

# Social Services Transportation Advisory Council – SSTAC

Advisory Council to the Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC)

2:00 p.m., Wednesday August 23, 2023-@ 117 Valley View Way Sutter Creek, CA 95685

Conference Call # (267)807-9605, access code 312875

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Calendar Year 2023 –Chair- \_\_\_\_\_ , Vice Chair- \_\_\_\_\_

## MEETING AGENDA

**Agenda:** Approval of agenda for this date. *Off agenda items must be approved by the SSTAC, pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2*

### Elect a Chair and Vice Chair for calendar year 2023

**Public Matters Not on the Agenda:** *Discussion items only, no action to be taken. Any persons may address the council at this time on any subject within the jurisdiction of the SSTAC; however, any matter that requires action may be referred to ACTC or AT staff and/or SSTAC members for a report and recommendation for possible action at a subsequent SSTAC meeting. Please note – there is a three (3) minute limit per topic.*

### Consent Agenda Items: (No concerns or comment, approve in one motion)

1. Approval of October 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes
2. Review May 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes-*informational only, no quorum*
3. SSTAC Reappointment: Chris Kalton, Amador Senior Center
4. SSTAC Vacancies: Representative for youth-Open

### Regular Agenda Items:

5. Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC) correspondence letter
6. FY 2023/24 Unmet Transit Needs Report-Review
7. FY 2024/25 Unmet Transit Needs Process
8. ACTC 2024 Regional Transportation Plan
9. Amador Transit General Manager/Mobility Manager Report - Maggie/April
10. SSTAC Members Information Sharing
11. Schedule Next Meeting - \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

### Adjournment

**SSTAC Members:** Mark Bennett, Crystal Enyeart, Elizabeth Thompson, Karyn Gregorius, Betty Mann, Maggie Amarant, April Miller, Stephanie Hess, Chris Kalton, Thomas Denney  
Youth Representative (open) [10 members (1 open), Quorum = 6]

**Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC)  
Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)**

**Wednesday October 19, 2022**

**Held in person and via conference call**

**Attendees:**

<b>Appointed Members:</b>			
<b>X</b>	Mark Bennett, Transit Rider	<b>X</b>	Betty Mann/Lesley Mace Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency (ATCAA)
	Crystal Enyeart, Transit Rider		Chris Kalton/Nette Fox, Amador Senior Center
<b>X</b>	Stephanie Hess/James Burke, Amador County Behavioral Health/Katrina Ozier, Sierra Wind		<b>OPEN</b> - Youth Representative
<b>X</b>	Karyn Gregorius, The Arc of Amador	<b>X</b>	April Miller, Amador Transit
<b>X</b>	Maggie Amarant, Amador Transit (AT)		<b>OPEN</b> - Disabled Representative
	Elizabeth Thompson, Common Ground Senior Services		
<b>Other Attendees:</b>			
<b>X</b>	John Gedney, ACTC	<b>X</b>	Thomas Denney, Area 12 Agency on Aging
<b>X</b>	Felicia Bridges, ACTC	<b>X</b>	Laurie Terry, ATCAA
<b>X</b>	Shiferaw Jemberie, Caltrans District 10		

**Introductions were made.**

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion:** It was moved by Mark Bennett, seconded by April Miller and carried to approve the agenda.

**Public Matters Not on the Agenda:** None

**Consent Agenda Items (1-3):** Karyn stated Area 12 Agency may be interested in membership of the SSTAC as a representative for the disabled.

