

# **SANDAG**

## ***Social Services Transportation Advisory Council***

### ***Agenda***

**Tuesday, September 21, 2021**

**10 a.m.**

**\*\*Teleconference Meeting\*\***

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 21, 2021, will be conducted virtually in accordance with Governor Newsom's State of Emergency declaration regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, Executive Order N-29-20, and the Guidance for Gatherings issued by the California Department of Public Health. Council members will primarily participate in the meeting virtually, while practicing social distancing, from individual remote locations.

To participate via Zoom webinar, click the link to join the meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/97699661323>

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**Public Comments:** Persons who wish to address the members on an item to be considered at this meeting, or on non-agendized issues, may email comments to the Clerk at [clerkoftheboard@sandag.org](mailto:clerkoftheboard@sandag.org) (please reference "Tuesday, September 21, 2021 Social Services Transportation Advisory Council Meeting," in your subject line and identify the item number(s) to which your comments pertain). Comments received by 4 p.m. on Monday, September 20, will be provided to members prior to the meeting.

If you desire to provide live verbal comment during the meeting, please join the Zoom meeting by computer or phone and use the "Raise Hand" function to request to provide public comment. On a computer, the "Raise Hand" feature is on the Zoom toolbar. By phone, enter \*9 to "Raise Hand" and \*6 to unmute. Requests to provide live public comment must be made at the beginning of the relevant item, and no later than the end of any staff presentation on the item. The Clerk will call on members of the public who have timely requested to provide comment by name for those joining via a computer and by the last three digits of for those joining via telephone. All comments received prior to the close of the meeting will be made part of the meeting record. Please note that any available chat feature on the Zoom meeting platform should be used by panelists and attendees solely for procedural or other "housekeeping" matters as comments provided via the chat feature will not be retained as part of the meeting record. All comments to be provided for the record must be made via email or orally per the instructions above.

# SANDAG

Welcome to SANDAG. Members of the public may speak to the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council on any item at the time the Council is considering the item. Public speakers are limited to three minutes or less per person. The Council may only take action on any item appearing on the agenda.

In order to keep the public informed in an efficient manner and facilitate public participation, SANDAG also provides access to all agenda and meeting materials online at [sandag.org/meetings](http://sandag.org/meetings). Additionally, interested persons can sign up for email notifications at [sandag.org/subscribe](http://sandag.org/subscribe).

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## Vision Statement

*Pursuing a brighter future for all.*

## Mission Statement

*We are the regional agency that connects people, places, and innovative ideas by implementing solutions with our unique and diverse communities.*

## Our Commitment to Equity

*We hold ourselves accountable to the communities we serve. We acknowledge we have much to learn and much to change; and we firmly uphold equity and inclusion for every person in the San Diego region. This includes historically underserved, systemically marginalized groups impacted by actions and inactions at all levels of our government and society.*

*We have an obligation to eliminate disparities and ensure that safe, healthy, accessible, and inclusive opportunities are available to everyone. In 2021, SANDAG will develop an equity action plan that will inform how we plan, prioritize, fund, and build projects and programs; frame how we work with our communities; define how we recruit and develop our employees; guide our efforts to conduct unbiased research and interpret data; and set expectations for companies and stakeholders that work with us.*

*We are committed to creating a San Diego region where every person who visits, works, and lives can thrive.*

# Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

| Item No.       |  | Action      |
|----------------|--|-------------|
| 1.             | Welcome and Introductions  |             |
| +2.            | <b>Approval of Meeting Minutes</b><br>The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) is asked to review and approve the minutes from its July 20, 2021, meeting.  | Approve     |
| 3.             | <b>Public Comments/Communications/Member Comments</b><br>Members of the public shall have the opportunity to address the SSTAC on any issue within the jurisdiction of SANDAG that is not on this agenda.  |             |
| <b>Reports</b> |  |             |
| 4.             | <b>Staff Report</b><br><i>Brian Lane, SANDAG</i><br>Staff will report on notable activity within the SANDAG Short Range Transit section.   | Information |
| 5.             | <b>Harbor Drive 2.0 Concept of Operations</b><br><i>Suhasini Natarajan, SANDAG</i><br>An overview on the Harbor 2.0 Concept of Operations (ConOps) proposed goals and functional needs will be presented. The ConOps is being developed to streamline activities along Harbor Drive (e.g., improve traffic conditions, reduce vehicle emissions, improve vehicle access to Naval Base San Diego, provide efficient highway access for commercial freight operators, and improving transit and pedestrian access to the shipyards) via technological upgrades. The Harbor Drive 2.0 ConOps survey is available at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HarborDrive2point0">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HarborDrive2point0</a> . SSTAC members are asked to provide comments and feedback. | Information |
| 6.             | <b>Flexible Fleet Procurement</b><br><i>Danielle Kochman, SANDAG</i><br>An overview on SANDAG's preparation to perform a joint procurement, providing access to various on-call vendors for flexible fleet services will be presented. This will help facilitate pilot projects led by SANDAG, transit operators, local jurisdictions, and other partners throughout the region. SANDAG is seeking feedback on accessibility related requirements to consider when evaluating and selecting vendors for different types of flexible fleet services.  | Information |
| 7.             | <b>Chair and Vice Chair Selection</b><br>The SSTAC is asked to select a new Chair and Vice Chair for the next year.  | Appoint     |

