



STAFF REPORT
Board Meeting of March 19, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: 4-D

PREPARED BY: Natalia Austin, Senior Regional Planner

SUBJECT:

Unmet Transit Needs Update

Enclosure: Yes

Action: Information and Discussion Only

SUMMARY:

The Madera County Transportation Commission (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 streets 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 transit-dependent and transportation-disadvantaged persons, including older adults, 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.

UPDATE:

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 public transit service needs within Madera County. The request for comments was sent out in February 2025.

A public hearing will be held at the regular MCTC Policy Board meeting. A public notice was published on March 1, 2025, in *The Madera Tribune*. Flyers and social media posts have also publicized the hearing. A Spanish language interpreter will be available at the hearing for those who wish to provide public comments in Spanish.

MCTC's Unmet Transit Needs public hearing is scheduled as follows:

PUBLIC HEARING – Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

This public hearing will be in person and via Zoom using the April MCTC Board Meeting [link](#).

In-person and virtual workshops have been held in various locations throughout the county for residents to learn about the unmet transit needs process and provide comments.

Interpreting services were available at all the workshops. In addition to participating in the unmet transit needs process, attendees had the opportunity to learn about and provide feedback on the 2026 Sustainable Communities Strategy at the in-person workshops. The workshop dates and locations are listed below.

When	Where	In-Person	Virtual
Spanish Language Workshop Tuesday, March 11 at 6:00 PM	Casas De La Vina 23784 Avenue 9 Madera, CA 93637	Yes	No
Workshop Wednesday, March 12 at 6:00 PM	Madera Ranchos Library 37398 Berkshire Drive Madera, CA 93636	Yes	No
Workshop POSTPONED Thursday, March 13 at 5:00 PM Postponed due to weather	Oakhurst Library 49044 Civic Circle Drive Oakhurst, CA 93644	Yes	No
Workshop Tuesday, March 18 at 6:00 PM	Fairmead Elementary School 19421 Avenue 22 ¾ Chowchilla, CA 93610	Yes	No
Workshop – Zoom Webinar Thursday, March 20 at 6:00 PM	Webinar ID: 882 7273 5705 Passcode: 554773 Click here to join!	No	Yes
Public Hearing Wednesday, April 23 at 3:00 PM	MCTC Policy Board Meeting 2001 Howard Road, Ste. 201 Madera, CA 93637 See MCTC website for Zoom information	Yes	Yes

Flyers have been distributed at over 60 locations throughout the county, including North Fork, Oakhurst, Coarsegold, Ripperdan, La Vina, Fairmead, Chowchilla, and Madera. In February 2025, *The Commission Vision*, the MCTC newsletter, featured a section on the unmet transit needs process and the ways that residents can participate.

The SSTAC will meet on April 29, 2025, at noon to review all the comments received and make a recommendation to the MCTC Policy Board.

For more information, please contact Natalia Austin at: naustin@maderactc.org, 2001 Howard Road, Suite 201, Madera, CA 93637, or call (559) 675 0721 ext. 6.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2024-25 Overall Work Program and Budget.