



STAFF REPORT
Board Meeting of March 23, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: 4-A

PREPARED BY: Evelyn Espinosa, Associate Regional Planner

SUBJECT:

Unmet Transit Needs Update

Enclosure: Yes

Action: Information and Discussion Only

SUMMARY:

The State Transportation Development Act (TDA) requires that the MCTC Policy Board determine that public transportation needs within Madera County will be reasonably met in FY 2022-23 prior to approving claims of Local Transportation Funds (LTF) for streets and roads. The MCTC's Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) is responsible for evaluating unmet transit needs. Each year the SSTAC begins the process of soliciting comments from the public by sending letters to agencies and individuals interested in providing feedback on their public transportation needs within Madera County. The request for comments letter was mailed in February 2022.

The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) normally meets prior to the Unmet Transit Needs hearing held annually by the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC). This year, the Unmet Transit Needs hearing will be held on **April 20, 2022, at 3:00 PM** using a hybrid format. GoToWebinar and in-person testimony will be available during MCTC's Board Meeting. After the Public Hearing, the SSTAC will meet again.

PUBLIC HEARING: April 20, 2022, at 3:00 PM

GoToWebinar: [Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. If participating via telephone only, comments can be submitted via email publiccomment@maderactc.org or by calling 559-675-0721 ext. 7.

In person: Madera County Board Chambers, 200 West 4th Street, 1st Floor Madera, California 93637.

SSTAC MEETINGS:

The first SSTAC meeting will: Define the roles and responsibilities of the SSTAC, discuss transit agency updates, potential transit needs, quarterly meetings for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, SSTAC

member vacancies, and the SSTAC will continue reviewing the proposed definition for “unmet transit needs”.

The second SSTAC meeting will: Review and evaluate comments received by the MCTC during the annual “Unmet Needs Public Hearing”; appoint representatives from the SSTAC to attend the May 18, 2022, MCTC board meeting; recommend action by the MCTC Policy Board for Madera County which finds by resolution, that (A) there are no unmet transit needs, (B) there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet, or (C) there are unmet transit needs, including needs that are reasonable to meet; advise the MCTC on any other major transit issues; and make a recommendation about the definition of an unmet transit need.

The SSTAC will make their recommendations to the MCTC Policy Board at the May 18, 2022, meeting. The MCTC Policy Board will adopt by resolution a finding for Madera County.

MCTC staff encourages the public to submit their unmet transit needs comments via the unmet transit needs survey, email, mail, by phone, or in person. MCTC staff will present each comment to the Board of Commissioners during the April public hearing so that all comments are heard during this process. The link to the unmet transit needs survey can be found on our website, social media pages, the public hearing notice, and fliers.

A Spanish language interpreter will also be available for those who wish to testify in Spanish. A public notice has been printed in the local newspapers, and fliers will be distributed via social media, buses, and throughout the community publicizing the hearing. The flier has been included in the agenda packet.

WORKSHOPS:

In-person workshops are also being planned to inform the community. During the workshops, staff will educate the public about the unmet transit needs process and collect comments. The dates and locations will be posted on our website, social media, and buses. An on-line workshop has been scheduled on: **March 29, 2022, from 6:00-7:00 PM**. Use the following link to access the workshop:

[Unmet Transit Needs Workshop](#)

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(872\) 240-3311](#)

Access Code: 981-876-061

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2021-22 Overall Work Program and Budget.