

Santa Clarita Transit
Accessibility Advisory Committee
Meeting from August 5, 2009

Meeting Location Santa Clarita City Hall (Century Room)

Members Present: Ken Schwartz, John Taylor, Jim Hogan, Anna Martinez, Kurt Baldwin, Linda Wood, Ginny Smutzler, and Sam Sammons

Others Present: Heidi Moody, Raychel Martinez, Denise Ware, and Adrian Aguilar

Absent: Al Scullin, Keith Curry

Chair Report: Ken announced as a reminder that some of the members have terms that will expire in 2010. Those members are, Keith Curry, Sam Sammons, Linda Wood, and Jim Hogan. All other members will expire in 2011. John Taylor needs to be listed on the City website as Vice-Chair. Ken also mentioned that transfer trips continue to be an issue and that the website address will be passed out at the next meeting.

The meetings for the rest of the year are in September and November, there will be no meeting in October or December. For 2010 there will be meeting held in January, March, May, June, September, and November. There will be no meetings held in February, April, July, August, October and December. Keith, Kurt, John, and Ken all agreed to Jim's proposal for 2010 scheduled meetings.

It's been noted that the compressed natural gas vehicles have been running out of gas sooner than it was thought they would. A pit stop has now been placed into the driver's individual schedules and no rides are scheduled for that time. Also being considered is another basic fueling station.

Member Comments:

John noted that the vans do not have "Stop at Railroad Crossings" signs posted in the back. It's a possible safety issue that should be addressed. Ginny announced that school starts up soon and travel training for students begins in September on Transit. TAP card. The TAP applications take about four weeks and the city may have temporary cards issued. Kurt commented that Mr. Carter, who ran the AV transit Authority passed away recently. A moment of silence was held.

Access and services for the disabled there continue to be an issue. Also, losing Route has upset a lot of people and created an extra hardship for some riders.

Jim complimented Adrian on "keeping his cool" during a very hostile meeting recently

when dealing with this issue.

Anna asked about having a permanent, automatic call out status in her file. Kurt commented that it was an issue of “a reasonable modification of policy “under the ADA. A lively discussion was held and Adrian commented that there is new software which allows Transit to do this and it could be adapted for Dial-a-Ride and ACCESS.

New Business: None to report

Old Business: ACCESS and SC Transit: Adrian reported that there were 4.2 million rides in 2008 for Commuter, Dial-a-Ride and ACCESS. The average is 300 a day. Yesterday out of 375, 335 rides actually occurred. The hot weather was the main factor, and then the economy and the punch tickets were the other two considerations. Free fare rides have increased on the fixed route and there’s no one residential area that these rides come from, it’s all over the valley. The stats for On Time Performance for July were 96 percent over all, 96.27 percent for ACCESS, and 96.3 percent for Dial-a-Ride. There were 96 complaints for the fixed route, 5 for Dial-a-Ride and 53 for ACCESS these were all due to schedule changes. There are no stats for no-shows or cancellations at this time.

The AVL system will be in place at the end of September. It will be tested and then implemented.

The new North Hollywood service started this past Sunday.

Jim complimented Denise on the on-time performance stats turned in today. Denise said a new bid for driver started on Sunday. Rangers are “in shipping” somewhere, according to the manufacturer. ACCESS phone lines are temporarily down today and you would need to call 661-294-1BUS to book a ride.

Jim stated that the Senior Center is on the list as a member of this board and Kurt Baldwin represents the Independent Living Center. He also said we need to have a member to represent the Fixed Route and Commuter Route. We could still work within the current By-Laws. Jim commented that since Senator McKeon is getting the same “run-around” that he was getting, we will be doing letters for the FTA issue. Denise will look into the “over-load systems” message and resolve the issue. Ken asked about funding and Adult Day Care. It was noted that some of their clients ride only three days now instead of five days, due to budget cuts.

General Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:00 am