



Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 24, 2011, 2:15 p.m., 1333 Broadway, Suite 300, Oakland

Attendance Key (A = Absent, P = Present)

Members:

- List of members with attendance status: Sylvia Stadmire (P), Will Scott (P), Aydan Aysoy (P), Larry Bunn (P), Herb Clayton (A), Shawn Costello (P), Herb Hastings (A), Joyce Jacobson (P), Sandra Johnson-Simon (P), Gaye Lenahan (P), Jane Lewis (P), Jonah Markowitz (P), Betty Mulholland (P), Rev. Carolyn Orr (A), Sharon Powers (P), Vanessa Proee (P), Carmen Rivera-Hendrickson (P), Michelle Rousey (P), Clara Sample (P), Harriette Saunders (P), Maryanne Tracy-Baker (A), Esther Waltz (P), Renee Wittmeier (P), Hale Zukas (P)

Staff:

- List of staff with attendance status: Matt Todd (P), John Hemiup (P), Jacki Taylor (A), Naomi Armenta (P), Krystle Pasco (P), Vida Lepol (P)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Sylvia Stadmire called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m. The meeting began with introductions and a review of the meeting outcomes.

Guests Present: Jennifer Cullen, Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley; Tammy Siu, City of Oakland; Jeff Weiss, Bay Area Community Services; David Zehnder, City of Newark

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Approval of September 26, 2011 Minutes

Jonah Markowitz moved that PAPCO approve the September 26, 2011 minutes as written. Carmen Rivera-Hendrickson seconded the motion. The motion carried with one abstention (20-1).

4. Workshop Outcomes Report

Naomi Armenta reported on the outcomes of the Alameda CTC Senior and Disabled Mobility Workshop that convened at the Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley on July 12, 2011. Naomi stated that, of the 69 attendees, 20 responded to the online evaluation. Respondents felt the resource fair was valuable. Over 60 percent deemed the fair very helpful or fairly helpful. The memo in the agenda packet provides additional survey results (Attachment 04).

Naomi also summarized the outcomes from the Mobility Workshop Working Groups that addressed the following four questions:

1. Is there an optional “mix” of accessible transportation – services/resources that should exist throughout the County?
2. Should there be more uniformity across the County in terms of service parameters?
3. How should we balance coverage and quality in an era of constrained resources and growing need?
4. What else beyond the accessible transportation program should be funded through the TEP?

Members provided the following input:

- Members stated that they enjoyed the workshop, and they need a larger room. The location of the conference was great, but the conference room was too small, and those in wheelchairs were confined to a corner. It was hard to move around without bumping into each other.
- One member stated that staff should emphasize accessibility for power chairs and wheelchairs when planning functions; the power chairs take a lot of room/space. Staff explained that they used a spreadsheet to track how many people with wheelchairs would attend and took fewer RSVPs to accommodate the people with power chairs and wheelchairs

who were planning to attend the workshop. Staff stated that moving forward, when it's time to plan for the next workshop, Alameda CTC will take members' comments into consideration.

5. Approval of Final Work Plan for FY 11-12

Naomi Armenta reviewed the final goals listed in the Work Plan for fiscal year 2010-2011 (FY 11-12). PAPCO members defined these goals were defined in their September meeting.

Questions/feedback from the members:

- Members raised concerns about Clipper and Regional Transit Connection (RTC) Clipper cards.
- Members inquired about receiving new business cards. Staff will follow up.
- Members were encouraged to communicate with their own providers to determine where additional resources (for example, Easter Seals Taxi Pocket Guides) are needed. Staff will then assist in obtaining materials.

Jonah Markowitz moved to accept the FY 11-12 work plan as stated. Sandra Johnson-Simon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (21-0).

6. City of Alameda Quarterly Report

Gail Payne, from the City of Alameda gave a presentation on the City of Alameda Paratransit Program and gave PAPCO an update on the Scholarship Program, Shuttle Service, Taxi Services, and Group Trips.

The City of Alameda Commissioners and City Council are reviewing possible changes to streamline the paratransit program as follows:

- Scholarship Program – Provide opportunities for low-income individuals.
- Shuttle Service – Act as a bridge between AC Transit and East Bay Paratransit (EBP), effective May 1st. EBP will lower eligibility age to 55 years and older, operate the West Loop only on Tuesdays, create a new Central Loop for Thursdays, and expand coverage of West and East Loops.
- Taxi Services – Provide same-day service, effective May 1. Other considerations are to operate taxi meter lift-equipped vans, assign Alameda County as the boundary, limit Medical Return Trip Improvement Program (MRTIP or MR. TRIP) vouchers to five per month, place expiration dates on travel vouchers, provide contingency funding.

In FY 10-11, the MRTIP cost for the first six months was \$20K (\$24/trip); it was \$11K (\$23/trip) in the second six months; and it was \$22 per trip in the first three months of FY 11-12.

- Group Trips – Provide leisure activities.

