



Meeting of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

LOCATION

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

or Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88112999760?pwd=eThLTVAxNmJ3SGs4dEl4bXJQcDRtdz09>

Meeting ID: 881 1299 9760

Passcode: 509555

Call in: +1 408 638 0968

DATE

November 16, 2023

TIME

12:00 PM

SOCIAL SERVICE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Frank Simonis, Chair	Potential Transit User Who Has a Disability
Alycia Falley, Vice Chair	Local Social Service Provider for Persons with Disabilities
Rosalind Esqueda	Social Service Transportation Provider for Seniors
Monty Cox	Social Service Transportation Provider for Seniors
Bertha Vega	Local Social Service Provider for Persons of Limited Means
Vincent Parker	Social Service Transportation Provider for Persons with Disabilities
Michelle Hernandez	Local Social Service Provider for Seniors
Franklina Bogan	Potential Transit User Who is 60 Years of Age or Older
Lynda Schafhauser	Potential Transit User Who is 60 Years of Age or Older
Olga Olivia Saucedo-Garcia	Local Social Service Provider for Seniors

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS AND ADA

MCTC has adopted a Reasonable Accommodations Policy that provides a procedure for receiving and resolving requests for accommodation to participate in this meeting (see <https://www.maderactc.org/administration/page/reasonable-accommodations-policy>). If you need assistance in order to attend the meeting, or if you require auxiliary aids or services, e.g., listening devices or signing services to make a presentation, MCTC is happy to assist you. Please contact MCTC offices at (559) 675-0721 so such aids or services can be arranged. Requests may also be made by email to sandy@maderactc.org, or mailed to 2001 Howard Road, Suite 201, Madera, CA 93637. Accommodations should be requested as early as possible as additional time may be required in order to provide the requested accommodation; 72 hours in advance is suggested.

AGENDA

At least 72 hours prior to each regular MCTC Social Services Transportation Advisory Council meeting, a complete agenda packet is available for review on the [MCTC website](#) or at the MCTC office, 2001 Howard Road, Suite 201, Madera, California 93637. All public records relating to an open session item and copies of staff reports or other written documentation relating to items of business referred to on the agenda are on file at MCTC. Persons with questions concerning agenda items may call MCTC at (559) 675-0721 to make an inquiry regarding the nature of items described in the agenda.

INTERPRETING SERVICES

Interpreting services are not provided at MCTC's public meeting unless requested at least three (3) business days in advance. Please contact MCTC at (559) 675-0721 during regular business hours to request interpreting services.

Servicios de interprete no son ofrecidos en las juntas públicas de MCTC al menos de que se soliciten con tres (3) días de anticipación. Para solicitar estos servicios por favor contacte a Evelyn Espinosa al (559) 675-0721 x 5 durante horas de oficina.

MEETING CONDUCT

If this meeting is willfully interrupted or disrupted by one or more persons rendering orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible, the Chair may order the removal of individuals who are willfully disrupting the meeting. Such individuals may be arrested. If order cannot be restored by such removal, the members of the SSTAC may direct that the meeting room be cleared (except for representatives of the press or other news media not participating in the disturbance), and the session may continue.

RECORD OF THE MEETING

SSTAC meetings are recorded. Copies of recordings are available upon request, or recordings may be listened to at the MCTC offices by appointment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

If you are participating remotely and wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item during the meeting, please use the “Raise Hand” feature in Zoom and you will be called on by the chair during the meeting. You can also submit your comments via email to publiccomment@maderactc.org. Comments will be shared with the SSTAC and placed into the record at the meeting. Every effort will be made to read comments received during the meeting into the record, but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments received after an agenda item will be made part of the record if received prior to the end of the meeting.

Regarding any disruption that prevents the SSTAC from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public, then (1) if public access can be restored quickly, the meeting will resume in five (5) minutes to allow the re-connection of all members of the SSTAC, staff, and members of the public; or (2) if service cannot be restored quickly, the meeting shall stop, no further action shall be taken on the remaining agenda items, and notice of the continued meeting will be provided.

Agenda

Item	Description	Enclosure	Action
1.	Roll Call		
2.	Public Comment		
3.	Introduce new SSTAC members	No	Discussion
4.	Approve Minutes of the May 1, 2023, Social Services Transportation Advisory Council Meeting	Yes	Action
5.	Local Transit Agency Updates	No	Discussion
6.	Overview of SSTAC and Unmet Transit Needs Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCTC Policy Board Adopted Unmet Transit Need and Reasonable to Meet Definitions • Caltrans UTN documentation compliance letter • Unmet Transit Needs flyer – English & Spanish 	Yes	Discussion
7.	UTN Comment Analysis (July 1-Nov 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UTN Comments Summary • UTN Original Comments • UTN Analysis Table 	Yes	Discussion
8.	Announcements	No	Discussion
9.	Adjournment		

Social Service Transportation Advisory Council

MINUTES

DATE

Monday, May 1, 2023

The regular meeting of the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council held Monday, May 1, 2023 and was called to order by Chair, Frank Simonis, at 9:10 am.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Frank Simonis, Chair, Potential Transit User Who Is Disabled – appeared via Zoom for Just Cause under AB 2449

Monty Cox, Representative of a Transit Provider, Madera County

Bertha Vega, Representative of a Local Social Service Provider for Persons of Limited Means

Michelle Hernandez, Representative of the Local Social Service Provider for Seniors

Olga Olivia Saucedo-Garcia, Representative of the Local Social Service Provider for Seniors

STAFF PRESENT:

Nicholas Dybas, Madera County Transportation Commission

Evelyn Espinosa, Madera County Transportation Commission

Jeff Findley, Madera County Transportation Commission

Dylan Stone, Madera County Transportation Commission

Sandy Ebersole, Madera County Transportation Commission

VISITORS PRESENT:

David Padilla, Caltrans

Keyomi Jones, Caltrans

Nicholas Isla, Caltrans

Marcela Zuniga, City of Madera

Robin Roman, City of Chowchilla

Rebecca Donabed

I: Call to Order

Meeting started at 9:10 AM.

