

DISCUSSION SUMMARY
KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

KERN COG CONFERENCE ROOM
1401 19TH STREET, THIRD FLOOR
BAKERSFIELD CA 93301

WEDNESDAY
MAY 9, 2007
11:00 A.M.

Ms. Wilbanks called the meeting to order at approximately 11:00 a.m. and a sign-in sheet was circulated.

1. SELF INTRODUCTIONS:

Members Present:

Linda Wilbanks	KRT
Judy Ardray	NOR / CTSA
Jon Johnston	Commission on Aging
Chris Beebout	NAPD
Lou Lopez	Independent Living
Anne Weber	Family Resources Ctr
Lynn Clark	KRC
Emery Rendes	GET
Margaret Hokokian	Caltrans
Chantal Ellison	CTSA

Staff:

Bob Snoddy	Kern COG
Darrel Hildebrand	Kern COG

Others:

None

2. APPROVE AGENDA

Ms. Ardray made a motion, seconded by Mr. Beebout, to approve the agenda.

3. UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS INITIAL DISCUSSION (PACKET PROVIDED AT MEETING)

Mr. Snoddy distributed a report that discussed the Unmet Transit Needs process and the Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee's responsibility. He stated the report provided the definition of an "unmet need" as defined by the Transportation Development Act (TDA) and Kern COG's "reasonable to meet" standards. He discussed what the committee would be determining at its June 13 meeting. The committee would be asked to recommend to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee one of three TDA findings: i.e., either 1) there are no unmet transit needs; or 2) there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet; or 3) there are unmet transit needs, including those that are reasonable to meet. Mr. Snoddy provided the committee with copies of published public notices; resolutions; and minutes for the transit agencies' public hearings. Mr. Snoddy stated that there are still a few documents that he would provide to the Committee before they make a final determination.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

A. GENERAL ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR SSTAC MEMBERS

Ms. Wilbanks stated that Jennifer Peters, who is the Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CBVI) SSTAC representative, is resigning from the center in June for

health reasons. Ms. Peters will try to encourage the new director to and replace her as the new CBVI representative.

Ms. Grasty stated that the Office on Aging and Adult Services is working on transportation needs for their cooling centers and they are working with Parks and Recreation. One of the reasons senior citizens did not go to the cooling centers last year was a lack of transportation. The Office on Aging staff will be going to the GET board with their Issues Report on May 29. She stated that they are hoping to receive 50 free bus passes from GET. Ms. Grasty indicated that the Office on Aging applied for a grant from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, which would be reimbursing them up to a certain amount for the provided services. The plan is to increase the attendance at the cooling centers.

Ms. Wilbanks explained that when Kern County had the winter freeze this past January, Kern Regional Transit (KRT) worked with GET to help give rides to the community. The KRT has assisted riders by allowing pets to ride on the buses during the Day fire, outside of Frazier Park last September.

Ms. Weber stated that Kern COG did a great job while discussing the Regional Blueprint outreach her in community in Frazier Park. She said the process was very well organized and managed.

Mr. Hildebrand indicated that the Blueprint meetings are important and the committee is going beyond what was traditionally done. The goal is to coordinate the cities, counties, special districts, and regional agencies so they could deal more effectively with the state and federal levels. He stated that the next four meetings would be held in Lamont, McFarland, Shafter and Wasco. Mr. Hildebrand stated that behind Southern California and the Bay Area, the eight counties of Central California are the third largest population center in the state.

B. SET UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS MEETING FOR JUNE 13, 2007, AT 11 A.M. (QUORUM WILL BE MANDATORY)

Ms. Wilbanks indicated that it was very important for the representatives to attend this meeting and if they were unable, they needed to send an alternate from their agency. It is very important that they get a quorum to vote because the transit needs would be recommended to the Kern COG Board for approval on June 21, 2007.

C. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Ms. Wilbanks introduced Ms. Hokokian as the new SSTAC representative from Fresno Caltrans, District 6. Ms. Hokokian offered to give an update on Caltrans projects at the October SSTAC meeting.

Ms. Wilbanks stated that the next SSTAC meeting would convene on June 13, 2007 at 11 a.m. in the Kern COG Boardroom.

5. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11.27 a.m.