Questions/feedback from the members:

- A member suggested posting or highlighting in the shuttle all the historical places that the shuttle goes to so that people can be aware of places they can visit. A member asked if the Alameda shuttle will go to the Clipper programs, and another member wanted to know if a MR. TRIP ride goes to the hospital. The answer was yes, but the pick-up spot must be in Alameda.
- How many people are riding the shuttle? Gail said about 550 per month before the program change. Now, about 350 board per month.
- Why does the shuttle close so early when people still need to use shuttle late in the evenings? Gail said that based on the survey, most people prefer 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., since more people ride during those hours. The programs are based on needs, and the City tries to accommodate the largest need.
- Is the shuttle handicap accessible? Yes.
- Does MR. TRIP run 24-hours, 7 days per week? Yes.
- Will the City of Alameda consider going back to old routes? No.
- A member wanted to know if the City of Alameda has thought about using one shuttle to cover all areas. Gail said that due to the size of Alameda area, the City will not be able to cover all areas.
- A member stated that people cannot go to the mall because the shuttle closes so early. Can shuttle coverage area be expanded so people will be able to get around? Gail said that anyone can use the shuttle if he or she is 55 or over or has a disability.

7. City of Hayward Quarterly Report

Ann Culver from the City of Hayward gave a presentation to PAPCO on the City of Hayward Paratransit Program and gave a first-quarter update report on its unduplicated riders, door-to-door rides, and group trips. The number of unduplicated riders on the City's service during the first quarter decreased in comparison with the same period last year due to duplication of service. The door-to-door rides also declined due to duplication of service. The group trip fare per enrolled rider is free. The number of group passenger rides is higher

this year. New group trip destinations have also been added to the destinations list. The City's deadline for the FY 12-13 application for nonprofit services was October 12, 2011.

Questions/feedback from the members:

- How did the City come to the conclusion that the number of unduplicated riders on the City's service during the first quarter decreased? Ann said City staff did this through weekly conversations with riders. The City will do a little more research and report back.
- Will the City be able to serve more people just in case the funds increase?
- What was the fare before the \$4 fare? Ann said \$2.
- In the first quarter, door-to-door and group trips combined decreased from \$55.51 to \$34.74. What allowed the cost to go down? Ann responded that 9 percent of the hourly rate did go down and the increase in number of group trip riders helped the cost to go down.
- Are people left out of the Meals on Wheels program? Ann stated that they do not turn anybody away.
- Members wanted to know how the people in Hayward use the shuttle services. Ann said that the City does not have to use Measure B funds to create a shuttle program in Hayward, but **EBP** can try to create a shuttle in Hayward, or AC Transit can use its own funds to create a shuttle program in the City of Hayward.

8. Member Reports and PAPCO Mission, Roles, and Responsibilities Implementation

Naomi reported the PAPCO Per Diem Policy was included in the meeting packet, and she urged members to read it and become familiar with it.

Sharon Powers gave an update on her visit to an outreach event (a senior citizens facility that just opened) in Newark. There was a large turn out, and they served breakfast and lunch. She also attended an outreach event in Union City where they talked about BART extending to San Jose.

Harriette Saunders reported on a summit she attended in Oakland, at which the organizers fed over 1,000 people and discussed the problems in the City. The new deputy for Oakland, Barbara Lee, and Danny Glover were there, and Danny spoke.

Carmen Rivera-Hendrickson reported that she attended a meeting in Montclair. She talked with several consumers having problems with Clipper, and the RTC Clipper program.

Sandra Johnson-Simon reported that she attended the Martin Luther King, Jr. memorial dedication in Washington, D.C., and last Wednesday, she attended a focus group that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention facilitated. They talked about people with disabilities.

Chair Sylvia Stadmire reported that Frank Rose passed away, and his funeral service was last Wednesday. It was a beautiful ceremony and was attended by officials, including the mayor of Oakland, the chief of police and his staff, supervisors, and council members. She also urged members to read Measure I before they vote.

9. Committee Reports

- A. East Bay Paratransit Service Review Advisory Committee (SRAC) – Sylvia Stadmire reported on the “Men Drive” Bill. The City of Oakland is asking residents for \$85 to return some police service and youth programs to the City. There are no senior citizens programs in this bill. Regarding SRAC, Sharon Powers stated that SRAC has not met since the last PAPCO meeting.
- B. Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) – Harriette Saunders reported on the agenda changes for the upcoming meeting on December 1, 2011 at the Alameda CTC.

10. Staff Updates

- A. Mobility Management
Naomi stated that a fact sheet that includes four steps to beginning a one call-one click transportation service is in the packet.
- B. Outreach Update: Krystle gave an update on the outreach events coming up that appear on page 25 of the agenda packet. She said that if anyone is interested in attending any of these outreach events, to feel free to call, email or mention it to her during or after the PAPCO meeting.
 - 10/25/11 – Annual Health and Resource Faire for Seniors at the Newark Senior Center
 - 11/5/11 – ACCESS Resource Fair at the College of Alameda
 - 3/16/12 – Pleasanton Senior Center Transit Fair 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

11.Mandated Program and Policy Reports

Naomi urged members to read on the U.S. Department of Transportation the final ruling on transportation for individual with disabilities at intercity, commuter, and high-speed rail platforms; and the miscellaneous amendments on page 39.

12. Draft Agenda Items for October 24, 2011 PAPCO/TAC

- A. Approval of FY 11-12 Work Plan
- B. Quarterly Report from Alameda and Hayward
- C. Summary Report of Gap Grants
- D. Quarterly Education and Training – Gap Grant Reports – Travel Training
- E. Input on the CWTP-TEP
- F. TAC Report
- G. Mobility Workshop Outcomes Report
- H. Development of PAPCO Goals and Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2011-2012

13.Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

This page intentionally left blank.