II: Public Comment

No public comment received.

III: Minutes of the January 30, 2023 SSTAC Meeting

Motioned by Olga Saucedo. Seconded by Bertha Vega. Approved 5-0.

IV: Unmet Transit Needs Comment Analysis

The SSTAC completed the analysis of the 17 comments received up to April 19, 2023. The recommendation for these comments will be shared with the MCTC Board along with all previously reviewed comments from the past Fiscal Year at the May MCTC Policy Board Meeting. Motioned by Frank Simonis. Seconded by Monty Cox. Approved 5-0.

V. Appoint SSTAC Representative to attend MCTC’s May 17 Board Meeting

Frank Simonis was nominated to be the SSTAC Representative. Motioned by Monty Cox. Seconded by Bertha Vega. Approved 5-0.

VI. Discuss Future Meetings

Quarterly schedule for 2023-24 was presented to the SSTAC for their discussion. The Tuesday after the first Monday of the month was chosen to base the schedule around. The time was chosen to be 10:00 am. Staff will follow up with placeholder calendar invites.

VII. Miscellaneous

Staff informed the SSTAC that Nicholas Dybas will be leaving MCTC and that his last day is June 2.

VIII. Adjournment

SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 11:00 AM



AGENDA ITEM: 6

PREPARED BY: Natalia Austin, Senior Regional Planner

SUBJECT:

The role of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council and an overview of the Unmet Transit Needs Process

Enclosure: Yes

Action: For information and discussion

SUMMARY:

MCTC is the administrator of the Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds for Madera County and is responsible for performing the annual “unmet transit needs” process. The purpose of this process is to ensure that all “unmet transit needs” that are “reasonable to meet” are met before any TDA funds are expended for non-transit uses, such as street and roads.

The TDA also requires that MCTC establish a Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC). The Public Utilities Code (PUC) defines the required membership of the SSTAC. The SSTAC solicits public input regarding transit service needs for the transit-dependent and transportation-disadvantaged persons, including the elderly, persons with disabilities and low-income persons. Annually, the SSTAC makes a recommendation to the MCTC Policy Board that:

- There are no unmet transit needs, or
- There are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet, or
- There are unmet transit needs, including needs that are reasonable to meet.

Typically, the annual unmet transit needs public hearing is held in the spring, prior to the end of each fiscal year. However, Madera County residents can participate in the unmet transit needs process all year long in a way that is convenient for them. Options include submitting a comment by phone, mail, email, or by filling out an online survey. In addition, the unmet transit needs webpage on the MCTC website makes information regarding the unmet transit

needs process, submitting a comment, or looking at past years' unmet transit needs reports readily accessible.

MCTC Unmet Transit Needs webpage: [Click here](#)

Unmet Transit Needs Bilingual Survey link: [Click here](#)

Unmet Transit Needs English and Spanish Comment Form: [Click here](#)

On May 17, 2023, the MCTC Policy Board adopted Resolution Number 2023-05, approving the unmet transit need finding for FY 2023-2024 that:

“There are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in the County of Madera. There are unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in the City of Madera. There are no unmet transit needs in the City of Chowchilla.”

For details regarding the unmet transit needs finding and an assessment of the size and location of groups likely to be transit-dependent in Madera County, please see the [Unmet Transit Needs Final Analysis and Recommendations Report for FY 2023-2024](#).

The required unmet transit needs documentation for FY 2023-2024 has been submitted to the California Department of Transportation and has been approved.

For more information, please contact Natalia Austin at naustin@maderactc.org or 559-675-0721 ext. 6.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2023-24 Overall Work Program and Budget.



**Madera County Transportation Commission
Unmet Transit Needs and Reasonable to Meet Definitions
Policy Board Adopted by Resolution No. 22-01**

The Madera County Transportation Commission adopted the following definitions for its Unmet Transit Needs process:

- A. **UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS**: An unmet transit need is an expressed or identified need that is not currently being met through existing public transportation services. An unmet transit need also is a need required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- B. **REASONABLE TO MEET**: The term “reasonable to meet” shall apply to public or specialized transportation services that meet the following minimum criteria:
1. **Feasibility**
 - The proposed service can be provided with available Transportation Development Act (TDA) funding and/or other funding sources (per State law, the lack of available resources shall not be the sole reason for finding that a transit need is not reasonable to meet per PUC § 99401.5 (c)).
 - Sufficient ridership potential exists for new, expanded, or revised transit services.
 - The proposed transit service will be safe and comply with local, State and federal law.
 2. **Community Acceptance**
 - The proposed transit service has community support from the general public, community groups, and/or community leaders.
 3. **Benefit to Population**
 - The proposed transit service serves a significant number of residents where it is needed and would benefit the general public and/or senior and disabled persons as a whole.
 4. **Cost-Effective**
 - The proposed transit service will not affect the ability of the overall system of the implementing agency or agencies to meet applicable transit system performance objectives or the State TDA farebox ratio requirement after any exemption(s) period(s) if the service is eligible for an exemption(s) per CCR 6633.2.
 - The proposed transit service, if implemented or funded, would not cause the responsible operator to incur expenditures in excess of the maximum amount of LTF, STA, FTA funds, and fare revenues and local support.
 5. **Consistent with Intent of Existing Transit Service(s) and Plans**
 - Once established, the proposed transit service will not abuse or obscure the intent of existing transit service(s).



