



MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

525 South Main Street~Ukiah~California~95482
www.mendocinocog.org

NEPHELE BARRETT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Administration: Suite B
(707) 463-1859
Transportation Planning: Suite G
(707) 234-3434

AGENDA

Monday, February 5, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

Primary Location:

County Administration Center, Board of Supervisors Chambers
Room 1070, 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah

Teleconference Locations:

Fort Bragg City Hall, 416 N. Franklin St., Fort Bragg
Point Arena City Hall, 451 School St., Point Arena
Caltrans District 1, 1656 Union St., Eureka

General Public Teleconference:

Zoom videoconference link is provided by request. Please submit access request to info@mendocinocog.org or call MCOG Administration at (707) 463-1859.

Audio Call-in Option: 1 (669) 900-6833 (in CA)
Meeting ID: 856 1878 9408 Passcode: 433630

Attachments Posted

[Board of Directors - Mendocino Council of Governments \(mendocinocog.org\)](https://www.mendocinocog.org)

Additional Media

For live streaming and later viewing:

[Mendocino County Video](https://www.mendocinocog.org) or find
[YouTube link at http://www.mendocinocog.org](http://www.mendocinocog.org) under Meetings

The Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) meets as the Board of Directors of:
Mendocino Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and
Mendocino County Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE)

NOTICE: Mendocino Council of Governments meets in person, in a hybrid format. Staff and a potential quorum meet in the Board of Supervisors chambers in Ukiah. Also, board members join remotely by teleconference (audio and video) from City Hall locations in Fort Bragg and Point Arena. Policy Advisory Committee member(s) will join from Caltrans District 1 office in Eureka. The general public may join from any of these posted locations or by calling in to the teleconference.

Several ways to make public comments to MCOG's Board of Directors are available:

- In advance of the meeting: comments may be sent by email to info@mendocinocog.org or by using the form at <https://www.mendocinocog.org/contact-us>, to be read aloud into the public record. Please submit by 10:00 a.m. on the meeting date to ensure comments are received timely, and include the agenda item number(s) addressed.
- During the meeting: make oral comments in person, or on the conference call by phone or video, when public comment is invited by the Chair.

Thanks to all for your interest and cooperation.

NOTE: All items are considered for action unless otherwise noted.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Assembly Bill 2449 Notifications and Considerations – *to receive and address requests from Board members to participate in the meeting from a non-posted location, subject to conditions set forth in AB 2449*
3. Election of Officers – Chair and Vice Chair
4. Convene as RTPA
5. Recess as RTPA – Reconvene as Policy Advisory Committee

CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items are considered for approval in accordance with Administrative Staff, Committee, and/or Directors' recommendations and will be enacted by a single motion. Items may be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate consideration, upon request by a Director or citizen.

6. Approval of December 4, 2023 Minutes
7. Appointments to Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)
8. Authorization to Release Fiscal Year 2024/25 Draft Transportation Planning Overall Work Program (OWP) for Review, Comment & Circulation

PUBLIC EXPRESSION – *Please refer to notice at top of this Agenda.*

9. Participation is welcome in Council meetings. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person and not more than ten minutes per subject, so that everyone can be heard. “Public Expression” time is limited to matters under the Council's jurisdiction that may not have been considered by the Council previously and are not on the agenda. No action will be taken. Members of the public may comment also during specific agenda items when recognized by the Chair.

REGULAR CALENDAR

10. **Public Hearing:** Unmet Transit Needs for Fiscal Year 2024/25 – Including Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) Recommendations of November 29, 2023
11. Report and Approval of Climate Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations of January 4, 2024: RuralREN (Regional Energy Network) Reorganization and Governance
12. Annual Committee Appointments
 - a. Executive Committee
 - b. Transit Productivity Committee
 - c. California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG)
 - d. Ad Hoc Committees – Covelo SR 162 Corridor Multi-Purpose Trail Project and Regional Energy Network / Climate

RATIFY ACTION

13. Recess as Policy Advisory Committee – Reconvene as RTPA – Ratify Action of Policy Advisory Committee

REPORTS

14. Reports – Information – *No Action*
 - a. Caltrans District 1 – Projects Update and Information
 - b. Mendocino Transit Authority
 - c. Great Redwood Trail Agency
 - d. MCOG Staff - Summary of Meetings

- e. MCOG Administration Staff
 - i. Revised FY 2023/34 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Estimate – Acting County Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector
 - ii. California Transportation Commission (CTC) Town Hall Meeting Hosted by MCOG in Fort Bragg, April 17-18, 2024 – *verbal update*
 - iii. Reminder – Form 700 Statements of Economic Interest
 - iv. Miscellaneous
 - v. Next Meeting Date – Monday, March 4, 2024
- f. MCOG Planning Staff – *verbal reports*
 - i. Grant Information Updates
 - ii. Feasibility Study - Mendocino Transit Authority's Ukiah Transit Center
 - iii. Work Element 9 - Noyo Harbor Multimodal Circulation Plan
 - iv. Work Element 10 - Update/Expand Local Road Safety/Action Plans
 - v. Miscellaneous
- g. MCOG Directors
- h. California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) Delegates

ADJOURNMENT

15. Adjourn

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) and TRANSLATION REQUESTS

Persons who require special accommodations, accessible seating, or documentation in alternative formats under the Americans with Disabilities Act, or persons who require interpretation services (free of charge) are advised to contact the MCOG office at (707) 463-1859, **at least five days** before the meeting.