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| <p><b>8. Transit Operator Update</b><br/><i>Metropolitan Transit System</i><br/><i>North County Transit District</i></p> <p>Representatives from the Metropolitan Transit System and North County Transit District will provide an update on proposed service changes and any notable activity.</p>               | <p><b>Information</b></p> |
| <p><b>9. Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation Update</b><br/><i>Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation</i></p> <p>An update on the most recent developments of the Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation Update and the Council on Access and Mobility will be presented.</p> | <p><b>Information</b></p> |
| <p><b>10. Upcoming Meetings</b></p> <p>The next SSTAC meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2021 at 10 a.m.</p>   | <p><b>Information</b></p> |
| <p><b>11. Adjournment</b></p>   |                           |

+ next to an item indicates an attachment

September 21, 2021

Action: **Approve**

### **July 20, 2021, Meeting Minutes**

Chair Meagan Schmidt (Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation [FACT] – Seat B) called the meeting of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) to order at 10:02 a.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held in virtually via Zoom.

#### **1. Introductions**

The attendance sheet for this meeting is included.

#### **2. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Approve)**

Action: Upon a motion by Ted Kagan (At-Large Alternate – Seat C), and a second by Wayne Landon (At-Large Alternate – Seat A), the SSTAC approved the minutes from its January 19, 2021, and March 11, 2021, meetings.

Yes: Chair Meagan Schmidt, Vice Chair Jay Washburn (Metropolitan Transit System [MTS] Paratransit), Lorry Seagrim (At-Large Voting Member – Seat A), Rebecca Steiner (At-Large Alternate – Seat B), Nansi Kiwanuka (ElderHelp), Arun Prem (FACT), Todd Shaw (Home of Guiding Hands), Vassilena Lerinska (MTS Fixed Route), Robert Gebo (North County Transit District [NCTD] Paratransit), Marissa Lucero (San Diego Center for the Blind), Ilse Carey (Special Interest Member – Seat A), Helen Elias (Special Interest Alternate – Seat A), and Mahvash Alami (Survivors of Torture).

No: None.

Abstain: Lorry Seagrim (At-Large Voting Member – Seat A).

Absent: Special Interest Member – Seat B, At-Large Voting Member – Seat B, At-Large Voting Member – Seat C, The Arc of San Diego, and NCTD Fixed Route.

#### **3. Public Comments/Communications/Member Comments**

Sharon Beckas mentioned that her comment during the last meeting regarding schedules for coming back on public transit was not addressed.

Lisa Madsen mentioned that the comment was recorded as part of public hearing so and it was addressed under that agenda item.

Wayne Landon serves on the accessibility advisory board for the VA hospital, which is currently completing an annual accreditation. There are issues between trolley drop-off to the hospital that he hopes can be addressed but believes that the trolley drop-off is overall a success.

### **Reports**

#### **4. Staff Report (Information)**

Associate Regional Planner Lisa Madsen the following updates:

Caltrans is committed to bringing its entire infrastructure into compliance with state and federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Due to the financial burden for public agencies to make all infrastructure accessible within a short time frame, the U.S. Congress is allowing public agencies to transition into full compliance through an ADA Transition Plan, which identifies physical access barriers and proposes a schedule for removal of those barriers based on the financial abilities of the agency.

Caltrans is developing a Transition Plan, which documents the legal requirements and Caltrans' functional goals and objectives to make pedestrian facilities within Caltrans' right-of-way accessible and usable for persons with disabilities. This Transition Plan will be used to guide the planning, programming, and implementation needed to make Caltrans' facilities ADA compliant. The draft Caltrans ADA Transition Plan is available online for public comments, comments may be submitted through September 10, 2021.