- The proposed transit need should be in conformance with the goals included in the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, and consistent with the intent of the goals of the adopted Short Range Transit Plan.

California Department of Transportation

DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
P.O. BOX 942873, MS-32 | SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001
PHONE (916) 654-8811 FAX (916) 654-9366 TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



July 24, 2023

Ms. Patricia Taylor
Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission
2001 Howard Road, Suite 201
Madera, CA 93637

Dear Ms. Taylor:

Thank you for submitting your agency's unmet transit needs documentation for Fiscal Year 2023-24. I have reviewed your documentation, as required under Public Utilities Code Section 99401.6 of the Transportation Development Act, and find the documentation to be complete and in accordance with current statutes.

Please continue to work with David Padilla, telephone number (559) 905-9371, at the local Caltrans District 6 office to help identify solutions in meeting your region's transit needs.

If you have any questions or need to contact us, please do not hesitate to call Tiara Schmidt at (916) 907-2135.

Sincerely,

Joshua Pulverman

JOSHUA PULVERMAN, Branch Chief
Integration and Network Planning

c: David Padilla, Department of Transportation
Tiara Schmidt, Department of Transportation
Patricia Taylor, Madera County Transportation Commission

DOES LOCAL PUBLIC TRANSIT MEET YOUR TRANSPORTATION NEEDS?

- Are there places in Madera County you are unable to travel to by bus?
- Is transit service unavailable for you to make important trips, such as traveling to work or doctor's appointments?



TELL US ABOUT YOUR UNMET TRANSIT NEED!



An unmet transit need is an expressed or identified need that is not currently being met through existing public transportation services. It is also a need required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

We want to hear from you!

In coordination with the Madera County Transportation Commission, the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council would like to receive comments regarding unmet transit needs that may exist in the local transit services in Madera County from transit dependent persons, including the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons of limited means.



Fill out an online survey

If you prefer to submit your comments electronically, fill out the online survey by scanning the QR code or go to:

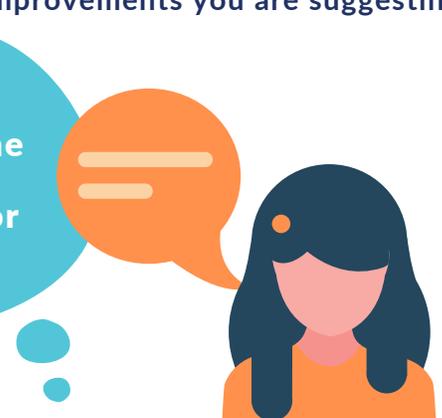
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UTN2024MCTC>



Submit a comment form

Fill out a comment form to give details about the transit improvements you are suggesting.

Share your thoughts in the way that's convenient for you!



¿EL TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO LOCAL SATISFACE SUS NECESIDADES DE TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO?

- ¿Hay lugares en el condado de Madera a los que no se puede viajar en autobús?
- ¿No está el servicio de transporte público disponible para realizar viajes importantes, como ir al trabajo o acudir a citas médicas?



¿CUÉNTENOS SOBRE SU NECESIDAD DE TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO INSATISFECHA!



Una necesidad de transporte público insatisfecha es una necesidad expresada o identificada que actualmente no se satisface a través de los servicios de transporte público existentes. Una necesidad de transporte público insatisfecha también es una necesidad requerida para cumplir con al Ley de Estadounidenses con discapacidades (ADA).

¡Queremos saber de ti!

En coordinación con la Comisión de Transporte del Condado de Madera, el Consejo Asesor de Transporte Público de Servicios Sociales desea recibir comentarios sobre las necesidades de transporte no satisfechas que puedan existir en los servicios de transporte público locales en el Condado de Madera por parte de personas dependientes del transporte público, incluidos los ancianos, las personas con discapacidades y las personas de recursos limitados.



Llene una encuesta en línea

Si prefiere proveer comentarios en línea, llene la encuesta en línea escaneando el código QR o llenando a: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UTN2024MCTC>



Llene un formulario

Llene un formulario de comentarios para dar detalles acerca de las mejoras de transporte público que sugiere.

Comparta sus ideas de la forma más conveniente para usted!





AGENDA ITEM: 7

PREPARED BY: Natalia Austin, Senior Regional Planner

SUBJECT:

The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council will analyze public comments received to determine if those comments meet the criteria of the adopted definitions of "Unmet Transit Need" and "Reasonable to Meet" before making a final recommendation of findings to the MCTC Policy Board for FY 2024-25.

Enclosure: Yes

Action: Identify comments that meet the criteria of an unmet transit need and provide further direction.

