

RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CITIZENS AND SPECIALIZED TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TIME: 11:00 a.m.

DATE: Monday, December 9, 2024

LOCATION: Riverside County Transportation Commission
March Field Conference Room A
4080 Lemon Street, 3rd Floor
Riverside, CA 92502-2208

VIDEO CONFERENCE SITES:

Palo Verde Valley Transit
415 N. Main Street
Conference Room A
Blythe, CA 92225

SunLine Transit Agency
32505 Harry Oliver Trail
Board Room
Thousand Palms, CA 92276

🌀 COMMITTEE MEMBERS 🌀

Lisa Castilone, **Chair**, GRID Alternatives, Western and Southwest Riverside County
Gloria J. Sanchez, **Vice Chair**, Menifee Senior Advisory, Southwest Riverside County
John Krick, **Second Vice Chair**, T-Now Member, Northwest Riverside County
George Colangeli, Palo Verde Valley Transit Agency, Palo Verde Valley
Mary Jo Ramirez, Workforce Development Member, Southwest Riverside County
Ivet Woolridge, Independent Living Partnership, Riverside County
Zaida Forester, Corona Lions Club, Northwest Riverside County
Deborah Franklin, Advisory Council on Aging, San Gorgonio Pass
Christine Franklyn Baggett, Retired Citizen, Coachella Valley
Michael Harrington, Desert Hot Springs Democratic Club, Coachella Valley
Jennifer Nguyen, Riverside Transit Agency, Western Riverside County
Edith Hernandez, SunLine Transit Agency, Coachella Valley

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
CITIZENS AND SPECIALIZED TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

www.rctc.org

AGENDA*

**Actions may be taken on any item listed on the agenda*

11:00 a.m.

Monday, December 9, 2024

Riverside County Transportation Commission

March Field Conference Room A

4080 Lemon Street, Third Floor

Riverside, California

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For members of the public wishing to submit comment in connection with the Committee Meeting please email written comments to the Clerk of the Board at lmobley@rctc.org prior to December 8, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. and your comments will be made part of the official record of the proceedings.

In compliance with the Brown Act and Government Code Section 54957.5, agenda materials distributed 72 hours prior to the meeting, which are public records relating to open session agenda items, will be available for inspection by members of the public prior to the meeting on the Commission's website, www.rctc.org.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Government Code Section 54954.2, Executive Order N-29-20, and the Federal Transit Administration Title VI, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (951) 787-7141 if special assistance is needed to participate in a Committee meeting, including accessibility and translation services. Assistance is provided free of charge. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting time will assist staff in assuring reasonable arrangements can be made to provide assistance at the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – *Under the Brown Act, the Committee should not take action on or discuss matters raised during public comment portion of the agenda which are not listed on the agenda. Committee members may refer such matters to staff for factual information or to be placed on the subsequent agenda for consideration. Each individual speaker is limited to speak three (3) continuous minutes or less.*
4. **ADDITIONS/REVISIONS** *(The Committee may add an item to the agenda after making a finding that there is a need to take immediate action on the item and that the item came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. An action adding an item to the agenda requires 2/3 vote of the Committee. If there are less than 2/3 of the Committee members present, adding an item to the agenda requires a unanimous vote. Added items will be placed for discussion at the end of the agenda.)*
5. **CONSENT CALENDAR** - *All matters on the Consent Calendar will be approved in a single motion unless a Committee member(s) requests separate action on specific item(s). Items pulled from the Consent Calendar will be placed for discussion at the end of the agenda.*

5A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 12, 2024

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5B. PROPOSED 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

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Overview

This item is for the Committee to:

- 1) Adopt the 2025 Citizens and Specialized Transit Advisory Committee (CSTAC) meeting schedule.

6. **PRESENTATION – COMMUTER AND MOTORIST ASSISTANCE AND VANCLUB PROGRAM**
7. **PRESENTATION – WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**
8. **COMMITTEE MEMBER / STAFF REPORT**

Overview

This item provides the opportunity for the Committee members, transit operators, and staff to report on attended and upcoming meetings/conferences and issues related to Committee activities.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The next Citizens and Specialized Transit Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2025.

AGENDA ITEM 5A

MINUTES

RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CITIZENS AND SPECIALIZED TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 12, 2024
Meeting Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Citizens and Specialized Transit Advisory Committee was called to order by Vice Chair Gloria Sanchez at 11:07 a.m. in March Field Conference Room A at the County Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, Third Floor, Riverside, California 92501 and at the video conference sites: Conference Room A, Palo Verde Valley Transit Agency, 414 N. Main Street, Blythe, California 92225; and the Board Room, SunLine Transit Agency, 32505 Harry Oliver Trail, Thousand Palms, California 92276.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present

George Colangeli*
Zaida Forester
Deborah Franklin
Michael Harrington**
John Krick
Mary Jo Ramirez
Gloria J Sanchez
Jennifer Nguyen, Riverside Transit Agency
Edith Hernandez, Sunline Transit Agency**

*Joined the meeting at Palo Verde Valley Transit

**Joined the meeting at SunLine Transit Agency

Members Absent

Christine Franklyn Baggett
Lisa Castilone
Ivet Woolridge

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Robert McCormick commented on the lack of timeliness and lack of reasonably placed bus stops in the desert communities.

4. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS

There were no additions or revisions to the agenda.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR - *All matters on the Consent Calendar will be approved in a single motion unless a Committee Member requests separate action on specific item(s). Items pulled from the Consent Calendar will be placed for discussion at the end of the agenda.*

M/S/C (Franklin/Forester) to approve the following Consent Calendar item(s):

5A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JUNE 10, 2024

Abstain: Harrington

6. PUBLIC HEARING – TRANSIT NEEDS IN RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Sandra Salgado, Management Analyst, presented a brief overview of the public hearing for the transit needs in Riverside County.

See attached transcript for public hearing.

7. MEASURE A SPECIALIZED TRANSIT PRESENTATION

Monica Morales, Senior Management Analyst, presented a brief overview of the Measure A Specialized Transit program. Ms. Morales introduced Reba Coulter, Treasurer of Forest Folk to share their programs and projects.

Ms. Coulter presented an overview of the programs offered by Forest Folk as well as their history.

Vice Chair Sanchez commented that the Riverside County Office on Aging was not listed as a partner. If not, they are a very useful resource.

Ms. Coulter responded the Office on Aging has not contacted Forest Folk recently. They were involved with the Idyllwild community center in the past.

Deborah Franklin added she is on the Advisory Council for the Office on Aging and will have them reach out to the Forest Folk to offer services.

Second Vice Chair John Krick asked if there were sources of income other than the weddings and RCTC? Aside from the elderly, are there any other populations that you serve?

Ms. Coulter responded there were occasionally donations. Forest Folk also serves the disabled.

Chair Sanchez added the Riverside University Health System has mobile units that sometimes go out to different areas and hopefully they have reached out to you. The Behavior Health Department has some as well.

Zaida Forester discussed the veterans services that could be provided by the VA.

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez spoke about his experiences in Idyllwild and stated the County will work with Forest Folk and Idyllwild for additional resources and infrastructure for the area.

Vice Chair Sanchez added the TRIP program is another program to help provide transportation to medical services off the mountain.

Ms. Morales introduced Sandy Aldridge, Marketing and Resource Development Program Manager, EXCEED to highlight the programs and projects of their agency.

Ms. Aldridge presented the details of EXCEED's programs throughout the county. She discussed the budget, qualification process, programs and services provided by the agency for disabled adults in Riverside County.

At this time, Vice Chair Sanchez introduced Wanda Bryant, Beaumont citizen, to speak regarding the Transit Needs Public Hearing.

Wanda Bryant: Do I stand?

Vice Chair Sanchez: Yes, please.

Wanda Bryant: Hello everyone. My name is Wanda Bryant and I am currently residing in Beaumont and I ride the Beaumont Transit, the OmniTrans, and RTA. I was given this document by one of the drivers that drive for Beaumont because they said that you guys wanted to hear from the public. I just want to scream because on the weekend, I live on Maple Street, I have to get off First Street to walk to Beaumont and First Street to get to Walmart in Beaumont. That bus takes me to Mt. San Jacinto College. I stay there for like eight minutes while the driver takes his break and then it brings us back to Beaumont from San Jacinto, there is no stop on First Street so I need to go to Sunlake cause it doesn't go to Walmart. It's going to Moreno Valley. The bus goes to Moreno Valley. I ride the bus to Moreno Valley. Once I ride that bus to Moreno Valley then that bus brings me to Beaumont and all I want to do is go to the casino. I never made it there but that was my intent. And I said wow, just to think if someone else would have the same difficulties that I was having that day. At Soboba, you guys stop at Soboba. It's a five minute I guess automotive drive from I guess the Gilman Springs Road, that freeway, to Soboba. There is no bus that goes to Soboba no more. I think it's a link. I can't remember why the name of that bus that goes to Soboba now.

