



SCTA Sonoma
County
Transportation
Authority

Keeping Sonoma County Moving

PARATRANSIT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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AGENDA

Note:

Changed date for special meeting

Tuesday April 6, 2004

1:30- 3:00

PRMD Hearing Room – 2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa

ITEM

- I. Introductions and comments on items not on agenda
- II. Consent Items – DISCUSSION/ACTION
 - A. Approval of February 24, 2004 Minutes
Minutes will be distributed at the meeting and posted online
- III. Reports – INFORMATION
 - A. Transit Agencies
 - B. SCTA Report
 1. SMART update
 2. Sales Tax measure
 3. 04/05 funding cycle projects
 - C. MTC Report
 1. RTP update
- IV. FTA Section 5310 Update
- V. Coordinated Claim – DISCUSSION/ACTION
- VI. Adjourn – ACTION

The next **SCTA** meeting is April 12, 2004

The next **PCC** meeting is June 22, 2004

DISABLED ACCOMMODATION: If you have a disability that requires the agenda materials to be in an alternative format or that requires an interpreter or other person to assist you while attending this meeting, please contact the SCTA at least 72 hours prior to the meeting, to ensure arrangements for accommodation.

Please note that PCC agendas are available online at the SCTA website:
www.sonoma-county.org/scta and click on "Agendas".

The PCC agenda is available in pdf format and in MS Word.

PARATRANSIT COORDINATING COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT
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DATE: April 6, 2004

TO: Paratransit Coordinating Committee

FROM: Janet Spilman, Senior Transportation Planner

SUBJECT: **ITEM IV:** FTA Section 5310 Projects

ISSUE:

What is the status of FY 2004/2005 FTA Section 5310 funds for Sonoma County?

BACKGROUND

Federal Transit Act Section 5310 provides funds to non-profits and public agencies for the purchase of paratransit vans and related equipment for the disabled and elderly. This is an annual process that involves project sponsors, the Paratransit Coordinating Committee, MTC and Caltrans.

Projects were submitted by February 25. Each request was scored based on evaluation guidelines and scoring criteria prescribed by Caltrans. As a point of reference, Projects that scored in the mid 70's were funded last year.

MTC is scheduled to adopt the final listing on April 28, 2004. The approved list will be forwarded to the CTC, which will review the applications this summer.

Two agencies submitted projects: Becoming Independent had two projects and the City of Santa Rosa had four projects. The scores are detailed in the following table.

FTA Section 5310 FY 2004/2005 Scoring Table

Applicant	Project	Cost	Request = 80%Cost	Project Score
City of Santa Rosa	Small Bus	\$45,000	\$36,000	88
	Small Bus	\$45,000	\$36,000	82
	Small Bus	\$45,000	\$36,000	82
	Small Bus	\$45,000	\$36,000	82
Becoming Independent	Medium Bus w/radio	\$57,500	\$46,000	73
	Small Bus w/radio	\$46,500	\$37,200	68

This item is for information only. No action is required.

SONOMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY STAFF REPORT

DATE: April 6, 2004
TO: Paratransit Coordinating Committee (PCC)
FROM: Janet Spilman, Senior Transportation Planner
SUBJECT: **ITEM V:** TDA/STA Coordinated Claim for FY 2004/2005

ISSUE:

Should the PCC recommend the SCTA to adopt the TDA/STA Coordinated Claim for FY 2004/2005 The Transit Technical Advisory Committee does not make a unified recommendation.

BACKGROUND:

Each year a Coordinated Claim for Transportation Development Act (TDA) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funds is developed by the jurisdictions of Sonoma County. These funds are the **primary source of operating revenue** for all of Sonoma County's transit operators. Because the service areas of transit operators in Sonoma County cross jurisdictional boundaries, MTC requires that a Coordinated Claim for these funds be prepared and adopted annually by each jurisdiction in Sonoma County and by the Sonoma County Transportation Authority.

The Coordinated Claim documents existing inter-jurisdictional funding agreements for transit services in Sonoma County. The Claim describes the distribution of TDA and STA funds. The process of developing the Coordinated Claim each year is the primary mechanism for establishing contribution agreements for services provided by transit operators to local jurisdictions.