BACKGROUND:

The Transportation Development Act (TDA) provides two major sources of funding for public transportation: The Local Transportation Fund (LTF) and the State Transit Assistance fund (STA). These funds are for the development and support of public transportation needs that exist in California and are allocated to each eligible county based on population, taxable sales and transit performance.

All counties eligible for this funding are required to establish and implement a process of citizen participation, utilizing the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) to identify the needs of transit dependent or disadvantaged persons. CA PUC Section 99238.5 (a) requires that this process provides at least one public hearing annually.

If the MCTC Policy Board through the unmet transit needs process identifies an "unmet transit need" and determines the need is "reasonable to meet", these transit needs must be met before any TDA funds are expended for non-transit uses, such as street and road projects. (Definitions of "unmet transit need" and "reasonable to meet" were adopted by the MCTC Policy Board and are attached for reference.)

According to CA PUC Section 99401.5 (c), an agency's determination of needs that are "reasonable to meet" shall not be made by comparing unmet transit needs with the need for streets and roads.

SUMMARY:

MCTC staff have provided all transit related public comments received between the period of July 1, 2023, through November 2, 2023, for the SSTAC to evaluate and apply the “Unmet Transit Need” and “Reasonable to Meet” MCTC Policy Board adopted definitions. The SSTAC will provide direction on which comments meet the criteria of an unmet transit need, if additional information or analysis is needed, and whether a comment should be recommended for consideration by the MCTC Policy Board for FY 2024-25.

For more information, please contact Natalia Austin at naustin@maderactc.org or 559-675-0721 ext. 6.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2023-24 Overall Work Program and Budget.



Unmet Transit Needs Comments

FY 2024-2025

Received July 1, 2023 - November 2, 2023

1. Comment Form – Mail:

Name: Fanny Sofia De La O – Madera

Received: October 24, 2023

*Answers translated from Spanish

Q1: Which systems do you most frequently use?

A1: Metro Dial-A-Ride (DAR)

Q2: Are there places in Madera County you would like to travel to by bus but cannot? If so, where? To effectively evaluate your comment, please provide the nearest cross street or area of town, your destination, day of the week, and approximate time of day that you are interested in making your trip.

A2: St. Agnes Community Hospital in Fresno. Above all for people over 60 like me. We need help*.

Q3: Describe the transit improvements(s) you are requesting.

A3: Metro (DAR) for hospital appointments in Fresno*.

Q4: Do you feel safe using transit? Why or why not?

A4: Yes, I haven't had any issues, and the drivers are very kind*.

2. Online Survey #1

Name: Anonymous

Received: September 7, 2023

*Answers translated from Spanish

Q1: Which systems do you most frequently use?

A1: Madera Metro

Q2: Are there places in Madera County you would like to travel to by bus but cannot? If so, where? To effectively evaluate your comment, please provide the nearest cross street or area of

town, your destination, day of the week, and approximate time of day that you are interested in making your trip.

A2: I want to save the schedules*.

Q3: Describe the transit improvements(s) you are requesting.

A3: (Respondent skipped this question)

Q4: Do you feel safe using transit? Why or why not?

A4: (Respondent skipped this question)

3. Online Survey #2

Name: Anonymous

Received: September 9, 2023

Q1: Which systems do you most frequently use?

A1: Madera Metro

Q2: Are there places in Madera County you would like to travel to by bus but cannot? If so, where? To effectively evaluate your comment, please provide the nearest cross street or area of town, your destination, day of the week, and approximate time of day that you are interested in making your trip.

A2: No.

Q3: Describe the transit improvements(s) you are requesting.

A3: (Respondent skipped this question)

Q4: Do you feel safe using transit? Why or why not?

A4: Yes, I never have problems when riding it.



2024 Necesidades Insatisfechas de Transporte Público Formulario para Comentarios

Nombre*: Fanny Sofía De La O

Correo electrónico: [REDACTED]

Ciudad*: Madera Número de Teléfono: [REDACTED]

1. ¿Qué sistema de transporte público usa frecuentemente?*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Madera Metro | <input type="checkbox"/> Madera County Connection (MCC) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metro Dial-A-Ride (DAR) | <input type="checkbox"/> MCC Madera Dial-A-Ride (DAR) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chowchilla Area Transit Express (CATX) | <input type="checkbox"/> MCC Chowchilla Dial-A-Ride (DAR) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Otro (por favor especifique) | <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Madera County Senior Bus |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Madera County Escort Service |

2. ¿Hay lugares en el Condado de Madera donde le gustaría ir utilizando el autobús y no puede? Para poder evaluar su comentario efectivamente, por favor provea el cruce de calle más cercano (o el área de la ciudad donde vive), a dónde se dirige, día de la semana, y aproximadamente a qué hora desea hacer su viaje.*

Sí, St. Agnes Community Hospital
en Fresno. Sobre todo para los mayores de 60 años
como yo. Necesitamos ayuda.

3. Describa las mejoras de transporte público que necesita.*

Metro Dial-A-Ride (DAR) para citas
en los hospitales en Fresno.

4. ¿Se siente seguro utilizando el autobús? Díganos ¿Por qué sí? o ¿por qué no?

Sí, no he tenido ningún problema y
los conductores son muy amables.

