

**RESORT TRIANGLE TRANSPORTATION DISCUSSION GROUP**  
**March 6, 2018**  
**Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM at the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District Office in Truckee, California.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

The Resort Triangle Transportation Discussion Group will serve as the TRPA Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC), but is primarily meant to bridge the gap in communication between regional transportation partners and the social services communities.

Meeting attendees introduced themselves, noted their group affiliation, and talked about the last time they used public transportation and how their experience was.

**ATTENDEES**

Sara Schrichte, Community Collaborative of Tahoe Truckee  
Alison Schwedner, Community Collaborative of Tahoe Truckee  
Andrew Tarca, Family Resource Center  
Kira Smith, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency  
Kelly Beede, Town of Truckee  
Julia Tohlen, Truckee North Tahoe Transportation Management Association  
Angela Swanson, Tahoe Transportation District  
Victoria Bocking Ferris, North Tahoe Family Resource Center/Community House  
Candice Harris, BGCNLT  
Nathaly Chavet, North Tahoe Family Resource Center/Kid Zone Museum  
Felicity Beathe, North Tahoe Family Resource Center  
Jaime Wright, Truckee North Tahoe Transportation Management Association  
Will Garner, Placer County  
Hillary Bayliss, Placer Public Health  
Melissa Olsen, Sierra College  
Kimberly Whittington, Choices  
Reyna Sanchez, Tahoe Forest Hospital  
Lizzie Hennessee, Tahoe Forest Hospital  
Heather Heckler, Connecting Point 211  
Daniella Fernandez, Connecting Point 211

**ON THE PHONE**

Aaron Hoyt, Placer County Transportation Planning Agency

**PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Kelly Beede – Town of Truckee Transit Services Overview**

Ms. Beede presented an overview of transit services during the winter and summer seasons in Truckee. Ms. Beede recognized a lack of sufficient service span and lack of service into the neighborhoods. Truckee has a very expansive Dial-a-Ride program that is available to all residents within the Town limits. ADA-qualified passengers have access to the program for a cheaper fare than other residents.

Four years ago, the Town of Truckee partnered with the Tahoe Transportation District to implement the North Tahoe Truckee Transport (NTTT) Senior Shuttle program. Truckee also operates transit services for special events. These services are offered a total of 17 days and ridership on these services is close to the number of total riders on all year-round fixed routes. Truckee is looking for a way to offer more of these specialized event services.

Truckee transit services are funded with about a \$1 million per year budget. Funds come from state transit tax funds, grant funds, private contributors (Grey Crossing housing development), and farebox revenues.

The Town of Truckee partnered with Placer County and the TNT/TMA to rebrand the transit services in North Tahoe and Truckee. Truckee now has a Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) and a Long Range Transit Plan (LRTP) which outline a greater vision for expanding transit services within Truckee. Some highlights from the SRTP include:

- Eliminate fares and offering fixed route and Dial-a-Ride services for free
- Expand service hours from 9am-5pm to 7am-6pm year round
- Expand non-winter service on demand response routes and fixed routes
- Extend evening service from North Tahoe to Truckee

\*\*Implementing these service improvements will cost around \$400,000

Some highlights from the LRTP include:

- Align service better with Placer County TART and expand winter service days
- Expand frequency from 60 min to 30 min

\*\*Implementing these service improvements will cost over \$3 million

## **2. Will Garner – Placer County TART Transit Services Overview**

If you are interested in hearing about funding for TART transit services, Mr. Garner is going to give an in-depth overview of funding at the TNT/TMA April meeting.

Placer County and TART are working closely together to align transit services. Placer County staff are typically employed by the County. Temporary staff fill peak season positions in the Winter and Summer. Night services mirror daytime services almost exactly, but there are no connections to Truckee.

Placer County TART operates the minimum required ADA paratransit services. TART hopes to expand the ADA service or partner with Truckee to provide more specialized services in North Tahoe.

South Placer County offers \$10 bus passes for youth to ride the bus for the entire summer. Mr. Garner thinks this is a possibility and wants to look into it for this summer.

## **3. Angela Swanson – Tahoe Transportation District Senior Shuttle Overview**

The NTTT senior shuttle has a \$50,000 annual budget for four years funded by the Agency on Aging. The program was recently renewed for an additional four years, but the program has maxed out at 40 unduplicated senior riders each year. Ridership will need to grow to keep funding partners invested in the program.

The NTTT program provides many benefits to seniors – quality of life by limiting isolation, crucial access to health care and nutrition services, and access to social services and free transportation. The funding partner requires that a senior be present on the bus to operate, but other residents may ride as long as there is a senior on the bus. One-way trips cost \$3 for people who are not seniors but want to ride the bus. Most people riding are riding to Roseville and Grass Valley. NTTT dispatchers recommend reserving a ride before scheduling a medical appointment. It's better to schedule an appointment in the middle of the day so that passengers do not have to wait so long once they arrive to a destination.

Ms. Swanson wants members of the transportation group to reach out to their clients and help fill buses. Representatives may call dispatch directly to reserve a ride – dispatch will work to confirm that a senior will be on the bus before confirming reservations.

As a Collaborative, there have always been gaps in accessible transportation services, particularly for children and families. It's helpful to talk about different options, and the hope is that this group will work together to fill existing buses with people who need affordable transportation. The best way to improve ridership is to distribute information to seniors who need transportation services. There aren't too many central "senior" locations in North Tahoe, so it's more difficult to conduct outreach about the program.

#### **NEXT STEPS AS A COLLECTIVE:**

1. Distribute information about the senior shuttle, refer riders, and coordinate with program dispatchers to connect families who need transportation with the existing program.
2. Refer to the Town of Truckee with questions about reserving a ride on the NTTT buses.
3. Tahoe Forest Hospital is helping to translate the senior shuttle brochure in Spanish. This will be available soon.
4. Contact any transit partners (PCTPA, TRPA, NCTC, Placer County, Town of Truckee, TTD) with questions about transit services.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59am.