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**SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT**

**MOBILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

## MEETING MINUTES

February 15, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER** **ATTACHMENT 1**

The in-person/Zoom meeting was called to order at **2:30 p.m.**

**Present Members:**

Jeff Thom, Pam Flohr, Margie Donovan, Charles Johnson, Helen O’Connell, Gene Lozano, German Ayon, Frank Trujillo, Hugh Lafler

**Absent:** Mariano Rosales

**SacRT Staff:** Priscilla Vargas, Richard Mitchell, Blanca Salcedo, Carmen Alba, Jamie Poole-Canavari, Holly Martinez, James Drake, Shawn Reynolds, Kathy Sachen, Austin Greiner, Adam Green, Casey Courtwright, Devra Selenis, Henry Ikwut-Ukwa, Tabetha Smith, Sussan Nasirian, Michael Cormiae, Rose Patton, Mohammad Shahid, Kevin Alvarez

**Guests:** Jeff Tardaguila, Chuck Zurek, Leslie Thom, Regina Brinks, Joseph Wilson, Lisa Cappellari, Amy Parkin, Ed Fong

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Mr. Thom motioned to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2024, meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was carried by voice vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Tardaguila asked for an update on the State Disability Transportation Committee, and commented on the bus planning app, expressing a need to reduce the number of apps. Mr. Fong shared an incident of a late SacRT GO pickup for his son. Ms. Poole-Canavari and Mr. Mitchell responded to explain SacRT GO’s complaint process and ongoing efforts. Ms. Brinks stated that in her neighborhood (24th Street between Florin and Fruitridge), bus access is limited.

**CHAIR REPORT**

Mr. Thom reported on the MAC Executive Committee’s conversation with Henry Li, in which Mr. Li acknowledged the MAC’s role and hoped to collaborate more as needed, including on public awareness of SacRT and the MAC’s work in the community.

Ms. O’Connell announced that the TC&P Committee will meet and discuss UZURV. Ms. Vargas mentioned the upcoming SacRT GO Open House. Mr. Thom requested MAC members to send suggestions on points for him to speak about at the Open House. Mr. Lozano announced that the A&I Committee has a vacancy, and that they hope to meet in the first week of March to fill the A&I Committee Vice Chair position and discuss the status of the Low-Floor Light Rail platforms. Mr. Lozano also shared a need for visual notification systems, improved safety at light rail crossings, and an ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition plan.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Voting on MAC 2024 Work Plan (Jeff Thom, MAC Chair)**

Mr. Thom called for a motion, and Ms. O’Connell motioned for approval of the MAC 2024 Work Plan. Mr. Ayon seconded the motion. Mr. Lozano made a motion to amend the Part 4, 2024 Goals to include recommending that UZURV attend quarterly MAC meetings and/or TC&P Committee meetings. Ms. Donovan seconded the motion. Mr. Tardaguila asked about why this would only cover UZURV; Mr. Thom said that SacRT GO already gives quarterly updates. The motion passed.

Mr. Johnson asked for staff to discuss Part 3, Goal 5 and 6, on recommending that SacRT hire an independent consultant to perform an ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan, and on procurement of a 3D printer. Mr. Thom suggested adding these items to the agenda of a MAC meeting. Ms. Flohr agreed that a word other than “Recommend” may be more appropriate. Mr. Lozano argued that “Recommend” was used elsewhere in the Work Plan. Ms. Vargas said that the items in Goals 5 and 6 were not required of SacRT and proposed using “Recommend if required.” Ms. Flohr repeated a need to agendize Goals 5 and 6 to get more information before recommending. Mr. Lozano clarified that he did not think Goal 6 was legally required. Mr. Thom called for a vote to approve the work plan; with one “No” from Mr. Johnson, the Work Plan was approved.