Sus comentarios serán presentados en un informe de Necesidades Insatisfechas de Transporte Público. Si desea ser contactado acerca de su comentario por favor de su nombre, número de teléfono y/o correo electrónico. Por favor devuelva este formulario a Evelyn Espinosa por correo electrónico a evelyn@maderactc.org o por correo a: 2001 Howard Road, Suite 201, Madera, CA 93637, o respondiendo la encuesta en línea: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UTN2024MCTC>

*Respuesta es requerida



#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, September 07, 2023 5:19:09 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, September 07, 2023 5:23:06 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:57
IP Address: 107.115.33.41

Page 1

Q1

Madera Metro (Metro)

Which system(s) do you use most frequently? / ¿Qué sistema de transporte público usa frecuentemente?

Q2

Are there places in Madera County you would like to travel to by bus but cannot? If so, where? To effectively evaluate your comment, please provide the nearest cross street or area of town, your destination, day of the week, and approximate time of day that you are interest in making your trip. ¿Hay lugares en el Condado de Madera donde le gustaría ir utilizando el autobús y no puede? Para poder evaluar su comentario efectivamente, por favor provea el cruce de calle más cercano (o el área de la ciudad donde vive), a dónde se dirige, día de la semana, y aproximadamente a qué hora desea hacer su viaje.

Quiero saver los horarios

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Describe the transit improvements(s) you are requesting. /
 Describa las mejoras de transporte público que necesita.

Q4

Respondent skipped this question

Do you feel safe using transit? Why or why not? / ¿Se siente seguro utilizando el autobús? Díganos ¿Por qué si? o ¿por qué no?

Q5

Respondent skipped this question

(Optional) Your comments will be compiled in a report on Unmet Transit Needs. If you would like to be contacted regarding your comment please provide your name, phone number and/or email address. Sus comentarios serán presentados en un informe de Necesidades Insatisfechas de Transporte Público. Si desea ser contactado acerca de su comentario por favor de su nombre, número de teléfono y/o correo electrónico.

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, September 09, 2023 12:06:28 PM
Last Modified: Saturday, September 09, 2023 12:07:52 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:23
IP Address: 73.48.144.88

Page 1

Q1

Madera Metro (Metro)

Which system(s) do you use most frequently? / ¿Qué sistema de transporte público usa frecuentemente?

Q2

Are there places in Madera County you would like to travel to by bus but cannot? If so, where? To effectively evaluate your comment, please provide the nearest cross street or area of town, your destination, day of the week, and approximate time of day that you are interest in making your trip. ¿Hay lugares en el Condado de Madera donde le gustaría ir utilizando el autobús y no puede? Para poder evaluar su comentario efectivamente, por favor provea el cruce de calle más cercano (o el área de la ciudad donde vive), a dónde se dirige, día de la semana, y aproximadamente a qué hora desea hacer su viaje.

No

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Describe the transit improvements(s) you are requesting. /
 Describa las mejoras de transporte público que necesita.

Q4

Do you feel safe using transit? Why or why not? / ¿Se siente seguro utilizando el autobús? Díganos ¿Por qué si? o ¿por qué no?

Yes I never have problems when riding it

Q5

Respondent skipped this question

(Optional) Your comments will be compiled in a report on Unmet Transit Needs. If you would like to be contacted regarding your comment please provide your name, phone number and/or email address. Sus comentarios serán presentados en un informe de Necesidades Insatisfechas de Transporte Público. Si desea ser contactado acerca de su comentario por favor de su nombre, número de teléfono y/o correo electrónico.

APPLICATION OF "UNMET TRANSIT NEED" AND "REASONABLE TO MEET" MCTC POLICY BOARD ADOPTED DEFINITIONS TO

FY 2024- 2025 UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS PUBLIC COMMENTS (received July 1 - November 2, 2023)

PUBLIC COMMENT	IS THIS AN UNMET NEED?	SSTAC RECOMMENDATION / DISCUSSION	Reasonable to Meet Requirements						
			Feasibility	Community Acceptance	Benefit to Population	Cost Effective	Consistent with Existing Service and Plans		
NEW SERVICE									
1	Travel to St.Agnes Community Hospital in Fresno by Madera Metro Dial-a-ride								
AMENITIES OR IMPROVEMENTS									
2	Ability for users to save the transit schedules (Madera Metro)								
3									
4									



Meeting of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

MEETING LOCATION

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

Or join via Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89073566436?pwd=bFpZUXluK2xkUDRMd2N3c2w4VkVvQT09>

Meeting ID: 890 7356 6436

Passcode: 046542

Call in: +1 408 638 0968

DATE

February 6, 2024

TIME

12:00 PM

SOCIAL SERVICE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Frank Simonis, Chair	Potential Transit User Who Has a Disability
Alycia Falley, Vice Chair	Local Social Service Provider for Persons with Disabilities
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REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS AND ADA

MCTC has adopted a Reasonable Accommodations Policy that provides a procedure for receiving and resolving requests for accommodation to participate in this meeting (see <https://www.maderactc.org/administration/page/reasonable-accommodations-policy>). If you need assistance in order to attend the meeting, or if you require auxiliary aids or services, e.g., listening devices or signing services to make a presentation, MCTC is happy to assist you. Please contact MCTC offices at (559) 675-0721 so such aids or services can be arranged. Requests may also be made by email to sandy@maderactc.org, or mailed to 2001 Howard Road, Suite 201, Madera, CA 93637. Accommodations should be requested as early as possible as additional time may be required in order to provide the requested accommodation; 72 hours in advance is suggested.