**Motion:** It was moved by Maggie Amarant, seconded by Mark Bennett and carried to approve the Consent Agenda.

**Regular Agenda Items:**

**#4. Sacramento Valley Multimodal Hub Update:** Karyn asked if there are any questions regarding the report. Mark asked what AT thinks about the potential changes displayed in this report. April stated AT had a meeting with Sacramento County Department of Transportation (SACDOT) and asked about this project, but they did not seem to know much about it, and noted they would have to check into it. April stated SACDOT commented they may discontinue the Sacramento route in 2025 if ridership does not increase. She noted they will be making more efforts to increase ridership on that route, but since the pandemic the ridership has not rebounded well. Maggie noted all transit agencies are going through the same issues regarding ridership. John stated there will be major development being purposed along SR 16 (30,000-50,000 new homes and commercial). In the environmental impact report that was approved by Sacramento County included express transit through that corridor, forcing them through

environmental mitigation, to do something with regard to transit. Karyn stated as California is still under the State of Emergency until presumably until February 28, 2023, there are still businesses and services that are on that waiver like the ARC of Amador (scheduled to restart at full capacity in December) preventing ridership to fully rebound. She noted it will be interesting to see how ridership develops in the next year with those businesses and services back up and running. April commented the Sacramento route was highly impacted by student riders that are no longer traveling for school. Maggie noted that same issue applies to the State workers that are working from home now and no longer needing that transportation either. She noted AT may provide a survey for the travelers on that route to see if other timeframes would be more applicable, and targeting new crowds may be needed.

**#5. FY 2023/24 Unmet Transit Needs Process-Draft Recommendation Chart:** John stated the definition and criteria were included in the ACTC board agenda packet last month for review. However, the board made no changes to either at this time. He stated unless there are any other changes to be made to the draft recommendation chart, these recommendations will be presented during the hearing set to take place at the board at the December 1, 2022 ACTC board meeting. John asked Maggie if the voucher program recommendation should be highlighted at the hearing. Maggie stated she may bring that up at the December meeting for discussion. She noted depending on feedback received, she may bring a staff recommendation to the board in early 2023 to use the next cycle of Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) grant funding for reduced or free fares. John asked if the Plymouth route, as previously discussed during conversation of the lone routes, should be added to the short-term recommendation to potentially mirror the upcountry route for DAR services. April noted at this time there is not a need for DAR service in that area, that the fixed route that currently runs there serves the current need.

**#6. Amador Transit General Manager/Mobility Manager Report:** April said there are 102 Pine Grove/Pioneer riders signed up for DAR utilizing the new upcountry expansion, with 24 just since July. She noted it acts as a whole new route and AT had to implement a DAR-3 bus to accommodate those additional riders. April added the fixed Upcountry route is now running on time again.

**#7. SSTAC Members Information Sharing:** Mark stated at the recent planning commission meeting it was approved to convert the 16 motel units at the SR 88/49 interchange (Linda Vista) to eight (8) apartments, which may create the potential for ridership at that location in the future. John noted there is another apartment complex set to be built near Walgreens. Betty stated that project has already been approved and the funding is in place for the 40-unit total (20-unit behavior health, 20-unit affordable housing) apartment complex.

Mark noted he would like to ask the planning commission when development does take place with regard to housing near Wicklow Way, that a permanent bus stop be included in the developers cost.

John stated the Amador County Unified School District (ACUSD) attended the last ACTC meeting and gave a presentation regarding the school consolidation project. He said the issues include the traffic impacts that will take place due to this project, and that no traffic study has been

performed yet to provide options of how to mitigate those impacts. John said the ACUSD noted at the ACTC meeting they will move forward with the project whether the bond passes or not, but they did state they will follow the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) process. John said ACTC will continue to follow this item and report back.

**#8. Schedule Next Meeting:** Wednesday January 18, 2023 @ 2:00 p.m. in-person and via conference call line.

**Adjournment**

DRAFT

**Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC)  
Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)**

**Wednesday May 24, 2023- Informational Minutes Only (No Quorum)**

Held in person and via conference call

**Attendees:**

Appointed Members:			
X	Mark Bennett, Transit Rider		Betty Mann/Lesley Mace Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency (ATCAA)
	Crystal Enyeart, Transit Rider		Chris Kalton/Nette Fox, Amador Senior Center
	Stephanie Hess/James Burke, Amador County Behavioral Health/Katrina Ozier, Sierra Wind		OPEN - Youth Representative
X	Karyn Gregorius, The Arc of Amador	X	April Miller, Amador Transit
	Maggie Amaran, Amador Transit (AT)		OPEN- Disabled Representative
X	Elizabeth Thompson, Common Ground Senior Services		
Other Attendees:			
X	John Gedney, ACTC		
X	Felicia Bridges, ACTC		

