



**SCTA** Sonoma  
County  
Transportation  
Authority  
*Keeping Sonoma County Moving*

**Transit - Paratransit  
Coordinating Committee**

Directors

Paul Kelley, Chair  
Sonoma County

Robert Jehn, V. Chair  
Cloverdale

Steve Allen  
Windsor

Bob Blanchard  
Santa Rosa

Stanley Cohen  
Sonoma

Patricia Gilardi  
Cotati

Mike Healy  
Petaluma

Linda Kelley  
Sebastopol

Mike Kerns  
Sonoma County

Jake Mackenzie  
Rohnert Park

Lisa Schaffner  
Healdsburg

Tim Smith  
Sonoma County

**AGENDA**

Tuesday March 15, 2005

2pm - 3:30pm

PRMD conference room  
2550 Ventura Avenue  
Santa Rosa

**ITEM**

- I. Introductions and comments on items not on agenda
- II. Consent Items – DISCUSSION/ACTION
  - A. Approval of the agenda
  - B. Approval of February 22, 2005 Minutes
- III. Reports – INFORMATION
  - A. Transit Agencies
  - B. SCTA Report
- IV. Section 5310 Projects – Discussion
- V. FY 05/06 Coordinated Claims - Discussion/Action
- VI. Adjourn – ACTION

---

The next **SCTA** meeting is April 11, 2005  
The next **TPCC** meeting is May 17, 2005

SCTA Staff

Suzanne Wilford  
Executive Director

Janet Spilman  
Sr. Transportation Planner

Elijah Henley  
Sr. Transportation Planner

Marge Franco  
Executive Assistant

520 Mendocino Avenue  
Suite 240  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
PH: 707-565-5373  
FAX: 707-565-5370

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](http://www.sonoma-county.org/scta) and click on "Agendas".  
The PCC agenda is available in pdf format and in MS Word.

---

**SONOMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**  
**TRANSIT PARATRANSIT COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

---

**MINUTES**  
February 22, 2005

ATTENDEES

Dennis Battenberg, Chair	Van Tipton, Area Agency on Aging
Larry Henzerling, C.R.I.	Jim Wagner, Sonoma County Transit
Katherine Taylor, Volunteer Wheels	Jodi Curtis, Sonoma County Transit
Cynthia Petersen, Golden Gate	Janet Spilman, SCTA
James Ryan, City of Petaluma	Cheryl Tarter, Healdsburg Transit
Cynthia Petersen, GGBHTD	Coutney Looney, Healdsburg
Beryl Brown, Earl Baum Center	Bruce Eisert, City of Santa Rosa
Daniel Shelly	Linda Picton
Irma Ramirez	Onechanh Moukdahan
Joel Woodhull	Darren Heatherly
Robert Cuneo	Roberta Zobel
Gail Burge, P.P.S.C.	Pam Hayne, Joblink
Alice Linn	Liz Sutton, North Bay Industries

ITEM

Chair Battenberg called the meeting to order.

I. Introductions were made.

Public comment

Alice Linn asked if the format of the meeting will change with the change in the committee name (addition of the word Transit). Chair Battenberg replied that the format of the committee will not change. Transit has always been a part of the discussion and membership is made up of fixed route and paratransit riders and providers.

Linda Picton spoke on behalf of Onechanh Moukdahan that she may be able to board a paratransit vehicle with her tricycle. Paratransit providers at the table, specifically, Jodi Curtis of Sonoma County Paratransit, were interested in the size and weight of the tricycle. There was a willingness to transport the tricycle if it was not a safety hazard.

Ms. Picton also read correspondence from Larry Hall, who is concerned about the safety and security of the transit mall. Mr. Hall also has had problems transferring at the YMCA.

Ms. Linn spoke on behalf of Leoni Barnes about the need for meetings in the evening and on weekends. Ms. Linn also wants meetings specifically on fixed route transit.

Pam Hayne of Joblink announced that Joblink has been awarded a LIFT grant to study low income transportation issues.

Beryl Brown commented that unemployment among the blind is nearly 75%.

Daniel Shelley said that routes and scheduling need to be re examined in light of traffic patterns and passenger use.

II. Consent Items

- A. The agenda was approved.
- B. The minutes were approved.