1. **SacRT Service Changes 2024 (James Drake, Senior Manager, Planning)**

Mr. Drake reported that there is a draft of the service changes out for public review until March 1, to be presented to the Board on March 11. Most proposed changes would take effect on August 28. Mr. Drake highlighted the contents of the plan, including fiscal impacts, Title VI impacts, and the Light Rail Services to Folsom package. The plan for Folsom 15 includes improvement of headways to Folsom from Sunrise and service schedule improvements. Folsom bus service adjustments are also proposed, including Routes 30 and 10, which may be supplemented by SmaRT Ride. There were other proposed improvements to uniformity for Routes 1, 26, 81, 84, and 93, and a reduction to Route 51. Another proposed change was to Route 33 and the Dos Rios light rail station. Another was to Route 137. The report also discussed future service from the planned Ace/San Joaquin Valley train station. Ms. O’Connell asked about how to find the plan on the website. Mr. Tardaguila asked for clarification on the schedules for Route 33 and Route 1. Mr. Lozano planned to email another question to Mr. Drake.

1. **Cal ITP Update (Case Courtwright, Director, Office of Management and Budget)**

Mr. Courtwright reported that open loop payment hardware and software vendors have been selected and will be notified about entering into a contract within 30 days. Installation of hardware will start this summer, with SacRT GO and EVan. An RFP for an account-based ticketing solution, to upgrade or replace Zip Pass and Connect Card, will be released in the next few weeks, with the vendor to be on board by this summer, and new payment services to be available in fall or early winter.

Ms. O’Connell asked about how 60 trip passes on SacRT GO will be handled. Mr. Courtwright said that debit and credit card payments will be available onboard. Ms. Donovan asked about the continuation of Connect Card on fixed-route transit. Mr. Courtright said that both systems will be in place during a transitional period. Mr. Courtwright also confirmed that onboard payment and a new mobile app, vendor to be decided, will replace Zip Pass. Ms. Donovan encouraged SacRT undertake thorough evaluation of accessibility compliance. Mr. Tardaguila asked about any difficulties with the tap-to-ride system. Mr. Courtwright said no issues have been found, except on some demo devices, which will be replaced. SacRT is referencing implementation by Monterey-Salinas and San Francisco.

Mr. Lozano mentioned a recent meeting on the Complete Streets project, where the County plans to rebuild five unused SacRT stops to meet ADA compliance requirements, and asked if there are plans to resume use of these stops. Mr. Drake said there are plans, but this may not be a budget priority.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Public Education & Communication Plan for S700 Trains (Devra Selenis, VP, Communications & Partnerships)**

Ms. Selenis reported that low-floor trains are planned to be launched on the entire Gold Line this summer. There will be 20 low-floor train, of which 9 will be shared with parts of the Blue and Green Lines. Since SacRT will be using a mixed fleet, audible and visual announcements will be used to inform riders about the type of train arriving at each station. SacRT’s marketing team has already started an advertising and notification campaign to inform riders about light rail service disruptions, and a video will also be developed to show the new trains. SacRT will also host community events allowing community members to board a static low-floor train; the MAC may participate. Dates and locations for these events will be announced.

Mr. Lozano suggested that the video on new trains be captioned and have audio descriptions and that a separate event be held for the disabled and senior community to try the new train. Ms. Selenis said that the event may start one hour early to accommodate this community; Mr. Lozano said more time may be needed. Mr. Tardaguila asked about placement of bicycles and scooters on the new low-floor trains. Ms. Selenis said that a section of the new trains will be indicated, with embroidery, for passengers with disabilities.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. O’Connell asked about searchability of MAC information on the SacRT website. Ms. Donovan shared that the railings at temporary platforms for the light rail modernization project are disorienting to blind/low-vision riders. Mr. Lozano suggested discussing this at an A&I Committee meeting. Ms. Poole-Canavari said that the SacRT website has a search bar, but it may be moved to improve accessibility.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Vargas said 16 replacement vehicles for SacRT GO were delivered, and 14 more are being built. The vehicles are identical to the GO vehicles in service now.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Lozano called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. O’Connell motioned to adjourn. Mr. Trujillo seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Mobility Advisory Council is scheduled for March 21, 2024, from 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.