Las personas que requieren alojamiento especial, asientos accesibles, o documentación en formatos alternativos de acuerdo con la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades, o personas que requieren servicios de interpretación (sin cargo) deben comunicarse con MCOG (707) 463-1859, por lo menos cinco días antes de la reunión.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The Brown Act, Section 54954.2, states that the Board may take action on off-agenda items when:

- a) a majority vote determines that an “emergency situation” exists as defined in Section 54956.5, **or**
- b) a two-thirds vote of the body, or a unanimous vote of those present, determines that there is a need to take immediate action and the need for action arose after the agenda was legally posted, **or**
- c) the item was continued from a prior, legally posted meeting not more than five calendar days before this meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

If agendaized, MCOG may adjourn to a closed session to consider litigation or personnel matters (i.e. contractor agreements). Discussion of litigation or pending litigation may be held in closed session by authority of Govt. Code Section 54956.9; discussion of personnel matters by authority of Govt. Code Section 54957.

POSTED 1/30/2024

Next Resolution Number: M2024-01





MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Agenda # 3
MCOG Meeting
2/5/2024

STAFF REPORT

TITLE: Annual Election of Officers

SUBMITTED BY: Janet Orth, Deputy Director & CFO

DATE: 1/25/2024

BACKGROUND:

According to MCOG's bylaws, a Chair and a Vice Chair are elected annually by the Board of Directors, typically on the first Monday in February, as the first meeting of the calendar year. The appropriate sections of the bylaws are attached for your reference.

Officers serving in 2023 have been Dan Gjerde, Chair and John Haschak, Vice Chair.

(This item is placed early on the agenda, since officers are elected to serve the Council regardless of which body is convened -- RTPA, SAFE, or simply as the COG for other business such as housing or economic development. Committee appointments are placed later on the agenda, as their business is mostly related to the Regional Transportation Planning Agency and should be made after convening the Policy Advisory Committee.)

ACTION REQUIRED:

Follow past years' method or vote to use another method.

Procedure followed since 2012, consistent with Robert's Rules of Order¹:

1. Hear any and all nominations for the office of Chair. A second is not required to nominate.
 2. Discuss and answer questions. Nominees may state their qualifications for the office.
 3. Close nominations.
 4. Move, second and vote on each nominee until a motion carries.
 5. Repeat for the office of Vice Chair.
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ALTERNATIVES:

According to Robert's Rules, *"If no method of nominating has been specified in the bylaws and if the assembly has adopted no rule on the subject, any member can make a motion prescribing the method."* The bylaws do not specify, and to our knowledge MCOG has never adopted, a rule of procedure.

The Council may adopt a rule, by motion and vote. Staff would advise that such a rule be written and ratified at a future meeting.

No alternative to the annual election is identified. According to the bylaws, *"The term of the Chair shall be for one (1) year, commencing on the first Monday in February when elected and ending on the following first Monday in February or at the next officers election."*

RECOMMENDATION:

Allow staff to receive nominations and conduct votes, first for Chair and then for Vice Chair. After that, the new or re-elected Chair or Vice Chair presides over the meeting.

Enc: Bylaws excerpt

¹ "A nomination is, in effect, a proposal to fill the blank in an assumed motion 'that _____ be elected' to the specified position. In choosing someone to fill an office or other elected position in a society or assembly, a more effective freedom of choice is maintained through the practice of nominating persons for the office, rather than moving that a given person be elected as in the older British procedure." - Robert's Rules of Order, 2000 edition

Excerpt of MCOG Bylaws Amended June 6, 2022

ARTICLE III - OFFICERS/STAFF/COMMITTEES

Section 1.1 Chair: The Chair of the Council shall be selected by a majority of its voting members. The term of the Chair shall be for one (1) year, commencing on the first Monday in February when elected and ending on the following first Monday in February or at the next officers election.

Section 1.2 Powers of Chair: The Chair, when present, shall preside at all meetings of the Council. The Chair shall preserve order and decorum and shall decide all questions of order subject to the action of a majority of the Council. The Chair shall be permitted to participate in debate without surrender of the chair. The Chair shall be permitted to vote, move, and second a motion. If the Chair is absent, then the Vice Chair shall preside. If both the Chair and Vice Chair are absent, a chair *pro tem* may be appointed for the purposes of the meeting.

Section 2. Vice Chair: The Vice Chair of the Council shall be selected by a majority of its voting members. The term of the Vice Chair shall be for one (1) year, commencing on the first Monday in February when elected and ending on the following first Monday in February or at the next officers election. The Vice Chair shall have all of the powers and act in the place of the Chair in his/her absence.

January 30, 2024

To: MCOG Board of Directors
From: Janet Orth, Deputy Director & CFO
Subject: Consent Calendar of February 5, 2024

The following agenda items are recommended for approval/action.

6. Approval of December 4, 2023 Minutes – *attached*
7. Appointments to Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) –
The SSTAC made nominations to reappoint two members to expiring three-year terms.
– *Staff report and roster attached*
8. Authorization to Release Fiscal Year 2024/25 Draft Transportation Planning Overall Work Program (OWP) for Review, Comment & Circulation – Last year Caltrans began requiring this step in the annual OWP process. The Technical Advisory Committee will review and comment on staff's draft OWP at their February meeting. Since the Draft OWP is due to Caltrans by March 1 and MCOG will not meet again before then, staff requests this routine authorization in advance. Following Caltrans' review, the Council will have a chance to review the OWP in the coming months before final adoption.
– *Staff report attached*

MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Agenda # 6
Consent Calendar
MCOG Meeting
2/5/2024

MINUTES

Monday, December 4, 2023

Primary Location:

County Administration Center, Board of Supervisors Chambers
Room 1070, 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah

Teleconference Locations:

Fort Bragg City Hall, 416 N. Franklin St., Fort Bragg
Point Arena City Hall, 451 School St., Point Arena
Caltrans District 1, 1656 Union St., Eureka

General Public Teleconference by Zoom

ADDITIONAL MEDIA:

[Mendocino County Video](#) or find
[YouTube link at http://www.mendocinocog.org](http://www.mendocinocog.org) under *Meetings*

The Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) meets as the Board of Directors of:

Mendocino Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and
Mendocino County Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. with Directors present: John Haschak, Mike Carter, Josefina Duenas in Ukiah; Bernie Norvell and Dan Gjerde in Fort Bragg; Jeff Hansen in Point Arena; and Tatiana Ahlstrand (Caltrans/PAC) in Eureka. Greta Kanne was excused. Chair Gjerde presiding.