The Coordinated Claim has been reviewed by the Transit Technical Advisory Committee, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Paratransit Coordinated Committee (PCC).

Fiscal Year 2004/2005 Revenues:

Transportation Development Act (TDA) Funds: TDA revenues are derived from sales tax receipts (one quarter of 1% of the state sales tax) and are, therefore affected by changes in the economy. In FY 2004/2005 \$17 million in TDA funds are projected to be disbursed in Sonoma County. Previous year TDA distribution:

FY 2004/2005, \$17,000,000
FY 2003/2004, \$17,500,000
FY 2002/2003, \$17,800,000
FY 2001/2002, \$18,200,000

In addition, 2002/2003 TDA actual revenues were down by \$500,000 from the estimate, creating a *negative* excess generation. This must be distributed to all of the jurisdictions by the same formula that positive excess generation has been distributed. Clearly, this reduction in operating revenues represents a serious problem for the transit systems.

Fiscal Year 2004/2005 Coordinated Claim:

In general, most jurisdictions provide TDA funding to Sonoma County Transit for a variety of contract transit services. For a complete listing of all contracted services, please refer to the Coordinated Claim.

Since FY 1997/1998, Santa Rosa has claimed TDA funds generated within the Roseland area per agreement with Sonoma County. Roseland funds claimed by Santa Rosa are used to support CityBus services in the Roseland Area.

Based on a contribution formula established in FY 1996/1997, all Sonoma County entities contribute to Golden Gate Transit (GGT). Collectively, as required by MTC resolution 2858, these contributions provide an amount equal to 25% of Sonoma County's FY 2004/2005 TDA funds.

In an effort to fund complementary paratransit services required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, each entity that contracts with Sonoma County Transit contributes an additional 20% of their fixed-route contributions to support ADA required paratransit services. Currently, Sonoma County contracts with Volunteer Wheels and the city of Santa Rosa contracts with MV Transportation to provide paratransit services within their respective service areas.

TDA funds can also be used for non-transit purposes if MTC makes a finding that "all transit needs which are reasonable to meet are being met" in those jurisdictions claiming funds for other purposes. Recognizing the increased need for paratransit services and continuing unmet transit needs, the SCTA determined that use of TDA funds for non-transit purposes be phased out by 2002 (Resolution 2001-008).

State Transit Assistance (STA) Funds: State Transit Assistance Funds are allocated from three subcategories; (1) STA Population Formula Funds, (2) STA Regional Paratransit Funds, and (3) STA Revenue Based Funds. Each category has a slightly different set of requirements for its distribution.

The three categories are described in brief as follows:

Population Formula Funds are allocated to local jurisdictions on a population basis and can only be used on transit projects. Entities may claim from current year and prior year funds and may borrow against the fund as long as the fund, as a whole, maintains a positive balance.

Regional Paratransit Funds are available at MTC's discretion for paratransit projects submitted through this coordinated process. Eligible claimants are Sonoma County Transit, Petaluma Transit and Santa Rosa Transit. As in prior years, 10% of FY 2004/2005 Regional Paratransit funds have been dedicated to Golden Gate to support its regional ADA paratransit services.

Revenue Based Funds are allocated only to eligible TDA Article 4 transit operators. In Sonoma County, the cities of Healdsburg, Cloverdale, Santa Rosa, and the County are eligible for these funds.

New for FY 04/05

- Due to an accounting error at MTC interest had been distributed incorrectly for a number of years and was adjusted in a single adjustment this year. This had the following results
 - Healdsburg (20,757)
 - Petaluma 224,386
 - Santa Rosa 199,035
 - County (244,407)
 - GGT (201,647)
- Sonoma County Transit is proposing to claim \$276,006 from the city of Santa Rosa to support intercity fixed-route service provided by Sonoma County Transit (\$220,805) and intercity paratransit service provided by Sonoma County Paratransit (\$55,201).
- Sonoma County Transit is also proposing to contribute \$30,000 to help maintain the Second Street Transit Mall in Santa Rosa.

REQUESTED ACTION;

The PCC should review the enclosed 2004/2005 Coordinated Claim for TDA and STA Funds and make a recommendation to the SCTA .