AGENDA

At least 72 hours prior to each regular MCTC Social Services Transportation Advisory Council meeting, a complete agenda packet is available for review on the [MCTC website](#) or at the MCTC office, 2001 Howard Road, Suite 201, Madera, California 93637. All public records relating to an open session item and copies of staff reports or other written documentation relating to items of business referred to on the agenda are on file at MCTC. Persons with questions concerning agenda items may call MCTC at (559) 675-0721 to make an inquiry regarding the nature of items described on the agenda.

INTERPRETING SERVICES

Interpreting services are not provided at MCTC's public meetings unless requested at least three (3) business days in advance. Please contact MCTC at (559) 675-0721 during regular business hours to request interpreting services.

Servicios de interprete no son ofrecidos en las juntas públicas de MCTC al menos de que se soliciten con tres (3) días de anticipación. Para solicitar estos servicios por favor contacte a Evelyn Espinosa at (559) 675-0721 x 5 durante horas de oficina.

MEETING CONDUCT

If this meeting is willfully interrupted or disrupted by one or more persons rendering orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible, the Chair may order the removal of individuals who are willfully disrupting the meeting. Such individuals may be arrested. If order cannot be restored by such removal, the members of the SSTAC may direct that the meeting room be cleared (except for representatives of the press or other news media not participating in the disturbance), and the session may continue.

RECORD OF THE MEETING

SSTAC meetings are recorded. Copies of recordings are available upon request, or recordings may be listened to at the MCTC offices by appointment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

If you are participating remotely and wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item during the meeting, please use the “Raise Hand” feature in Zoom and you will be called on by the chair during the meeting. You can also submit your comments via email to publiccomment@maderactc.org. Comments will be shared with the SSTAC and placed into the record at the meeting. Every effort will be made to read comments received during the meeting into the record, but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments received after an agenda item will be made part of the record if received prior to the end of the meeting.

Regarding any disruption that prevents the SSTAC from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public, then (1) if public access can be restored quickly, the meeting will resume in five (5) minutes to allow the re-connection of all members of the SSTAC, staff, and members of the public; or (2) if service cannot be restored quickly, the meeting shall stop, no further action shall be taken on the remaining agenda items, and notice of the continued meeting will be provided.

Agenda

Item	Description	Enclosure	Action
1.	Roll Call		
2.	Public Comment		
3.	Approve Minutes of the November 16, 2023, Social Services Transportation Advisory Council Meeting	Yes	Action
4.	Local Transit Agency Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County of Madera - MCC • City of Madera – Madera Metro • City of Chowchilla – CATX 	No	Information
5.	Unmet Transit Needs FY 2024 - 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madera County “Unmet Transit Need” and “Reasonable to Meet” Definitions • Unmet Transit Needs Flyer 	Yes	Information
6.	Announcements		
7.	Adjourn		



SOCIAL SERVICE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES

DATE

Tuesday, November 16, 2023

The regular meeting of the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council was held Tuesday, November 16, 2023, and was called to order by Chair Frank Simonis, at 12:04 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Frank Simonis, Chair, Potential Transit User Who Is Disabled – appeared via Zoom for Just Cause under AB 2449
Bertha Vega, Local Social Service Provider for Persons of Limited Means
Michelle Hernandez, Local Social Service Provider for Seniors
Olga Olivia Saucedo-Garcia, Local Social Service Provider for Seniors
Franklina Bogan, Potential Transit User Who is 60 Years of Age or Older
Lynda Schafhauser, Potential Transit User Who is 60 Years of Age or Older
Rosalind Esqueda, Social Service Transportation Provider for Seniors
Amber Parkinson (substitute for Monty Cox), Social Service Transportation Provider for Seniors
Vincent Parker, Social Service Transportation Provider for Persons with Disabilities – appeared via Zoom

MEMBERS ABSENT

Alycia Falley, Vice Chair, Local Social Service Provider for Persons with Disabilities

MCTC STAFF PRESENT:

Natalia Austin, Senior Regional Planner
Evelyn Espinosa, Senior Regional Planner
Jeff Findley, Principal Regional Planner

VISITORS PRESENT:

Nicholas Isla, Caltrans
Keyomi Jones, Caltrans
Lorena Mendibles, Caltrans

1. Roll Call

At 12:04 pm, Chair Frank Simonis called the meeting to order and instructed that the roll call for attendance be taken. It was determined that a quorum was present.

2. Public Comment

Franklina Bogan had a question regarding fees for volunteers who ride the bus. Rosalind Esqueda answered her question with information about city and county fares. Frank Simonis advised that if the SSTAC members have concerns then they can bring them to council, but the SSTAC is not an enforcing committee, but instead are advisors.

3. Introduce new SSTAC members

All members introduced themselves, as well as Caltrans staff who were in attendance.

4. Approve Minutes of the May 1, 2023, Social Services Transportation Advisory Council Meeting

Chair Frank Simonis moved to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2023, Social Services Transportation Advisory Council Meeting.

Seconded by Olga Saucedo

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Frank Simonis, Rosalind Esqueda, Amber Parkinson, Bertha Vega, Michelle Hernandez, Olga Saucedo

Noes: None

Abstain: Vincent Parker, Franklina Bogan, Lynda Schafhauser

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Local Transit Agency Updates

Amber Parkinson updated the group regarding new electric charging stations for new electric buses. Frank Simonis inquired if the bus vendor also has maintenance or repair capabilities. Amber Parkinson nor Rosalind Esqueda was aware if the vendor had those capabilities. Lorena Mendibles, Caltrans, commented that Tulare was in a similar situation looking for vendors with maintenance capabilities for electric buses. Amber Parkinson shared that County staff are getting prepared to repair locally. Madera Metro is planning to roll out the new route to the Amtrak Station in the first or second week of December.

