson. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Expiration of Terms (Revisited) and PCC Vacancies

Heidi Branson asked if members present were interested in serving again on the PCC. Peter Engel stated that interested persons need to fill out an application. He said the by-laws state PCC members needed to be a user or representative of paratransit. Mr. Engel added he talked to a representative from the Pleasant Hill Commission on Aging and there are others interested and he is waiting for further information. He suggested having a sub-committee meeting on membership options. Ms. Branson stated that membership issues would be revisited on the September agenda.

6. Informational Brochure

Peter Engel presented his ideas for a PCC brochure. Earle Ormiston also presented his ideas and suggested there be more color in the brochure as that made it easier to read. Janet Abelson said she'd like to see a paratransit bus in the brochure. Ellen Paasch said she'd like to see single people and persons of color represented, and also show someone in a wheelchair. Charlie Anderson suggested a stronger focus on paratransit. Mr. Engel offered to make the brochures in office to save money. Heidi Branson agreed.

7. Update on the Transit Sustainability Project

Charlie Anderson showed a power point slide presentation of the 9 county MTC regions funding overview. The slide outlined trends and costs which included the paratransit system. Janet Abelson asked for a cost per ride review. Peter Engel explained that MTC looked mainly at the Big 7 companies because they represent most of the east bay area transit. D. Daly asked if the

slide presentation was available to anyone and if it could be emailed to the board members. Janet Abelson voiced her concern about MTC gaining control of the Measure J tax money. Heidi Branson also explained that each county collects their data differently. Ellen Paasch voiced her concern that MTC had hired the consultants and therefore questions were being manipulated in their favor. Ms. Branson stated that Charlie Anderson is very active in the community and felt he would keep PCC's best interests in mind at meetings and voice concerns. Ms. Branson thanked Mr. Anderson for showing the slides and updating the PCC members on new Transit information.

8. Update the New Freedom Funded Transportation Service Provider Inventory-AC Transit/CCCTA

Peter Engel explained CCTA is concerned and needed to get a report out. He said he will provide more information at the September PCC meeting.

9. SRAC Report

Janet Abelson reported on performance of the FY cycle. She stated that on-time performance and complaints were all stable-no huge increase or decrease from the year before, but ridership and provider costs had gone up. She said that AC Transit will no longer be providing paratransit rides in order to cut costs.

10. Funding opportunities-New Freedom

Peter Engel explained that MTC currently has cycle 4. He suggested going to the MTC website under funding for more information. His concern is justifying new grant money when there is grant money not spent.

Heidi Branson said she'd like to obtain a list of grants submitted. Mr. Engel went on to explain the urbanized areas that compete for the grants.

11. Future Agenda Items

Peter Engel listed updating the brochure, agency vacancies, hospital discharge, and New Freedom information.

12. News to Share and Adjournment

Earle Ormiston passed around a flyer for a workshop regarding issues facing older drivers. Peter Engel told of a CalAct Fall conference Sept 20-23. He said to email him for attendance information.

Heidi Branson adjourned the meeting at 3:41 pm.

Consideration of New Member

<p>Summary</p>	<p>A new applicant is being considered for membership to the PCC. Mr. Michael Daugelli would represent riders from East County as an alternate. Currently the three East County positions area seated but the bylaws do allow for three alternates per region. In accordance with the new member application procedures, Mr. Daugelli attended a previous PCC meeting (July 2011) and will meet with the membership sub-committee prior to the PCC meeting.</p>
<p>Options</p>	
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>Recommendation will be offered by the nominating committee</p>

Background

In accordance with the PCC bylaws, the PCC nominating committee must bring a recommendation to the full PCC for a new member to join the PCC. Mr. Daugelli is a paratransit rider in East County and wishes to participate as a member of the PCC representing East County paratransit users. Currently the three East County positions area seated but the bylaws do allow for three alternates per region so it is anticipated Mr. Deugelli would participate as an alternate. Should an East County position become available he could assume that seat. Mr. Daugelli attended the PCC meeting on July 18, 2011 and met with the PCC nominating sub-committee before today’s meeting.

Agenda Item #6**ACTION**

Summary	The PCC requested looking into an informational brochure that could be made available at events promoting participation in the PCC. The draft brochure is attached for consideration or revision.
Options	The PCC could choose revise the brochure as necessary or leave as is. Printing cost options will be provided at the meeting.
Recommendation	To be determined

DRAFT BROCHURE (last page of agenda)

Agenda Item #7 INFORMATION

Summary	Several agencies from Contra Costa County submitted applications for New Freedom funding to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for the current funding cycle (Cycle 4). This item will provide an update and brief description for the project applications.
Options	None
Recommendation	This is an information item

Background

MTC recently solicited projects in the San Francisco Bay Area's large urbanized areas (UAs) for the Federal Transit Administration's New Freedom Program (49 USC Section 5317). The New Freedom program provides grants for new capital and operating projects aimed at reducing, beyond the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, transportation barriers faced by individuals with disabilities. The available funding is \$3.7 million for the Bay Area's large urbanized areas. Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, local government authorities, and public transportation operators.