**Public Matters Not on the Agenda:** Karyn stated she recently attended a meeting with the hospital and suggested they have someone from the hospital attend these SSTAC meetings to communicate concerns expressed such as challenges for patients being discharged from the hospital without transportation services to get home on evenings and weekends and the new dialysis clinic that will be opening in the business complex near Safeway in Martell. She noted that center may need a bus stop or other transportation related services. April noted Safeway and Staples would not allow AT to put a bus stop in front of their business but the dialysis center might. April stated she met with the Director of Sutter Amador Hospital (SAH) and four (4) charge nurses of various locations in the hospital regarding the patient discharge issue. She stated she provided them options on how to sign up for Dial-A-Ride (DAR) during business hours, suggested including a question regarding transportation services needed after discharge in the patient registration packet, and noted there is a taxi service (Frontier Cab) back in Amador County. April commented she told SAH it is inappropriate to discharge patients late at night when those individuals have no transportation.

Mark asked if Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil still utilized the AT Sacramento route for commuting as he wrote her a long email regarding transit in California and noted he did not receive a response yet. April replied yes, she does ride the bus about twice a week. She stated she has been very busy but noted she could bring it up to her. Mark stated his letter included a suggestion to include business leaders in the local community to sit as on the transit boards.

**Consent Agenda Items (1-6):**

**#5. SSTAC Vacancies- Representative for Youth:** Karyn stated she provided today's meeting information to Bonnie Gail, Transition Teacher-Office of Education, and provided her

information regarding the vacancy for a youth representative if she or someone she works with would be interested in the position.

**#6. Sacramento Valley Station Hub:** Felicia stated this information was provided by Mark and is an update on the funding Sacramento is receiving and the process of the regional multimodal access improvements that will take place. Mark commented hopefully this will increase ridership when completed and solve problems of connectivity regionally.

**Regular Agenda Items:**

**#7. FY 2023/24 Unmet Transit Needs Process-** Karyn stated she spoke with Bonnie Gail regarding the process of the unmet transit needs and invited her to attend the SSTAC meetings which could provide her further insight on how the process works and give her the ability to provide input directly. Felicia reviewed a staff report prepared for SSTAC to provide an overall background of this year's unmet needs process and testimony received. April and Karyn suggested not entirely focusing on one group's need, but rather the needs in those regions as included in the SSTAC recommendation chart. After further discussion it was agreed that both areas of Lone and Plymouth are considered 'unmet needs' and as such, both should be further analyzed with regard to cost and farebox recovery ratio and taken to the ACTC board.

**#9. Amador Transit General Manager Report/Mobility Manager Report-Maggie/April:** April stated AT has the summer youth bus passes available for \$40 and that service will begin on June 5<sup>th</sup> and run until school starts.

**#10. SSTAC Members Information Sharing:** Mark stated, regarding the 40-unit housing project near Walgreens and the Wicklow Way project, they seem to be on hold due to lack of water. Karyn replied yes, she received the same information that there are delays due to the utilities.

Elizabeth stated Common Grounds just got awarded the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities - Section 5310 contract and now will have someone staffed to do more out of county trips.

**#11. Schedule Next Meeting:** Wednesday August 23, 2023 @ 2:00 p.m.

**Adjournment**



**DATE:** August 3, 2023

**TO:** Amador County Transportation Commission

**FROM:** Felicia Bridges, Administrative Analyst

**SUBJECT:** **Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)  
Reappointment of Representatives**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends commissioners approve reappointment of current member Chris Kalton- Executive Director, Amador Senior Center as a SSTAC representative.