Staff present in Ukiah: Nephele Barrett, Executive Director; Janet Orth, Deputy Director & CFO; James Sookne, Program Manager; Loretta Ellard, Deputy Planner; Jody Lowblad, Administrative Assistant.

Staff present by Zoom: Michael Villa, Project Coordinator.

2. Assembly Bill 2449 Notifications and Considerations. This item is to receive and address requests from Board members to participate in the meeting from a non-posted location, subject to conditions set forth in AB 2449. There were no such requests.

3. Convene as Convene as RTPA

4. Recess as RTPA – Reconvene as Policy Advisory Committee

5. Consent Calendar. Upon motion by Norvell, second by Haschak, and carried unanimously on roll call vote (7 Ayes – Haschak, Carter, Duenas, Norvell, Hansen, Ahlstrand/PAC and Gjerde; 0 Noes; 0 Abstaining; 1 Absent – Kanne): IT IS ORDERED that consent items are approved.

5. Approval of November 6, 2023 Minutes – as written

6. Public Expression. Mr. Dave Shpak of Gualala thanked MCOG for its generosity in allowing participation, noting the past couple of years of activity have been interesting. He expressed admiration for the skills and dedication of all involved, and wished happy holidays to everyone.

7. Public Hearing at 1:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Recommendation of November 15, 2023 – Approval of Resolution Adopting the 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). Program Manager Sookne

reported legal notice in Ukiah’s newspaper of general circulation; proof of publication was included in the agenda packet materials. With no objections, a finding of proper notice was made by consensus.

He then reported this is the final action of the two-year cycle and summarized his written staff report, noting both maximum and target amounts available. A call for projects was issued, and the TAC reviewed and recommended a scored, prioritized list. The Council then voted on direction to staff at the November 6 board meeting for developing the final RTIP now presented for adoption. Mr. Sookne also clarified several details concerning specific projects and funding sources.

The Chair opened the public hearing at 1:38 p.m. Dave Shpak expressed appreciation for the board and committee members’ work, recognizing limited funds available. Fellow members of the Gualala Municipal Advisory Council and the community join him in thanks to MCOG and Caltrans for advancing the streetscape project, understanding that the cost dips into future STIP allocations to accomplish this long-term effort. Thanks also for supporting much needed Mountain View Road rehabilitation, an important connector to the South Coast.

The hearing was closed at 1:40 p.m.

Upon motion by Carter, second by Duenas, and carried unanimously on roll call vote (7 Ayes – Haschak, Carter, Duenas, Norvell, Hansen, Ahlstrand/PAC and Gjerde; 0 Noes; 0 Abstaining; 1 Absent – Kanne): IT IS ORDERED that the following resolution is adopted, to program \$17,507,000 for transportation projects in the Mendocino County region over the next five years, and staff is authorized to submit the adopted RTIP to Caltrans and the California Transportation Commission.

Resolution No. M2023-12

Adopting the 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program
(Reso. #M2023-12 is incorporated herein by reference)

Project Name and Location	Amount	Total
Planning, Programming & Monitoring	\$ 407,000	
North State Street Intersection & Interchange Improvement, Ph. 1 - CON	13,900,000	
Gualala Downtown Enhancement Streetscape Project - CON	1,200,000	
2024 Road Rehabilitation on Mountain View Road - CON	2,000,000	
Total New Programming		\$ 17,507,000
North State Street Bridge Replacement over Ackerman Creek	\$ 602,300	
Unprogrammed Funding Commitment		\$ 602,300

8. Approval of Resolution Adopting the SB 125 Formula-Based Transit & Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and Zero Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP) Allocation Plan for Fiscal Year 2023/24. Ms. Barrett summarized her written staff report, noting three project activities requested by Mendocino Transit Authority, as discussed and directed by the Council for allocation in the plan. She noted changes since the first draft presented in November. The Laytonville and Covelo service remained flexible to resolve logistics of the project. Staff consulted with CalSTA, whose advice for best eligibility was to combine the three activities into one project. This also has the advantage of being able to make future budget adjustments among these elements, allowing MCOG greater flexibility. A draft resolution was provided in the agenda packet to adopt the allocation plan. The narrative portions of the plan were presented, and staff will work to complete the allocation package with all required forms and data by the December due date. There was no further discussion.

The Chair invited public comment, with none heard for this item.

Upon motion by Norvell, second by Carter, and carried unanimously on roll call vote (7 Ayes – Haschak, Carter, Duenas, Norvell, Hansen, Ahlstrand/PAC and Gjerde; 0 Noes; 0 Abstaining; 1 Absent – Kanne): IT IS ORDERED that the following resolution is adopted, and staff is authorized to submit the allocation package, along with relevant forms and data, to the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) by December 31, 2023.

Resolution No. M2023-13

Adopting the SB 125 Formula-Based
 Transit & Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and
 Zero Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP) Allocation Plan
 for Fiscal Year 2023/24
 (Reso. #M2023-13 is incorporated herein by reference)

Project Elements	TIRCP	ZETCP
Administration – MCOG	\$110,636	
Ukiah Transit Center Development	\$2,000,000	
Zero Emission Vehicles	\$2,237,593	\$505,296
Laytonville & Covelo Service	\$500,000	

9. Discussion/Direction and Possible Adoption of 2024 MCOG Board Calendar. Ms. Orth reviewed staff’s proposed schedule, noting highlights and options available. The California Transportation Commission’s visit in April for a Town Hall community meeting is suggested to replace the regular April meeting. Typically just one meeting is needed during March and April, so there may be little if any business to conduct. The August meeting differs from the first Monday custom, scheduled for second Monday to even the span from June to October. A transportation tour is tentatively proposed for October; staff noted the Covelo Trail project may be completed by then and a good location to visit.