6. Overview of SSTAC and Unmet Transit Needs Process

Natalia Austin, MCTC, gave a presentation overview of the role of the SSTAC and the Unmet Transit Needs process. The MCTC Policy Board Adopted Unmet Transit Need and Reasonable to Meet Definitions were explained.

7. UTN Comment Analysis (July 1-Nov 2)

Two public comments that were received during July 1, 2023 – November 2 via the online survey were considered. One was regarding transit services to St. Agnes Community Hospital in Fresno by Madera Metro Dial-a-ride. It was determined by the SSTAC members that there is a need for residents of Madera County to access healthcare in Fresno since there are no hospitals in Madera. Further analysis will be made at a future meeting to make a final determination if this is an unmet transit need and if it is reasonable to meet. The other comment was regarding the ability of users to save the Madera Metro transit schedules. It was determined that there are many ways for Madera Metro transit users to access and save the schedules, so this comment did not rise to the level of an unmet transit need. Further discussion was made regarding the opportunities for residents to submit questions and get information regarding unmet transit needs. MCTC outreach events and MCTC Policy Board meetings were mentioned as options. It was also recommended to reach out to the Board of Supervisor's Town Hall meetings, adding information to utility bills, libraries, and senior centers to get the word out.

8. Announcements

Announcements were made regarding the upcoming storm and resources for assistance. There were also announcements regarding various community events, such as the Pan-Am Senior Dinner, Rotary Club Senior Thanksgiving Center. Chair Frank Simonis shared dial-a-ride information and Natalia Austin, MCTC, shared information about the SB 125 Transit Program.

9. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned by Chair Frank Simonis at 1:19 pm



AGENDA ITEM: 5

PREPARED BY: Natalia Austin, Senior Regional Planner

SUBJECT:

Several workshops and a public hearing are scheduled during the next few months to receive comments regarding unmet transit needs in Madera County for FY 2024-2025.

Enclosure: Yes

Action: For information and discussion

SUMMARY:

MCTC is the administrator of the Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds for Madera County and is responsible for performing the annual “unmet transit needs” process. The purpose of this process is to ensure that all “unmet transit needs” that are “reasonable to meet” are met before any TDA funds are expended for non-transit uses, such as street and roads.

The TDA also requires that MCTC establish a Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC). The Public Utilities Code (PUC) defines the required membership of the SSTAC. The SSTAC solicits public input regarding transit service needs for the transit-dependent and transportation-disadvantaged persons, including the elderly, persons with disabilities and low-income persons. Annually, the SSTAC makes a recommendation to the MCTC Policy Board that:

- There are no unmet transit needs, or
- There are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet, or
- There are unmet transit needs, including needs that are reasonable to meet.

There are several opportunities for Madera County residents to give their input on transit service needs. As required by law, a public hearing will be held at the regular MCTC Policy Board meeting on April 17, 2024. In addition, in-person and virtual workshops will be held in various locations throughout the County for residents to learn about the unmet transit needs process and provide comments. Interpreting services will be available at all workshops and the public hearing. However, it is easy to participate in the unmet transit needs process all year long in many convenient ways. Options include submitting a comment by phone, mail, email, or by filling out an online survey. Also, the unmet transit needs webpage on the MCTC

website makes information regarding the unmet transit needs process, submitting a comment, or looking at past years' unmet transit needs reports readily accessible.

MCTC Unmet Transit Needs webpage: [Click here](#)

Unmet Transit Needs Bilingual Survey link: [Click here](#)

Unmet Transit Needs English and Spanish Comment Form: [Click here](#)

When	Where	In-Person	Virtual
Spanish Language Workshop Friday, March 1 at 6:00 PM	Casas De La Vina 23784 Avenue 9 Madera, CA 93637	Yes	No
Workshop Wednesday, March 6 at 3:00 PM and 6:00 PM	Chowchilla Library 300 Kings Avenue Chowchilla, CA 93610	Yes	No
Workshop Thursday, March 7 at 10:00 AM	Frank Bergon Senior Center 238 S D St Madera, CA 93638	Yes	No
Workshop Tuesday, March 12 at 6:00 PM	Webinar ID: 831 9180 8232 Passcode: 921346 Click here to join!	No	Yes
Workshop Saturday, March 16 at 1:00 PM	North Fork Library 32908 Rd 222 North Fork, CA 93643	Yes	No
Workshop Tuesday, March 19 at 6:00 PM	Madera Main Library 121 N G Street Madera, CA 93637	Yes	No
Public Hearing Wednesday, April 17 at 3:00 PM	MCTC Policy Board Meeting 2001 Howard Road, Ste. 201 Madera, CA 93637 See MCTC website for Zoom information	Yes	Yes

For details regarding last year's unmet transit needs finding and an assessment of the size and location of groups likely to be transit-dependent in Madera County, please see the [Unmet Transit Needs Final Analysis and Recommendations Report for FY 2023-2024](#).

For more information, please contact Natalia Austin at naustin@maderactc.org or 559-675-0721 ext. 6.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2023-24 Overall Work Program and Budget.