I am disabled and I have a service animal. The drivers refuse to let my service animal on the bus. He's been trained, he's kind, very kind to other people. He loves other people. He doesn't bark. He's not aggressive. But yet this driver decided that he was not going to allow me on the bus with my service animal. Now, we are in summertime. I'm a senior citizen. I don't need to be out there in the heat and then have to walk home. He said it's because you guys wont allow it. I have to talk to you guys. But I'm disabled and I do everything that I possibly can to make sure that I'm within the premises of what is, what we're supposed to do as a rider. Sometimes the drivers are not very kind to us. I don't know why but I'm not the only one that is seeing this and I was speaking to the other

riders and said you guys need to come up and speak because they're asking us to do this. To come and share with the committee what is going on so that the committee is doing everything they can do to straighten it out. And, you know what I'm saying to every last one of you guys? Thank you, thank you, thank you. I don't drive no more. I don't drive no more because someone decided that they want to rig my car up on alignment. I'm traveling on the 60 going west heading to the social security office and flipped over my car three times on the freeway. I technically ain't supposed to be here but the one that created the universe said "There". I'm just asking for all of us to work together. You guys asked the public what we need and I was hoping that some of the other riders would come in and share their thoughts and their concerns about what we need.

Vice Chair Sanchez: Ms. Bryant, I want to thank you so much for coming in. We have noted everything that you said and as you saw we do have some maybe other transportation services that might be available to you, better than the others. Thank you again we will make note of that. Thank you again for coming in.

8. PUBLIC TRANSIT – HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION COORDINATED PLAN UPDATE

Eric DeHate, Transit Manager, presented a receive and file update on the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan.

Mr. DeHate discussed the outreach and survey distribution associated with the plan and the potential for rider focus groups.

Vice Chair Sanchez added the need for survey distribution to the many senior centers and tribal communities throughout Riverside County and the need for the availability of paper surveys and follow up after to let the public know that their input is important, how the information was used, and what the outcome was.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER/STAFF REPORT

- 9A. Vice Chair Sanchez updated the committee on the Inland Empire Master Plan on Aging.
- 9B. Lorelle Moe-Luna, Multimodal Services Director, announced the Commission is dark in August but staff will have updates at the next CSTAC meeting in December.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for consideration by the Citizens and Specialized Transit Advisory Committee, the meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lorelle Moe-Luna, Multimodal Services Director

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
TRANSIT NEEDS HEARING
11:07 a.m.
Monday, August 12, 2024
Riverside County Transportation Commission
Public Hearings Transcription**

Hearing Board:

**George Colangeli
Zaida Forester
Deborah Franklin
Michael Harrington
John Krick
Mary Jo Ramirez
Gloria Sanchez
Jennifer Nguyen, Riverside Transit Agency
Edith Hernandez, Sunline Transit Agency**

RCTC Staff Members:

**Lorelle Moe-Luna, Multimodal Services Director
Eric DeHate, Transit Manager
Monica Morales, Senior Management Analyst
Sandra Salgado, Management Analyst
Allie Rackerby, Records Technician**

Public Hearing was called to order at 11:20 a.m. by Vice Chair Gloria Sanchez.

Vice Chair Gloria Sanchez: At this time, we are going to open the public hearing today to receive comments about transit needs in Riverside County, particularly the gaps of service and areas where coverage is needed. We encourage members of the public who have comments regarding specific drivers, missed route trips or Dial-A-Ride, contact the service provider directly. Our role today is to listen to your comments and to work with staff and transit partners to have them addressed. The public hearing is now open.

Allie Rackerby: Madam Chair we have received 18 public comments that have been distributed to the Committee members.

Vice Chair Gloria Sanchez: So, comments will be limited to three minutes. When we call on you, we ask you to introduce yourself, the city or area that you are from, and a phone number or email address if you would like us to follow up with you. For anybody who has just joined the meeting and would like ASL or Spanish translation services, please inform us and it will be provided. Please ASL and Spanish translators again for them to ask anybody who has joined would like translation services.

Eric DeHate: Chair can you ask the different satellite locations for it.

Vice Chair Gloria Sanchez: No translation services needed.

Eric DeHate: Gloria do you mind asking the different satellite locations?

Vice Chair Gloria Sanchez: Yes, I, we're going to start in the east. Do we have any members of the public wishing to make comments at the Palo Verde satellite location? If so, please proceed to speak and allow each speaker three minutes.

George Colangeli: No. There is nobody here for public comment. For hearing.

Vice Chair Gloria Sanchez: Thank you. Do we have any members of the public wishing to make comments at the SunLine location? If so, please proceed to allow each speaker three minutes.

Edith Hernandez: There are no members of the public here for public comment or for the hearing.

Vice Chair Gloria Sanchez: Thank you. And last but not least, do we have any members of the public wishing to make comments here at the Riverside location? If so, please proceed to allow each speaker three minutes.

Allie Rackerby: I haven't received any comment cards.

Vice Chair Gloria Sanchez: No comment cards?

Allie Rackerby: I don't have any comment cards but I don't know if there is anyone in here that hasn't turned one in?