In brief discussion, Director Haschak noted the Board of Supervisors’ calendar is pending, which may affect August dates. Chair Gjerde noted since the calendar may be amended during the year, it would be acceptable to adopt the calendar as proposed.

Upon motion by Haschak, second by Carter, and carried on unanimously on roll call vote (7 Ayes – Haschak, Carter, Duenas, Norvell, Hansen, Ahlstrand/PAC and Gjerde; 0 Noes; 0 Abstaining; 1 Absent – Kanne): IT IS ORDERED that staff’s recommended 2024 MCOG Board Calendar is adopted, subject to later amendment as needed.

10. Recess as Policy Advisory Committee – Reconvene as RTPA – Ratify Action of Policy Advisory Committee. **Upon motion** by Norvell, second by Haschak, and carried unanimously on roll call vote (6 Ayes – Haschak, Carter, Duenas, Norvell, Hansen and Gjerde; 0 Noes; 0 Abstaining; 1 Absent – Kanne): IT IS ORDERED that the actions taken by the Policy Advisory Committee are ratified by the MCOG Board of Directors.

11. Reports - Information

- a. Caltrans District 1 – Projects Update and Information. Director Ahlstrand announced a public open house for the SR-222 Talmage Road Corridor Plan on December 7 at Mendocino County Office of Education. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for downtown Covelo’s downtown project on December 15. The Caspar large-item Dump Day is on Saturday, December 16. Laytonville Dump Day vouchers will be handed out on December 15 at

Harwood Hall. She then answered questions about projects in the Milestones report provided in the agenda packet.

- b. Mendocino Transit Authority. Jacob King, MTA General Manager, reported the MTA Board will meet and receive a presentation of the Ukiah Transit Center draft feasibility study on Wednesday, December 6. Also they are developing the Short Range Transportation Development Plan (SRTDP); the consultant will hold a community workshop January 9 in Fort Bragg, and a virtual workshop on January 11. Updates will be posted and comments accepted on the project website: <https://www.2023mendocinotransitplan.com/contact>.
- c. Great Redwood Trail Agency. Director Haschak reported on the November 9 meeting, when the Board contracted with Elaine Hogan as the new Executive Director. The December 21 meeting is scheduled for Ukiah, here in the Supervisors chambers.
- d. MCOG Staff - Summary of Meetings. Ms. Barrett referred to the written report.
- e. MCOG Administration Staff
 - i. *Social Services Transportation Advisory Council's Unmet Transit Needs Workshop of November 29, 2023 – Findings to MCOG Public Hearing on February 5, 2024*. Ms. Orth reported a list of seven needs and two non-service needs will be brought forward as testimony in the hearing. Staff is optimistic that some of the needs may be considered feasible and reasonable to meet for funding in the coming fiscal year. She outlined the annual process through MCOG's committees and budget adoption in June. Also, there are currently four vacancies on the SSTAC, so suggestions for nominations are invited and participation encouraged.
 - ii. *Miscellaneous*. Ms. Barrett reported that an anticipated Caltrans presentation on the Gualala Downtown Streetscape project will likely come to MCOG on the February agenda.
 - iii. *Next Meeting Date*. Monday, February 5, 2024.
- f. MCOG Planning Staff
 - i. *Feasibility Study - Mendocino Transit Authority's Ukiah Transit Center*. Deputy Planner Ellard added to MTA's status report. The updated draft plan was received from the consultant and will be posted to MCOG's website. Also a request was received from City of Ukiah to look into one additional site, so staff is working with the consultant to see how that may be accommodated. The project is moving forward.
 - ii. *Miscellaneous*. None.
- g. MCOG Directors. Director Haschak planned to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony for Covelo downtown project December 15, with a meet-and-greet event at the Veteran's Hall.
- h. California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) Delegates. Director Haschak reported a board retreat in Riverside December 8; he will attend most of the meeting remotely by teleconference.

12. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Submitted: NEPHELE BARRETT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Janet Orth, Deputy Director & CFO



MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

STAFF REPORT

Agenda # 7
Consent Calendar
MCOG Meeting
2/5/2024

TITLE: Appointments to Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)

SUBMITTED BY: Janet Orth, Deputy Director & CFO

DATE PREPARED: 1/25/2024

BACKGROUND:

The Transportation Development Act (TDA) mandates that Regional Transportation Planning Agencies maintain a Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC). The council typically meets twice a year.

SSTAC appointments were last made at the February 2023 MCOG meeting. Membership was reviewed at the SSTAC's November 29, 2023 meeting and nominations made.

Terms will expire in April 2024 for three seats. Two members have agreed to continue serving. A third seat is vacant. The members currently nominated for reappointment are:

- “Local social service provider for seniors”
Reappoint through April 2027
Richard Baker, Willits Seniors, Inc.

- “Local social service provider for seniors that provides transportation”
Reappoint through April 2027
Jill Rexrode, Redwood Coast Seniors

The current membership roster is attached for your reference, with the above changes indicated. Four of nine seats remain vacant, with no one yet identified to fill those vacancies. Positions are for three-year, staggered terms. If volunteers become available for the vacant seats, additional appointments can be made by the MCOG Board of Directors.

ACTION REQUIRED: Reappoint two members to fill expiring seats.

ALTERNATIVES:

- The Board may nominate additional names for consideration.
- The Board may appoint more members than the nine prescribed by law.
- It is suggested that appointment of one or more alternates for each seat can increase participation.