**Madera County Transportation Commission
Unmet Transit Needs and Reasonable to Meet Definitions
Policy Board Adopted by Resolution No. 22-01**

The Madera County Transportation Commission adopted the following definitions for its Unmet Transit Needs process:

- A. **UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS**: An unmet transit need is an expressed or identified need that is not currently being met through existing public transportation services. An unmet transit need also is a need required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- B. **REASONABLE TO MEET**: The term “reasonable to meet” shall apply to public or specialized transportation services that meet the following minimum criteria:
1. **Feasibility**
 - The proposed service can be provided with available Transportation Development Act (TDA) funding and/or other funding sources (per State law, the lack of available resources shall not be the sole reason for finding that a transit need is not reasonable to meet per PUC § 99401.5 (c)).
 - Sufficient ridership potential exists for new, expanded, or revised transit services.
 - The proposed transit service will be safe and comply with local, State and federal law.
 2. **Community Acceptance**
 - The proposed transit service has community support from the general public, community groups, and/or community leaders.
 3. **Benefit to Population**
 - The proposed transit service serves a significant number of residents where it is needed and would benefit the general public and/or senior and disabled persons as a whole.
 4. **Cost-Effective**
 - The proposed transit service will not affect the ability of the overall system of the implementing agency or agencies to meet applicable transit system performance objectives or the State TDA farebox ratio requirement after any exemption(s) period(s) if the service is eligible for an exemption(s) per CCR 6633.2.
 - The proposed transit service, if implemented or funded, would not cause the responsible operator to incur expenditures in excess of the maximum amount of LTF, STA, FTA funds, and fare revenues and local support.
 5. **Consistent with Intent of Existing Transit Service(s) and Plans**
 - Once established, the proposed transit service will not abuse or obscure the intent of existing transit service(s).



- The proposed transit need should be in conformance with the goals included in the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, and consistent with the intent of the goals of the adopted Short Range Transit Plan.

DOES LOCAL PUBLIC TRANSIT MEET YOUR TRANSPORTATION NEEDS?

- Are there places in Madera County you are unable to travel to by bus?
- Is transit service unavailable for you to make important trips, such as traveling to work or doctor's appointments?



TELL US ABOUT YOUR UNMET TRANSIT NEED!



An unmet transit need is an expressed or identified need that is not currently being met through existing public transportation services. It is also a need required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Attend one of our workshops and share your thoughts...

Casas De La Vina (in Spanish)
 Friday, March 1 at 6:00 PM
 23784 Avenue 9, Madera

Chowchilla Library
 Wednesday, March 6 at 3:00 PM
 AND 6:00 PM
 300 Kings Avenue, Chowchilla

Frank Bergon Senior Center
 Thursday, March 7 at 10:00 AM
 238 S D Street, Madera

Virtual Workshop
 Tuesday, March 12 at 6:00 PM
 Webinar ID: 831 9180 8232
 Passcode: 921346

North Fork Library
 Saturday, March 16 at 1:00 PM
 32908 Road 222, North Fork

Madera Main Library
 Tuesday, March 19 at 6:00 PM
 121 N G Street, Madera



Fill out an online survey

If you prefer to provide your comments electronically, fill out the online survey by scanning the QR code or go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UTN2024MCTC>




Participate in the way that's convenient for you!



Comment at the public hearing

Attend the public hearing to tell us about your transit needs:

MCTC Board Meeting
 Wednesday, April 17 at 3:00 PM
 2001 Howard Road, Suite. 201
 Madera



¿EL TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO LOCAL SATISFACE SUS NECESIDADES DE TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO?

- ¿Hay lugares en el condado de Madera a los que no se puede viajar en autobús?
- ¿No está el servicio de transporte público disponible para realizar viajes importantes, como ir al trabajo o acudir a citas médicas?



¿CUÉNTENOS SOBRE SU NECESIDAD DE TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO INSATISFECHA!



Una necesidad de transporte público insatisfecha es una necesidad expresada o identificada que actualmente no se satisface a través de los servicios de transporte público existentes. Una necesidad de transporte público insatisfecha también es una necesidad requerida para cumplir con al Ley de Estadounidenses con discapacidades (ADA).

Ven a uno de nuestros talleres y déjanos saber lo que piensas...

Casas De La Vina (en español)
Viernes, Marzo 1, 6:00 PM
23784 Avenue 9, Madera

Chowchilla Library
Miércoles, Marzo 6, 3:00 PM
Y a las 6:00 PM
300 Kings Avenue, Chowchilla

Frank Bergon Senior Center
Jueves, Marzo 7, 10:00 AM
238 S D Street, Madera

Talleres Virtuales
Martes, Marzo 12, 6:00 PM
Webinar ID: 831 9180 8232
Passcode: 921346

North Fork Library
Sábado, Marzo 16, 1:00 PM
32908 Road 222, North Fork

Madera Main Library
Martes, Marzo 19, 6:00 PM
121 N G Street, Madera



Llene una encuesta en línea

Si prefiere proveer comentarios en línea, llene la encuesta en línea escaneando el código QR o llendo a: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UTN2024MCTC>



Comparta sus ideas de la forma más conveniente para usted!



Comentar en la audiencia pública

Atienda a la audiencia pública para contarnos sobre sus necesidades de transporte público:

MCTC Junta Directiva
Miércoles, Abril 17 a las 3:00 PM
2001 Howard Road, Suite. 201
Madera