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez: Madam Chair I didn't turn in a comment card. I got here late. If I could maybe say a few things if that is ok? I am Supervisor Manuel Perez representing the fourth district and I just thought it would be a good idea to show up since I'm going to be up here regardless and just kind of take it in and see you at work. You're supposed to be seeing me at work. I appreciate your efforts. I appreciate your work. I appreciate the time you put into this. Obviously, there are a lot of things to talk about and discuss. I just want to list a few. Obviously as it is written here already on behalf of the residents from throughout the county of the great issues, especially the Coachella Valley, CV Rail service is a big deal. But let me just talk about a few others real quick. First and foremost, let's discuss equity. Just what the mission of that purpose, why we're here and how we hopefully at the end of the day ensure that throughout Riverside County everyone receives their fair share. I think that's important. I think that we need to think through that not only yourselves but us as well as supervisors, as RCTC, as SunLine and so for example, many times you have unincorporated areas that are underserved that need a little bit more. You have areas that are very far, isolated. But they deserve the best as well. Like

Blythe, California. Let's make sure we do what we can even potentially on the west end of the County that everyone receives what they deserve once again. I don't know what that formula looks like but obviously we will use data to figure that out. That's equity.

Potholes, overpasses, pave those streets. Lets make sure we do that. And I will say something regarding the overpasses. I don't drive too much on the west end. I don't see it as much, maybe it is happening, on the east end of the County, we have the overpasses where unfortunately you have a lot of graffiti, trash and I know that has to deal with Caltrans and lets work with Caltrans to figure that out but no trees, nothing. I think we need to really think about that and see how we can beautify, if you will, our transportation efforts.

I also think that a bypass to the Morongo area is going to be important. Especially when we have those festivals or especially when we have emergency services that need to use the bypass line. Emergency efforts, obviously throughout the entire county, but I want to put in a plug for Idyllwild and going up the hill, when we had those fires, as a matter of fact we just had one recently, it wasn't as bad as we've had in the past but we have them. It's not a matter of if we're going to have them it's a matter of when we're going to have them as well as how bad it's going to be. But let's figure out how we can clear support through transportation efforts for emergency services. And one last point I want to make, lets electrify the County of Riverside. We have to deal with the issue of air pollution, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, so we need infrastructure. We need incentives. A farmer is not going to be able to go buy a Tesla. I can't buy a Tesla. So how do we make that work for someone like that? And then for those individuals that are interested in it and thinking ahead we need more stations than we have now. So, let's put those thoughts into your mindset as you continue your good work throughout the year. I know that it takes time and thank you for hearing me out.

Vice Chair Gloria Sanchez: Thank you very much Supervisor. It's good to have you here and it's good to see you.

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez: Thank you.

Vice Chair Gloria Sanchez: Thank you. Any other comments at this time? None? The public hearing is now closed. Thank you to everyone who has participated and provided comments today. Staff will share these comments with the transit operators for future service improvements.

AGENDA ITEM 5B

RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DATE:	December 9, 2024
TO:	Citizens and Specialized Transit Advisory Committee
FROM:	Eric DeHate, Transit Manager
SUBJECT:	Proposed 2025 Meeting Schedule

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for the Committee to:

- 1) Adopt the 2025 Citizens and Specialized Transit Advisory Committee (CSTAC) meeting schedule.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The CSTAC is scheduled to meet on the second Monday of every other month at 11:00 a.m., beginning in February 2025. Attachment 1 includes the proposed 2025 meeting schedule.

Meetings will be held in-person at three locations:

1. RCTC main office at the County Administrative Center in Riverside
2. SunLine Transit Agency's office in Thousand Palms
3. Palo Verde Valley Transit Agency's office in Blythe

Attachment: 2025 CSTAC Meeting Schedule

2025 CSTAC MEETING SCHEDULE

The following is the 2025 Citizens and Specialized Transit Advisory Committee (CSTAC) meeting schedule. All meetings will commence at 11:00 a.m. unless otherwise notified.

Monday, February 10, 2025 @ 11:00 AM

Monday, April 14, 2025 @ 11:00 AM

Monday, June 9, 2025 @ 11:00 AM

Monday, August 11, 2025 @ 11:00 AM*

Monday, October 20, 2025 @ 11:00 AM**

Monday, December 8, 2025 @ 11:00 AM

*Meeting to include Transit Needs Public Hearing

**Meeting on third Monday due to holiday on second Monday

CSTAC meetings will be held in-person at the following three locations, unless otherwise notified.

1. Riverside County Transportation Commission
March Field Conference Room A
4080 Lemon Street, 3rd Floor
Riverside, CA 92502-2208
2. SunLine Transit Agency
Board Room
32505 Harry Oliver Trail
Thousand Palms, CA 92276
3. Palo Verde Valley Transit Agency
Conference Room A
415 N. Main Street
Blythe, CA 92225

AGENDA ITEM 6

PRESENTATION

AGENDA ITEM 7

PRESENTATION