RECOMMENDATION:

Reappoint Richard Baker and Jill Rexrode to fill expiring terms on the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council. This item may be pulled from Consent for any further appointments by the Board.



Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)

Membership Roster

Approved February 6, 2023

Nominations for February 5, 2024

Position	Name	Alternate	Agency	Term Expires
Local social service provider for seniors	Richard Baker - <i>reappoint</i>		Willits Seniors, Inc.	April 2024
Local social service provider for seniors that provides transportation	Jill Rexrode - <i>reappoint</i>	Laurie Hill	Redwood Coast Seniors	April 2024
Potential transit user at least 60 years of age	<i>Vacant</i>			April 2024
Potential “handicapped” transit user	<i>Vacant</i>			April 2025
Local social service provider for the handicapped that provides transportation	<i>Vacant</i>	Kathy Sheehy	Ukiah Senior Center	April 2025
Representative of local Consolidated Transportation Services Agency	Jacob King		Mendocino Transit Authority	April 2025
Representative of Local Consolidated Transportation Services Agency	Dawn White	Luis Martinez	Mendocino Transit Authority	April 2026
Local social service provider for persons of limited means	Christine Sookne		Redwood Coast Regional Center	April 2026
Local social service provider for the handicapped	<i>Vacant</i>			April 2026



MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Agenda # 8
Consent Calendar
MCOG Meeting
2/5/2024

STAFF REPORT

TITLE: FY 2024/25 Draft Transportation Planning Overall Work Program Authorization to Release for Review, Comment, and Circulation **DATE PREPARED:** 1/29/24

SUBMITTED BY: Alexis Pedrotti, Project Manager

MEETING DATE: 2/5/24

BACKGROUND:

As the Regional Transportation Planning Agency, one of MCOG's regional responsibilities is the management of the Overall Work Program, a requirement of Caltrans, Office of Regional Planning. The OWP development process began in October with the planning project solicitation. In response to our annual call for transportation planning projects, two applications were received from local agencies for funding in MCOG's FY 2024/25 Overall Work Program (OWP).

TAC Members reviewed and discussed the applications at the TAC Meeting on January 17, 2024, proposing options for staff to begin moving forward in developing the draft document. After the Technical Advisory Committee has a chance to review and comment on the Draft FY 2024/25 Overall Work Program at the February Meeting, staff will present it to the MCOG Board for further review. The Draft OWP will include routine MCOG planning staff work elements, the two new local agency projects (listed below), a local match reserve for grant awards, as well as a few potential carryover projects.

The two new project applications for OWP funding in the Draft Overall Work Program include:

- *County DOT Combined Special Studies*
- *2024 City of Fort Bragg Streetscape Study*

The Draft OWP document is due to Caltrans by March 1st for review and comment. A requirement and minor formality of the submittal process for the RTPA is to obtain prior authorization from the Governing Board to release the draft for review and comment and allow circulation of the document to Caltrans. Unfortunately, the March due date does not allow time to bring this back to the MCOG Board for the required authorization after the TAC has had time for their next review. Therefore, we are seeking authorization from the Board to release the draft as recommended by the TAC at their next meeting. This is not approval of the OWP itself, just authorization to submit a draft for comment.

The MCOG Board will ultimately have an opportunity to review the draft in March and make comments or recommendations. However, this advanced authorization allows staff the opportunity to submit the draft document on time to Caltrans, after allowing the TAC sufficient time to review and comment.

ACTION REQUIRED: Give authority to MCOG Staff to release the FY 2024/25 Draft Overall Work Program (OWP) for review, comment, and circulation, following a recommendation at the February TAC meeting.

ALTERNATIVES: Don't authorize MCOG Staff to release the Draft Overall Work Program for review, comment, and circulation and provide alternative suggestions.

RECOMMENDATION: Give authority to staff to release the FY 2024/25 Draft Overall Work Program (OWP) for review, comment, and circulation, following a recommendation at the February TAC meeting.



MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

STAFF REPORT

Agenda # 10
Regular Calendar
MCOG Meeting
2/5/2024

TITLE: FY 2024/25 Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing

SUBMITTED BY: Janet Orth, Deputy Director & CFO

DATE PREPARED: 1/25/2024

BACKGROUND:

Purpose of this public hearing: The Transportation Development Act (TDA) requires that before any Local Transportation Funds are allocated for streets and roads purposes (unallocated revenues at fiscal year end), a process is conducted to identify any “unmet transit needs” that might be “reasonable to meet” for funding. This procedure has been followed annually by MCOG.

Since MCOG established a Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Reserve fund in 1999, excess funds have not been allocated at year end, but instead are carried forward to future budgets. However, there has been a general consensus of the MCOG Board, staff and stakeholders to continue identifying unmet transit needs annually. Past TDA performance audits have commended MCOG for conducting the formal process. It allows for public input that is useful in assessing which transit services should be provided. It provides a focus for the SSTAC’s annual workshop and satisfies the TDA requirement for a citizen participation process (Sec. 99238.5).

Testimony received for this hearing: The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC), a standing committee of MCOG, met for the annual Unmet Transit Needs workshop on November 29. The SSTAC recommended a list of six needs developed in the workshop; considered and endorsed one need from public input heard at MTA board meetings during the year; for a total of seven needs, attached. Issues raised included micro-transit mobility solutions for remote inland areas, assisted services, non-emergency medical transportation, restoration of pandemic service suspensions, and a local and visitor serving route for economic development.

The SSTAC’s duties also include advising MCOG on any other transportation issues. This year, development of a Ukiah Transit Center and MTA Administration facility upgrades/modernization were recommended.

ACTION REQUIRED:

The following process fulfills TDA requirements.