SANDAG's Draft San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan (2021 Regional Plan) is available for public comment for until July 30, 2021. A public hearing for the 2021 Regional Plan will be held at the July 23, 2021, Board of Directors meeting.

SANDAG is hiring, information on open positions is available on [sandag.org](http://sandag.org).

## **5. PRONTO Fare System Update (Information)**

Grecia Figueroa, MTS, provided a presentation on PRONTO and the approach to communicate with seniors.

PRONTO is an update to the MTS fare system with more functionality, saving opportunities, and more family account accessibility

PRONTO registration is available via direct mail, PRONTO support center, MTS Transit Store, transit center outreach table, and the PRONTO mobile application.

## **6. Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plans (Information)**

Corridor Planning Manager Rachel Kennedy provided an overview of the Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Program (CMCP). CMCPs promote a planning process that utilizes a holistic and multimodal approach and strives to achieve a balanced transportation system program. In September 2019, the Board identified 5 of 12 corridors as priority corridors with the completion of the CMCPs by winter 2021.

Phase I CMCP Study Area Boundaries: 1. North County Corridor; 2. San Vicente Corridor; 3. Coast, Canyons, and Trails; 4. Central Mobility Hub and Connections; and 5. South Bay to Sorrento.

Plan Process: 1. Define Corridor Characteristics; 2. Analyze Performance Gaps and Opportunities; 3. Identify Solution Strategies; and Apply 5 Big Moves 4. Develop Implementation Blueprint.

Public Outreach: Fall 2021 Performance Measures/Refinement; Fall/Winter 2021 Draft/Final Plans.

Information on all the SANDAG CMCPs is available at [sandag.org/index.asp?subclassid=83&fuseaction=home.subclasshome](http://sandag.org/index.asp?subclassid=83&fuseaction=home.subclasshome).

## **7. 2021 SSTAC Membership (Information)**

SSTAC had six positions expiring in May 2021. At its meeting on July 8, the SSTA Membership Committee welcome new and returning SSTAC members:

### Individual Members:

- Sharon Beckas – At-Large Individual Member
- Ted Kagan – Special Interest Alternate Member
- David Jackson – At-Large Alternate Member
- Alejandra Warner – At-Large Alternate Member

### Agency Members:

- Traveler's Aid Society of San Diego - Agency Membership for Social Service Providers for Seniors
- The ARC of San Diego - Agency Membership for Social Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities

SANDAG encourages applicants to attend SSTAC meetings as public attendees and apply for membership in the future.

## **8. 2021 Unmet Needs Public Hearing Update (Information)**

An update on the comments received at the Unmet Needs Public Hearing was presented. The comments have been addressed by SANDAG, MTS, and NCTD staff.

## **9. Transit Operator Update (Information)**

Vice Chair Washburn noted that MTS returned to in-person assessments on July 1, with great feedback from people and continued COVID-19 precautions. MTS falls under the Transportation Security Administration regulations and will continue to enforce masks until September 13, 2021. Mid-Coast will be opening in November and MTS has events scheduled at various stations to celebrate the opening. MTS also continues to work on the new fare system, known as PRONTO. MTS Access recently purchased new wheelchair accessible vans intended for people who cannot use other multimodal forms of transportation.

Robert Gebo provided an update on ridership which is increasing but is not yet at pre-pandemic levels. NCTD has finished implementing all its new paratransit fleet, they purchased 54 new vehicles 36 of them being high-top minivans, all radios, fleet watch software, and cameras, have all been installed on the new fleet; this is the first time NCTD has installed cameras to ensure things are being done correctly. NCTD flex routes have seen an increase in ridership. NCTD's in-person assessments centers returned on July 1.

Charles Main provided an update on the fixed routes for NCTD and also the preparation for the proposed increased COASTER service in October 18 in coordination with Metrolink and Amtrack; increased services changes will be presented to the NCTD Board on July 22. Public comments for may be submitted via phone at (760) 967-2001, email [servicechanges@NCTD.org](mailto:servicechanges@NCTD.org), for additional assistance to leave a comment call the NCTD customer service line at (760) 966-6500. Breeze will have normal service change in October and no major service changes now. The 371-flex service to and from Ramona and Escondido will remain, there is the mid-day Flex 372 that on demand only and was approved to eliminate that route in October, but the alternative will be the SANDAG guarantee ride home program.

