
Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)

MEETING AGENDA

August 8, 2023

Tulare County Association of Governments

210 N. Church St, Ste. B

Visalia, CA 93291

10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

In-Person Meeting

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the California Ralph M. Brown Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids, translation requests, or other accommodations, or to be able to access this agenda and documents in the agenda packet, please contact the TCAG office at 559-623-0450 at least 3 days prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Council on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. Unscheduled comments are limited to 3 minutes.

Note: Prior to action by the Council on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item.

ITEMS FOR ACTION AND DISCUSSION:

I. Welcome & Introductions.

II. Action: Approval of Minutes

- a. May 9, 2023 (Pages 3-5)

III. Action: Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2023-24

IV. Information: Presentation on Serving Riders with Disabilities

V. Information : Microtransit Update

VI. Discussion : Transportation Planning & Coordination

- a. Cross Valley Corridor Phase I Operations Plan
- b. TCRTA Branding and Outreach Update
- c. Zero Emissions Rollout Plan(s)

VII. Transit Provider Updates :

- a. Visalia Transit

b. Tulare County Regional Transit Agency (TCRTA)

VIII. Social Service Provider Updates :

a. Optional updates from those in attendance

IX. Other Items/Future Agenda Item Requests

X. **Adjourn.** The next meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2023, at the Tulare County Association of Governments Office, 210 N. Church St., Suite B, Visalia, CA, 93291 at 10:00 a.m.

Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) Members
of the
Tulare County Regional Transportation Planning Agency (TCAG)

<i>Vacant</i> - Chair	Representative of Potential Transit User 60 Years of Age or Older
Rebecca Donabed ³ - Vice Chair	Representative of Potential Transit User who is Disabled
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative of Potential Transit User who is Disabled
Michael Esquibel ³	Representative of a Local Social Service Provider for Seniors/Social Service Transit Provider
John Mauro ²	Representative of a Local Social Service Provider for Seniors/Social Service Transit Provider
Mark Michaelian ¹	Representative of a Local Social Service Provider for the Disabled/Social Service Transit Provider
Norma Verduzco ¹	Representative of a Local Social Service Provider for the Disabled/Social Service Transit Provider
Albert Cendejas ¹	Representative of a Local Social Service Provider for Persons of Limited Means
Teresa Ortega ³	Transit Operator Representative
Caleb Bowman ²	Transit Operator Representative
Taryn Ward ²	Representative of Potential Transit Users from Local Youth

¹ indicates term ending June 30, 2024.

² indicates term ending June 30, 2025.

³ indicates term ending June 30, 2026.

SSTAC Chair – term ending June 30, 2024.

SSTAC Vice Chair – term ending June 30, 2024.

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TCAG Transit Staff

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Giancarlo Bruno, Regional Planner; GBruno@TulareCAG.ca.gov

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OFFICE ADDRESS

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Tulare County Association of Governments
Social Services Transportation Advisory Council
May 9, 2023

ATTENDANCE LIST

Representative of potential transit user 60 years of age or over	Dan Fox - Chair (P)
Representative of potential transit user who is disabled	Rebecca Donabed (P)
Representative of potential transit user who is disabled	Glen Stewart (A)
Representative of local social service provider for seniors/social service transportation provider	Michael Esquibel (A)
Representative of local social service provider for seniors/social service transportation provider	John Mauro (P)
Representative of local social service provider for the disabled/social service transportation provider	Mark Michaelian (P)
Representative of local social service provider for the disabled/social service transportation provider	Norma Verduzco (P)
Representative of local social service provider for persons of limited means	Albert Cendejas (A)
Transit Operator Representative	Teresa Ortega (P)
Transit Operator Representative	Caleb Bowman (P)
Representative of potential transit users from local youth	Taryn Ward (P)

Others Present: Richard Tree, TCRTA; Albert Barragan, TCRTA; Jennie Miller, TCRTA; Clay Landis, TCRTA; Angelina DeRossett, Visalia Transit; Laura Vermillion, Visalia Transit
TCAG Staff: Giancarlo Bruno; Derek Winning

SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES

Public Comments

No public comments were received.

I. Welcome & Introductions

The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) was called to order by Chair Fox at 9:02 a.m. on May 9, 2023. Persons in attendance noted presence over Zoom teleconference.

II. Action: Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion by Member Mauro and a second by Vice Chair Donabed, the minutes from February 14, 2023, were approved. Draft minutes from November 8, 2022, were also approved unanimously upon a motion by Member Verduzco and a second by Member Ortega.

III. Action: Adoption of 2023-24 Meeting Schedule

Chair Fox introduced the item and Mr. Bruno presented the proposed times. Member Verduzco noted a correction to the proposed February date; it should be February 6, 2024, rather than the February 8, 2024, originally stated. Schedule was approved on a motion by Vice Chair Donabed and a second by Chair Fox.

IV. Action: Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2023-24

Chair Fox and Vice Chair Donabed both indicated a willingness to continue in their respective positions. Chair Fox invited other interested members to submit their nominations, no other nominations were submitted. Chair Fox and Vice Chair Donabed were unanimously elected.

V. Action: 2023 Unmet Transit Needs Review and Recommendations

Chair Fox introduced the item and proposed a system in which each comment would be given one of five (5) designations:

- 1) An unmet transit need that is reasonable to meet.
- 2) An unmet transit need that is *not* reasonable to meet.
- 3) An Operational Issue.
- 4) Feedback/Comments.
- 5) Service is currently provided.

The Council deliberated to place each comment into one of the above-referenced categories. Upon completing their review of all comments received, they recommended the following six (6) items be deemed "unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet":

- 1) Tulare County Regional Transit Agency (TCRTA) shall post current schedules at all its transit centers and timepoint stops.
- 2) Regional microtransit service shall be provided and shall include service to the communities of Matheny Tract, Pixley, Seville, Springville, Tooleville, Terra Bella, and Yettem. Matheny Tract and Tooleville shall be included in the greater Visalia service area.
- 3) TCRTA shall restore transit services to the Tule River Indian Reservation upon finalizing a service agreement with Tribal authorities.
- 4) TCRTA and Visalia Transit shall begin sale of senior/ADA/military-discounted T-Passes to eligible buyers.
- 5) TCRTA shall install a bus stop sign and bench at the North Park Apartments stop on N. Crawford Ave. in Dinuba.

6) Visalia Transit shall address comments regarding Northside transit service by improving access and reducing travel times between downtown and the Orchard Walk shopping center.

VI. Other Items/ Future Agenda Requests

Vice Chair Donabed recommended a future agenda item to provide increased training and awareness of issues faced by transit riders with disabilities to transit drivers. Mr. Barragan and Member Bowman provided some brief information about their driver training to ensure that the needs of riders with disabilities are being attended to properly.

Chair Fox requested an update on microtransit for the August agenda.

VII. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm on May 9, 2023.