Finding of Proper Notice:

The Board makes the finding, by motion and vote, that a proper 30-day notice has been given. Notice of the public hearing was published by The Willits News (January 3), Ukiah Daily Journal (January 4), Fort Bragg Advocate-News (January 4), and Independent Coast Observer (January 5). Only one notice of general circulation is required, which was more than met; proofs of publication available at this writing are attached. The notice has been posted on our web site and emailed to list subscribers and other interested parties. These actions more than meet the requirement.

Public Hearing:

The Chair opens the public hearing. Staff reports any written testimony received for the record, including findings of the SSTAC’s November 29, 2023 workshop. A list of identified needs is submitted, including unmet needs from public input received by Mendocino Transit Authority.

Public testimony is received. The hearing is closed.

Board Action:

The Board of Directors then determines whether any of the testimony received appears to be an “unmet transit need” according to the attached definitions adopted by MCOG, pending further analysis. The two main options for a motion are:

- 1) *"The testimony heard includes Unmet Transit Needs that appear to qualify under MCOG’s adopted definitions, and those needs are directed to Mendocino Transit Authority for analysis and for further review and recommendations by the SSTAC and the Transit Productivity Committee."*
- 2) *"The testimony heard does not include any Unmet Transit Needs that appear to qualify under MCOG’s adopted definitions, therefore there are no unmet transit needs found for fiscal year 2023/24, and the annual process is concluded."*

If the finding is “yes,” testimony does include unmet needs, the list of needs is directed to MTA to prepare an analysis that may include operational costs, ability to provide service, and prioritization of needs. Finally, the analysis would go to MCOG’s Transit Productivity Committee (TPC), in April or May 2024, for a recommendation to MCOG on which, if any, needs are “reasonable to meet” for inclusion in MTA’s 2024/25 Transit Claim, due to MCOG April 1, 2024. The analysis and recommendation also would be discussed by the SSTAC. In June, when MCOG allocates funds to the transit claim, a finding of “reasonableness” is made.

If none of the testimony qualifies as an “unmet transit need,” the Board makes a finding that “there are no unmet transit needs” and the annual process is ended. (Rarely, if ever, is this the case.)

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board may cancel or postpone this already noticed hearing. – *not recommended*

Also note TDA Sec. 99238.5(b): *“In addition to public hearings, the transportation planning agency shall consider other methods of obtaining public feedback on public transportation needs. Those methods may include, but are not limited to, teleconferencing, questionnaires, telecanvassing, and electronic mail.”* In this case we have used e-mail and MCOG’s website.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board:

- 1) Make a finding of proper notice and hear the staff report.
- 2) Hold the public hearing.
- 3) After hearing all testimony, make a finding that:

"The testimony heard includes Unmet Transit Needs that appear to qualify under MCOG’s adopted definitions, and those needs are directed to Mendocino Transit Authority for analysis and for further review and recommendations by the Transit Productivity Committee and Social Services Transportation Advisory Council."

Enclosures:

SSTAC Recommendations of November 29, 2023

Unmet Transit Need email received December 13, 2023

Notice of Public Hearing - Proofs of Publication

MCOG’s “Unmet Transit Needs” and “Reasonable to Meet” Process

[Unmet Transit Needs - 2024/25 Public Hearing - Mendocino Council of Governments \(mendocinocog.org\)](https://mendocinocog.org)



MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

FY 2024/25 Unmet Transit Needs
Recommended by
MCOG's Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

Identified at Annual SSTAC Workshop
(not in any order of priority)

November 29, 2023

Needs Identified by SSTAC:

1. Service/micro transit for Covelo, Laytonville, Brooktrails, Hopland, and Potter Valley
2. Mobility solutions for remote coastal communities
3. Continue restoration of temporary pandemic-related service suspensions
4. Service to Noyo Harbor and downtown Fort Bragg central business district (visitor and local serving)
5. Non-emergency medical service, including after-hours/weekends for hospital release and out of county
6. Wednesday service for Ukiah Senior Center transportation.

Needs Identified by Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA):

1. Service from Golden Rule to Ukiah and/or Willits for seniors

TOTAL of 7 Recommended Unmet Transit Needs

Additional SSTAC Recommendations:

1. Develop a Ukiah Transit Center for multimodal connections and coordinated services.
2. MTA Administration facility upgrades/modernization.

From: Rightnar, Jacob@DOT <Jacob.Rightnar@dot.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 8:53 AM
To: jacob@mendocinotransit.org; Nephele Barrett <barrettn@dow-associates.com>;
lellard@dbcteam.net; krogj@mendocinocounty.org
Cc: Jackman, Rex A@DOT <rex.jackman@dot.ca.gov>
Subject: FW: Transit on Talmage

Good Morning,

After our December 7th town hall to present the draft SR 222 Corridor Plan, we received some follow-up emails from residents who could not attend the meeting but wanted to provide input. One of these was from a commuter working at the Office of Education (see below email), expressing interest in expanded transit service along SR 222/Talmage Rd. Transit issues are discussed in the corridor plan but since we as an agency are not directly involved in operating transit, we thought you would be able to make better use of this input. Please let me know if you have any questions, or want to further discuss the SR 222 Corridor Plan and the role of Caltrans in Mendocino County's transit system.

Sincerely,
Jacob Rightnar
Caltrans District 1
Transportation Planning
Cell: (707)684-6895

From: Rose Karpov-Kinrade <rkarpovkinrade@mcoe.us>
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2023 10:38 AM
To: Rightnar, Jacob@DOT <Jacob.Rightnar@dot.ca.gov>
Subject: Transit on Talmage

Good Morning Jacob!

My name is Rose Karpov-Kinrade and I work with the Mendocino County Office of Education. When I first started this job, I had major transportation limits. I realized that the bus system does not go to Talmage, and that makes it difficult for me to come to work without relying on my coworkers to give me a ride.