## **10. Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation Update (Information)**

Chair Schmidt provided an update on the FACT's Subcommittee Code of Conduct for specialized grantees and transit agencies. A draft was sent out for the subcommittee to review, some of the details are still being worked on. FACT's demand for trips has continued to be above what they are funded to provide and trips have recently been limited to 100 per day. FACT is having to refer people to other specialized grantees as well as MTS and NCTD.

## **11. Continued Public Comments**

Sharon Beckas commented that the Zoom chat does not allow to copy and paste, creating an issue when trying to get the information from the chat without writing it down.

Lisa Madsen noted that she will follow up with production to see if it is a feature that can be enabled for the next meeting.

Chair Schmitt asked if the next meeting will be virtual or in person.

Lisa noted that SANDAG is planning to have in person meetings in September but with the Delta variant this may not happen, and meetings might continue to be held virtually.

## **12. Upcoming Meetings (Information)**

The next SSTAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 10 a.m.

## **13. Adjournment**

Chair Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 10:28 a.m.

## Confirmed Attendance at SANDAG SSTAC Meeting

May 18, 2021

| Jurisdiction  | Name                      | Attended                     | Comments                 |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Individual Members</b>                                 |                           |                              |                          |
| Special Interest Voting Member (Seat A)                   | Ilse Carey                | Yes                          |                          |
|   | Helen Elias, Alternate    | No                           |                          |
| Special Interest Voting Member (Seat B)                   | Kent Rodricks             | No                           |                          |
|   | Clytie Kohler, Alternate  | Yes                          |                          |
| At-Large Voting Member (Seat A)                           | Lorry Seagrim             | Yes                          |                          |
| At-Large Voting Member (Seat B)                           | Sharlene Ornelas          | No                           |                          |
| At-Large Voting Member (Seat C)                           | Catherine Manis           | Yes                          |                          |
| At-Large Voting Members<br>(Seats A through C) Alternates | Wayne Landon              | Yes                          |                          |
|   | Rebecca Steiner           | No                           |                          |
|   | Ted Kagan                 | Yes                          |                          |
| <b>Rotating Agency Members</b>                            |                           |                              |                          |
| Survivors of Torture, International                       | Winona Garcia             | No                           |                          |
|   | Mahvash Alami             | No                           |                          |
|   | Hannah Ingersoll          | Yes                          |                          |
| San Diego Center for the Blind                            | Marissa Lucero            | No                           |                          |
|   | Elsa Caballero, Alternate | No                           |                          |
| Home of Guiding Hands                                     | Todd Shaw                 | Yes                          |                          |
|   | Edward Hershey, Alternate | No                           |                          |
| The Arc of San Diego                                      | Anthony DeSalis           | Yes                          |                          |
|   | Melanie McCoy, Alternate  | No                           |                          |
| ElderHelp   | Claudia Gavin             | No                           |                          |
|   | Nansi Kiwanuka, Alternate | Yes                          |                          |
| <b>Standing Agency Members</b>                            |                           |                              |                          |
| FACT (Seat A)   | Budd Anderson             | Yes                          |                          |
|   | Arun Prem                 | No                           |                          |
| FACT (Seat B)   | Chair Meagan Schmidt      | Yes                          |                          |
| MTS Fixed Route   | Vassilena Lerinska        | No                           |                          |
| MTS Paratransit   | Vice Chair Jay Washburn   | Yes                          |                          |
| NCTD Fixed Route  | Charles Main              | Yes                          |                          |
| NCTD Paratransit  | Robert Gebo               | Yes                          |                          |
| <b>Other Attendees</b>                                    |                           |                              |                          |
| Ethel Miranda   | Sharon Beckas             | Raychel J.                   |                          |
| Carlos (Interpreter)                                      | Marcy Roke                | Karlo Limón                  | Andrew (From Trans-Lang) |
| Alejandra Warner, City of San Diego                       | Rob Schupp                | Captioner: Mayra             |                          |
| Alicia- Captioner   | Grecia Figueroa           | Luisa-Intérprete/Interpreter |                          |
|   | Alex Araiza               | (Luisa Díaz de León)         |                          |
| <b>SANDAG Staff</b>                                       |                           |                              |                          |
| Arthur Tovar  | Ashley Wiley              | Kendall Reynolds             | Rachel Kennedy           |
| Allison Woodworth   | Brian Lane                | Lisa Madsen                  |                          |
| Linda Cimmino   | Laura Valdes              | Rubi Morales                 |                          |