A workshop for prospective large urbanized area applicants was held on Tuesday, June 28, 2011. A second workshop was held on Thursday, August 4, 2011. Applications were due to MTC September 2, 2011.

Program Targets for Cycle 4

Bay Area Large Urbanized Area	Cycle 4 Target
Antioch	\$141,075
Concord	\$283,493
SF - Oakland	\$2,212,018

There were five applicants applying to fund six projects in Contra Costa County. A brief description for each project follows:

County Connection

CCCTA has over 1,500 bus stops within its service area, many of which were inherited when CCCTA split from AC Transit. A number of these stop have not been updated since that time and have become difficult to access and utilize for those with disabilities. These mobility barriers are historical and are strong enough to deter individuals with disabilities from taking the fixed-route service. CCCTA has documented a number of the stops that are inadequate and will target stops with the highest wheelchair ridership as well as stops with high concentrations of low income, elderly, and disabled populations. Through coordination between local jurisdictions, elderly and disabled community representatives, non-profits, and other transit agencies where necessary, CCCTA will identify bus stops most in need of improvements and complete access improvement projects tailored to that particular stop with the goal of making improvements to up to 30 stops. These improvements could include benches, installing concrete pads for easier boarding and alighting, increasing pedestrian pathways to and from existing stops, and upgrading shelter facilities to accommodate those with disabilities.

Senior Helpline Services

Rides for Seniors / Transportation Information and Referral Continue providing, to our current otherwise homebound clients (seniors age 60 and older) residing in Contra Costa County, free, one-on-one, escorted, door-through-door rides primarily for medical care and basic necessities. (2) Formalize Transportation Information and Referrals service.

City of Lafayette - Lamorinda Spirit Van Program for Fragile Elderly and Disabled Seniors

Lamorinda Spirit Van Program for Fragile Elderly and Disabled Seniors Provide van service to assist the fragile elderly in remaining in their own homes as they age, thereby allowing them to participate more fully in the community which lessens isolation and improves socialization.

Train drivers to meet the specialized needs of the passengers, including: persons who use canes, walkers, and wheelchairs; persons who are ambulatory but have balance and medical challenges and cannot walk to bus stops or even from the door to the street to meet a CCCTA paratransit van without assistance; persons with

vision and hearing challenges; persons with dementia who need supervision when going out in the community.

City of Richmond Paratransit

RRT Transit 24/7/365 same-day door-to-door service for the greater Richmond area. The pilot RRT Transit is a 24/7/365 same-day door-to-door wheelchair accessible transportation service for residents with disabilities and senior living in the City of Richmond and the unincorporated communities of East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, North Richmond, and Rollingwood. The service will be for local trips only and rides will be shared whenever possible to keep cost down. The service area will include the cities of El Cerrito, Pinole (up to Appian Way), Richmond and San Pablo and the unincorporated communities of Bayview - Montalvin, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, North Richmond, Rollingwood, and Tara Hills.

City of Richmond Paratransit

Mobility Management Information and Referral Project (MMIRP) for West Contra Costa County The Mobility Management Information and Referral Project (MMIRP) will provide 24 hours, seven days a week, 365 days a year (24/7/365) live and recorded information in English and Spanish regarding transportation options for residents with disabilities and seniors living in West Contra Costa County utilizing a 1-800 number and website.

Mt. Diablo Center - Mt. Diablo Center Mobilizer

Rehabilitation Services of Northern California (RSNC) will provide door through door transportation to and from their Mt. Diablo Center (MDC) Adult Day Health Care program Monday through Friday and a nutrition / shopping shuttle for homebound senior Concord residents during MDC's program hours. The vehicle is equipped with a wheelchair lift and MDC participants and nutrition / shopping shuttle riders are both low-income senior and disabled populations. The program will continue to serve those who, due to their disabilities and low-income status, have little or no other option for transportation.

Meetings are on the 3rd Monday of every other month from 2-3:30 pm at the offices of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority. Transportation to the meetings will be arranged by CCTA. Please call to receive an application to join the PCC.



**Contra Costa Paratransit
Coordinating Council**

2999 Oak Road, Suite 100
Walnut Creek ■ CA 94597
(925) 256-4744 ■ (925) 256-4701 fax



We Need Your Help...

Do you ride
paratransit?



Representing
Seniors and
Persons with
Disabilities



The Contra Costa Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC) is seeking volunteers to serve on the Council. The PCC is made up of paratransit service users, operators and social service agencies that represent seniors and persons with disabilities with the purpose of:

- Advising the Contra Costa Transportation Authority on issues affecting paratransit service in Contra Cost County.
- Reviewing and prioritizing paratransit funding applications.



- Serving as a forum to discuss issues of mutual interest and to assist in the resolution of concerns related to paratransit service delivery and use.
- Promote the development and coordination of a comprehensive, integrated paratransit system.



The PCC currently needs people who ride one or more of the paratransit services in Contra Costa County. These consumers are selected representing east, central and west county areas.

