

# Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

## Madera County Transportation Commission Members

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May 21, 2025

Jose Rodriguez, Chair  
Madera County Transportation Commission  
2001 Howard Road, Suite 201  
Madera, California 93637

**SUBJECT: SSTAC FY 2025/26 "Unmet Transit Needs" Recommendation**

Dear Chair Rodriguez:

It is with great pleasure that the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) again makes a recommendation to the Madera County Transportation Commission concerning potential Unmet Transit Needs in Madera County. The SSTAC met in November 2024 and February 2025 prior to the public hearing to review last year's findings and prepare for this year's unmet transit needs process. Comments regarding transit needs in Madera County were received at the "Unmet Transit Needs" Public Hearing on April 23, 2025. The SSTAC met again on April 29, 2025, following the public hearing to review all comments received and evaluate them based on the MCTC Policy Board adopted definitions of "unmet transit need" and "reasonable to meet". After thorough evaluation, we recommend the Commission adopt by resolution the following findings:

1. **For FY 2025-26 there are no unmet transit needs within the jurisdiction of the County of Madera.**

MCTC Staff and the SSTAC recommend the following items be addressed during the upcoming fiscal year:

- Testimony was received regarding the need for increased frequency or an adjusted bus schedule on the Eastin Arcola – Ripperdan - La Vina route to accommodate riders trying to return home from Madera to La Vina after appointments within a short timeframe. The County of Madera (Madera County Connection) will further survey the riders of this route to better understand their specific transportation needs and travel patterns to ensure that any future changes are aligned with existing rider preferences.
2. **For FY 2025-26 there are no unmet transit needs within the jurisdiction of the City of Chowchilla.**
  3. **For FY 2025-26 there are no unmet transit needs within the jurisdiction of the City of Madera.**
  4. **Maintain existing transit systems in Madera County: Madera Transit System (Madera Metro and Dial-A-Ride) in the City of Madera; Madera County Connection; Chowchilla Area Transit Express; Eastern Madera County Medical Escort Service; and Eastern Madera County Senior Bus.**

Patricia Taylor  
MCTC  
Executive Director  
2001 Howard Rd, Suite 201  
Madera, CA 93637  
(559) 675-0721  
patricia@maderactc.  
org

MCTC Staff and the SSTAC recommend that the current public transit systems continue to operate in Madera County. The existing transit systems meet an existing need for public transit services in the county.

The existing systems are:

- Madera Transit System - City of Madera (Dial-A-Ride and Madera Metro);
- Chowchilla Area Transit Express - City of Chowchilla;
- Eastern Madera County Medical Escort Service; and Eastern Madera County Senior Bus;
- Madera County Connection

The Madera Metro and the Madera Dial-A-Ride provide transportation services that cover the entire City of Madera.

The Chowchilla Area Transit Express (CATX) provides transportation services that cover the entire city of Chowchilla as well as Fairmead and Valley State Prison.

The Madera County Connection (MCC) provides inter-city transportation from Chowchilla, Fairmead, Madera, La Vina, Madera Ranchos and Eastern Madera County to Children's Hospital Central California where a connection can be made to Fresno via the Fresno Area Express (FAX).

The Senior Bus Program and the Medical Escort Service provides transportation to the Eastern Madera County communities including service to Raymond. This service is provided on Wednesdays from 8:30am to 4:30pm.

Sincerely,

  
Frank Simonis (May 7, 2025 10:16 PDT)

Frank Simonis, SSTAC Chair