

STAFF REPORT Board Meeting of April 21, 2021

AGENDA ITEM:5-APREPARED BY:Evelyn Espinosa, Associate Regional Planner

SUBJECT:

PUBLIC HEARING: 2021-22 Unmet Transit Needs

Enclosure: No

Action: Receive Public Testimony. Direction may be provided

SUMMARY:

This time is reserved for public comments related to "Unmet Transit Needs" within Madera County. For those wishing to provide comments in Spanish, an interpreter will be provided.

Under the California Transportation Development Act (TDA), this hearing is held annually by the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) to receive testimony on potential unmet transit needs within the region. After the hearing, the MCTC Policy Board must determine which transit requests are unmet needs and if so, whether they are reasonable to meet. After all "reasonable" needs have been met through the expansion of existing services, or the creation of new transit systems, the MCTC may release remaining TDA funds for street and road purposes (repair, reconstruction, etc.)

The public, interested agencies, and civic groups are encouraged to appear and indicate any transportation needs that they feel are not being met by existing transit services. Testimony should be as specific as possible with regard to those citizens not currently served by transit, the requested type and amount of transit service, the geographic area in which service is needed, and any other supportive evidence of information that will help in the evaluation of the "reasonableness" of the requested service.

The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) will meet on April 26, 2021 to review the testimony from this hearing and will make their recommendation along with MCTC staff at the MCTC Policy Board's next meeting on May 19, 2021. At that time, the MCTC Policy Board must determine that public transportation needs within Madera County will be reasonably met in FY 2021-22, prior to approving claims of Local Transportation Funds (LTF) for streets and roads purposes.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2020-21 Overall Work Program and Budget.