Bus access through that part of town would be so helpful to people. There are many houses there, as well as shops and a school. I think it would be really helpful for the community, especially those who are disabled and cannot walk everywhere, to have access to as much of town as possible. It may also help generate more income for those businesses. I cannot attend the town meeting today about how we as a community can improve Talmage, so I wanted to reach out with my thoughts.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Rose Karpov-Kinrade (she/they)

Rose Karpov-Kinrade

AmeriCorps Mental Health Gatekeeper Training Instructor, District Programs and Supports

www.mcoe.us

2240 Old River Road, Ukiah, CA 95482

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Ukiah Daily Journal

617 S. State St
Ukiah, California 95482
(707) 468-3500
sfullbright@ukiahdj.com

2117222

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525 S MAIN STREET SUITE B
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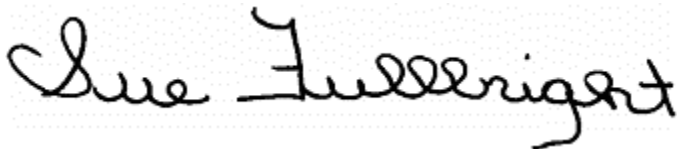
STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer of the Ukiah Daily Journal, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published daily in the City of Ukiah, County of Mendocino and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Mendocino, State of California, under the date of September 22, 1952, Case Number 9267; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than non-pareil), has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

01/04/2024

I certify (or declare) under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Ukiah, California,
January 4th, 2024



Sue Fullbright, LEGAL CLERK

Legal No. **0006797544**

NOTICE of PUBLIC HEARING Unmet Transit Needs

Monday, February 5, 2024, the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) will meet at 1:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, in person and via teleconference with call-in options, at County Administration Center, Supervisors Chambers, Room 1070, 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah; City Hall, 416 N. Franklin St., Fort Bragg; and City Hall, 451 School St., Point Arena, CA, and consider the following item. MCOG will consider needs for public transportation services that would benefit a significant number of people and are not currently provided. This hearing applies to transportation service needs for fiscal year July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. In addition to new public testimony, MCOG will hear needs reported to Mendocino Transit Authority during the past year, and findings of MCOG's Social Services Transportation Advisory Council. Issues may include but are not limited to: 1) transit services for the elderly, people with disabilities, and low-income or economically disadvantaged persons; 2) adequacy of both private and public transportation services, and 3) service improvements needed to meet expected travel demand. All interested persons may present testimony at this hearing. For more information on how to participate in the teleconference call or to submit written testimony in advance, contact the MCOG office at 707-463-1859 or visit www.mendocinocog.org/meetings.
Janet M. Orth
MCOG Deputy Director & CFO

The Willits News

77 W Commercial Street
PO Box 628
Willits, CA 95490
707-459-4643

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525 S MAIN STREET SUITE B
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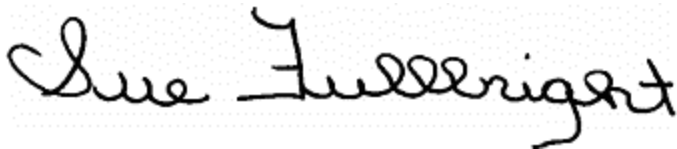
**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MENDOCINO**

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above-entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer of The Willits News, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published Every Wednesday and Friday in the City of Willits, California, County of Mendocino, and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Mendocino, State of California, in the year 1903, Case Number 9150; that the notice of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than nonpareil), has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to-wit:

01/03/2024

I certify (or declare) under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Willits, California this 3rd day of January, 2024.



Signature

Legal No. **0006797547**

**NOTICE of PUBLIC HEARING
Unmet Transit Needs**

Monday, February 5, 2024, the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) will meet at 1:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, in person and via teleconference with call-in options, at County Administration Center, Supervisors Chambers, Room 1070, 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah; City Hall, 416 N. Franklin St., Fort Bragg; and City Hall, 451 School St., Point Arena, CA, and consider the following item. MCOG will consider needs for public transportation services that would benefit a significant number of people and are not currently provided. This hearing applies to transportation service needs for fiscal year July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. In addition to new public testimony, MCOG will hear needs reported to Mendocino Transit Authority during the past year, and findings of MCOG's Social Services Transportation Advisory Council. Issues may include but are not limited to: 1) transit services for the elderly, people with disabilities, and low-income or economically disadvantaged persons; 2) adequacy of both private and public transportation services, and 3) service improvements needed to meet expected travel demand. All interested persons may present testimony at this hearing. For more information on how to participate in the teleconference call or to submit written testimony in advance, contact the MCOG office at 707-463-1859 or visit www.mendocinocog.org/meetings.
Janet M. Orth
MCOG Deputy Director & CFO

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Fort Bragg, California 95437
707-964-5642

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UKIAH, CA 95482

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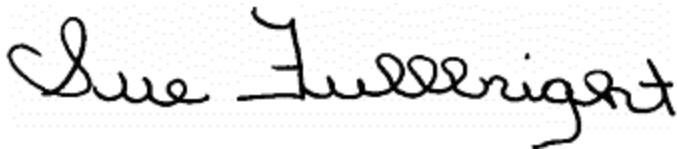
STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the Office Clerk of the Fort Bragg Advocate-News, a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Mendocino, State of California under the date of May 9, 1952 - Case Number 9151, that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than nonpareil), has been printed in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates:

01/04/2024

I certify (or declare) under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Fort Bragg, California,
January 4th, 2024