### III. Reports

#### A. Transit Agencies

1. Santa Rosa CityBus – Bruce Eisert reports that SR CityBus has hired a consultant to study routes and make recommendations to the City Council by the end of the year. There will be opportunity for public input along the way. Bruce will keep the committee informed. There will be a meeting about Transit Mall Safety and Security on March 11. The Transit User group discussed new vehicles, 2 are expected in May, 4 more later in the year.
2. Petaluma Transit – James Ryan reported that Transit is in the middle of a performance audit. The SRTTP is in progress. There are continuing problems with the supplier of the new buses. Vehicles are being delivered with the wrong specifications. Mr. Ryan is working to correct these problems and hopes to have the new vehicles on the road soon.
3. Sonoma County Transit – Jodi Curtis reported that there will be 5 new Orion buses this fall. Changes to the paratransit policies are still in the works. The Global Positioning Systems (GPS) recently installed in some of the vehicles have proven to be very useful.
4. Healdsburg Transit – Cheryl Tarter reported that Healdsburg has recently ordered a new vehicle
5. Golden Gate Transit – Cynthia Petersen reported that drivers are being trained to announce stops, and Golden Gate is looking for feedback. Fares will be increasing at the normal intervals. 60% of bridge toll revenue goes to transit and not to maintain the bridge. .

#### B. SCTA report

1. The SCTA adjusted the committee structure to include more involvement from planning departments. The Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) was formed as a result. Also, several committees were renamed to better reflect their purpose. The Paratransit Coordinating Committee is now the Transit-Paratransit Coordinating Committee (TPCC) and the Countywide Bicycle Advisory Committee has become the Countywide Bicycle –Pedestrian Committee (CBPAC).
2. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) have been working on a weekly basis to develop a Strategic Plan. A completed Plan is required by June.

### IV. Coordinated Claims

The Transit TAC met on February 18 to discuss the FY 05/06 Coordinated Claims. There was not enough time to include this information in the agenda, so the Coordinated Claim will be included in the March 15 meeting packet.

### V. Section 5310 Update

The FTA Section 5310 schedule was discussed, applications are due at the end of the week. Grant applicants include North Bay Industries, Petaluma People Service Center, Pride Industries and Becoming Independent.

### VI. The meeting was adjourned.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRANSIT- PARATRANSIT COORDINATING COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT</b></p>
--

**DATE:** March 15, 2005

**TO:** Transit -Paratransit Coordinating Committee

**FROM:** Janet Spilman, Senior Transportation Planner

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

**ISSUE:**

What is the status of FY 2005/2006 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 27, 2005. The approved list will be forwarded to the CTC, which will review the applications this summer.

Four agencies submitted projects: Becoming Independent, North Bay Industries, Petaluma People Service Center and Pride Industries. Projects will be scored on March 9 (after this report is prepared). Project information and scores will be available at the meeting.

**FTA Section 5310 FY 2005/2006 Applications**

Becoming Independent	2 Sm Buses, 1 Med Bus	149,000
North Bay Rehabilitation Services	1 Medium Bus	56,000
Petaluma People Services Center	2 Modified Vans	96,000
Pride Industries	5 Lg Buses (Type III), 5 softwr, 5 Mobile data terminals	325,000

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

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRANSIT- PARATRANSIT COORDINATING COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT</b></p>
--

**DATE:** March 15, 2005

**TO:** Transit - Paratransit Coordinating Committee (TPCC)

**FROM:** Janet Spilman, Senior Transportation Planner

**SUBJECT: ITEM V:** TDA/STA Coordinated Claim for FY 2005/2006

**ISSUE:**

Should the TPCC recommend the SCTA to adopt the TDA/STA Coordinated Claim for FY 2005/2006? The Transit Technical Advisory Committee recommends adoption of the 05/06 Coordinated Claim.

**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 as they relate to 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.

**Fiscal Year 2005/2006 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 2005/2006 \$17.9 million in TDA funds are projected to be disbursed in Sonoma County. Previous year TDA distribution:

FY 2005/2006, \$17,900,000

FY 2004/2005, \$17,000,000

FY 2003/2004, \$17,500,000

FY 2002/2003, \$17,800,000

In addition, 2004/2005 TDA actual revenues were slightly over the estimate, creating an excess generation of \$389,000. This must be distributed to all of the jurisdictions by the same formula that TDA funds are distributed.

### **Fiscal Year 2005/2006 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.

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 2005/2006 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, Petaluma contracts with Petaluma People Service Center 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 2005/2006 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.

### **REQUESTED ACTION;**

The PCC should review the enclosed 2005/2006 Coordinated Claim for TDA and STA Funds and make a recommendation to the SCTA.