Members of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council shall be appointed to serve three-year terms by the transportation planning agency. Current member: Chris Kalton-*One representative of local social service providers for seniors* whose term expires September 6, 2023 has asked to be reappointed for another term.

FB- Attachment





**Life with the Power of Choice and Possibilities**

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July 20, 2023

John Gedney  
Executive Director  
Amador Transportation Commission  
117 Valley View Way  
Sutter Creek, CA 95685  
[john@actc-amador.org](mailto:john@actc-amador.org)

Dear Mr. Gedney:

On behalf of people with developmental disabilities and as the Director of Community Services at Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC) I'm contacting you to strengthen our partnership so our organizations can work together to develop public transportation services that meet the needs of the disabled members of our community. I would like the Amador Transportation Commission to know that VMRC is very interested in being included in the "Annual Unmet Needs Survey" and would also like to have a representative on the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council. This will open opportunities for both organizations to communicate clearly and effectively as plans for public transportation are developed and decisions are made regarding access for people with developmental disabilities.

VMRC is one of 21 non-profit private corporations in the State of California that contracts and is funded by the State Department of Developmental Services to provide and coordinate services and supports to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The statutory and regulatory requirements are contained in the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Act and the California Code of Regulations Title 17. Individuals with developmental disabilities include people with intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or disabling conditions found to be closely related and require similar services and supports. VMRC's catchment area includes San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Calaveras, Amador, and Tuolumne Counties. Within these counties, VMRC provides case coordination, along with services and supports to approximately 11,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. VMRC's goal is to support these individuals in achieving their maximum potential through increased independence, productivity, and integration into the community. Public transportation services play a key role in achieving this goal. VMRC wants to develop a partnership with the various Councils of Governments and transit districts within its catchment area. VMRC can support the efforts of ACTC in identifying unmet transportation needs, providing

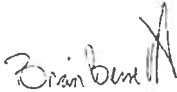


input on existing services, accessing public transportation services, and purchasing bus passes and tickets that will ensure people with developmental disabilities have access to public transportation. The VMRC Community Services Department, is responsible for identifying and ensuring the development of an array of services and supports that are needed including the transportation needs for the disabled within the various counties and transit districts within our catchment area.

I would like to request that VMRC, Community Services be included in the distribution of the "Annual Unmet Needs Survey." We would very much like to have a representative for the disabled population, on the "Social Services Transportation Advisory Council" and any other opportunities that are available that would represent the interests in meeting the public transportation needs of persons with developmental disabilities. This would give VMRC the opportunity to have regularly scheduled opportunities to have open and timely sharing of information about choices before decisions are made by the Board, that your organization is provided complete and clear information regarding the issues that impact the developmentally disabled population. VMRC is very interested in actively partnering with ACTC to improve and expand public transportation that meets the needs of people with developmental disabilities within Amador County.

Thank you for your time and consideration in hearing my request. I look forward to hearing from you or a representative of your organization in response. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or further conversation.

