SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (SSTAC) November 27, 2017 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Kira Smith called the meeting to order at 1:19 PM at the Department of Rehabilitation in South Lake Tahoe, California.

INTRODUCTIONS

Kira Smith described the history and purpose of the SSTAC. Smith announced the membership requirements and meeting attendees signed up as official members.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Paula Lambdin, El Dorado County Health and Human Services Gordon Bonar, Tahoe Area Coordinating Council for the Disabled/People First Angela Swanson, Tahoe Transportation District Eanad Lott, Live Violence Free Kira Smith, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

PRESENTATIONS

a. Update on ADA paratransit services providing ridership data

Angela Swanson reported on TTD ridership statistics and described farebox recovery requirements. Demand response services are only recovering between three and five percent, and the recovery requirements are 20 percent for federal transit funding. There is a grace period. TTD and TRPA will need to work together to come up with solutions.

Annual ridership from 2016 was highest on Routes 50, 53 and 10. Route 10 is a winter ski shuttle subsidized by Heavenly. Eanad Lott asked if Heavenly is subsidizing the full amount for operating winter shuttles and suggested negotiating with them to make sure they are paying for overhead and operating costs. Paula Lambdin discussed potential diplomacy issues based on history of private contributors to transit, including Heavenly and the Stateline casinos.

Swanson mentioned the discontinuation of Route 21x in 2016. TTD does not currently have the option to restore this route due to federal funding restrictions – federal funds may not be used for this route because it operates between two urbanized areas. This is an unmet need that TTD cannot deal with right now. Routes 19x and 20x still give riders the option to travel between Carson City and South Lake Tahoe.

Swanson expressed concern for the fate of demand response funding based on poor ridership and expensive operations.

b. Summary of 2017 Unmet Transit Needs findings

Kira Smith presented a summary of findings from the 2017 unmet transit needs process. Smith reported on TTD's recommendation for each comment. TTD categorized most comments as unmet needs not reasonable to meet. Funding is the primary concern. The group discussed which issues should be prioritized for future funding.

ACTION ITEMS

a. Discuss unmet transit needs and form recommendations for Tahoe Transportation Commission (TTC) board meeting December 8, 2017

SSTAC members reviewed findings and draft recommendations from the unmet transit needs process. Members discussed and revised draft recommendations. Kira Smith will finalize recommendations to include in the 2017 Unmet Transit Needs Report. Recommendations will be presented at the TTC board meeting on December 8 at the TRPA offices at 9:30 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:49 PM.