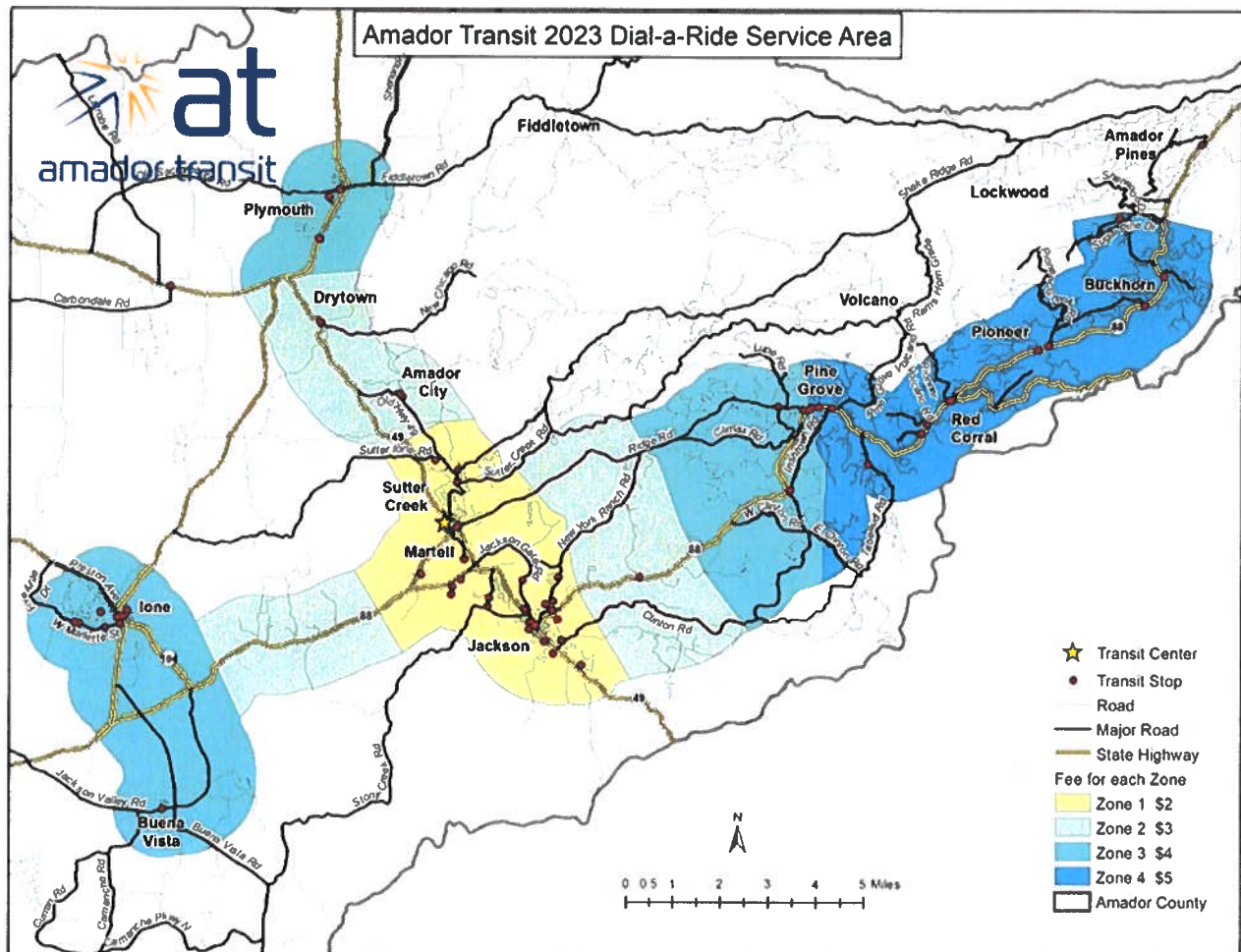
SINCERELY,



Brian L. Bennett  
Community Services Director  
[bbennett@vmrc.net](mailto:bbennett@vmrc.net)  
(209) 955-3309

cc: Teri-Yakesh, Fiscal Officer  
[terri@actc-amador.org](mailto:terri@actc-amador.org)

# AMADOR TRANSIT IS SO PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT BEGINNING **AUGUST 14TH, 2023**, DIAL-A-RIDE WILL NOW SERVICE PLYMOUTH & IONE



**AMADOR TRANSIT'S DIAL-A-RIDE PROGRAM WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2011 AND OFFERS A SAFETY NET FOR THE COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING ASSISTED DOOR TO DOOR, PREARRANGED TRANSPORTATION FOR ANY TRIP PURPOSE WITHIN OUR SERVICE AREA. MORE INFORMATION ABOUT DIAL-A-RIDE INCLUDING THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.AMADORTRANSIT.COM](http://WWW.AMADORTRANSIT.COM) OR CALL US TODAY TO HAVE ONE SENT TO YOU! **209-267-9395****