Sue Fullbright, LEGAL CLERK

Legal No. **0006797549**

NOTICE of PUBLIC HEARING Unmet Transit Needs

Monday, February 5, 2024, the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) will meet at 1:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, in person and via teleconference with call-in options, at County Administration Center, Supervisors Chambers, Room 1070, 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah; City Hall, 416 N. Franklin St., Fort Bragg; and City Hall, 451 School St., Point Arena, CA, and consider the following item. MCOG will consider needs for public transportation services that would benefit a significant number of people and are not currently provided. This hearing applies to transportation service needs for fiscal year July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. In addition to new public testimony, MCOG will hear needs reported to Mendocino Transit Authority during the past year, and findings of MCOG's Social Services Transportation Advisory Council. Issues may include but are not limited to: 1) transit services for the elderly, people with disabilities, and low-income or economically disadvantaged persons; 2) adequacy of both private and public transportation services, and 3) service improvements needed to meet expected travel demand. All interested persons may present testimony at this hearing. For more information on how to participate in the teleconference call or to submit written testimony in advance, contact the MCOG office at 707-463-1859 or visit www.mendocinocog.org/meetings.
Janet M. Orth
MCOG Deputy Director & CFO

Adopted by MCOG
11/2/92
Revised by MCOG
12/7/98

MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

“Unmet Transit Needs” and “Reasonable to Meet” Process

Introduction

The stated intent of the Legislature in passing the Transportation Development Act (TDA) was to provide funding for transit, which would provide an essential public service through a balanced transportation system. The TDA administrative code specifically states, “it is the intent of the Legislature to improve existing public transportation services and encourage regional public transportation coordination.” The Public Utilities Code, in Article 2, Section 99220 provides even more succinctly: “to encourage people to use public transportation rather than private vehicles.”

Prior to using TDA funds for street and road improvements, Sections 99401.5 and 99401.6 of TDA require the Regional Transportation Planning Agency to hold a public hearing and make a determination that there are no unmet transit needs that can reasonably be met within the area of a county, city or eligible operator. As a result, the RTPA has the responsibility and authority to determine what constitutes unmet transit needs and whether or not such unmet transit needs can reasonably be met.

The Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG), acting in its official capacity as the designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Mendocino County, accomplishes this in part through a public hearing process conducted by MCOG taking into account the recommendations of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council and other various factors in the transportation planning process.

Definitions

The following definitions of “Unmet Transit Need” and “Reasonable to Meet” have been adopted by the Mendocino Council of Governments.

The unmet needs and reasonableness policies apply to new proposed services. Existing services will be evaluated through the existing performance standard policies established by MCOG, and reviewed by the Transit Productivity Committee.

1. Unmet Transit Need: Whenever a need to transport people is not being satisfied through existing public or private resources.
2. Reasonable to Meet: It is reasonable to meet a transit need if all of the following conditions prevail:

“Unmet Transit Needs” and “Reasonable to Meet” Process

Page 2 of 2

12/7/98

- a) Service will be capable of meeting the Transportation Development Act fare revenue/operating cost requirements and established MCOG criteria for new services
- b) Transit services designed or intended to address an unmet transit need shall not duplicate transit services currently provided either publicly or privately
- c) The claimant this is expected to provide the service shall review, evaluate and indicate that the service is operationally feasible, and vehicles shall be currently available in the market place
- d) Funds are available, or there is a reasonable expectation that funds will become available.

/le
/jmo



MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Agenda # 11
Regular Calendar
MCOG Meeting
2/5/2024

STAFF REPORT

TITLE: Report & Approval of Ad Hoc Committee
Recommendation - RuralREN Reorganization
& Governance

DATE PREPARED: 01/29/24
MEETING DATE: 02/05/24

SUBMITTED BY: Nephele Barrett, Executive Director

BACKGROUND: In February 2022, the MCOG Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding with Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) to participate in the newly formed Rural Regional Energy Network (RuralREN). At that time, development of the RuralREN had been underway for quite some time, and the business plan was nearly complete. Due to the timing of the addition of Mendocino and Lake Counties to the RuralREN, MCOG's initial participation was to be via subcontract with RCEA, with the intent to work toward becoming full a RuralREN partner. In addition to RCEA, the RuralREN partner agencies include Sierra Business Council, San Luis Obispo County, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, Kern County, Ventura Regional Energy Alliance, High Sierra Energy Foundation and San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization.

The business plan for the RuralREN was filed with the California Public Utilities Commission in spring of 2022. Action was initially expected in fall of that year, but was delayed by the CPUC until June of 2023. Following approval by the CPUC, the RuralREN partners began meeting regularly to work out details of implementation and administration. Unfortunately, the discussions over administration led to disagreements among partners about roles, responsibilities and level of authority of the Portfolio Administrator for the program, identified as RCEA in the business plan. The primary issues of concern expressed were the level of authority of RCEA as the PA compared to the authority of the Leadership Team and the speed at which RCEA was executing tasks and rolling out programs (some partners felt it was too slow). These concerns led to the Leadership Team members conducting a review of RCEA's performance as PA.

In September, an impromptu vote was held at a Leadership Team meeting to remove RCEA as the PA and designate the County of San Luis Obispo as the PA. Because MCOG is not a full REN partner, we were excluded from that meeting and other Leadership Team meetings. Although we have been receiving periodic updates from RCEA and AMBAG staff, MCOG staff was not aware of the extent of the conflicts, and we believed that it would be resolved. RCEA has continued to carry out responsibilities as PA, as the CPUC action on the business plan had not been amended. RCEA hired a facilitator in an attempt to work through the problem, but other partners were unwilling to participate in that effort. San Luis Obispo sent notice to the CPUC notifying them of the vote to change the PA, but CPUC has stated that filing of a notice does not change their previous action.

In December, we received notification that a petition had been filed by RCEA with the CPUC to reduce the area covered by the RuralREN to include only Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake and the northern Sierra region represented by the Sierra Business Council. The petition also proposes to make MCOG and Lake APC full REN partners going forward. Although we knew that some sort of request would be made to the CPUC to help resolve the issues, we were not aware that this proposal to split the RuralREN would be made.

In January, the Regional Energy Network/Climate ad hoc committee met to discuss these issues and whether or not MCOG should submit formal comment on the petition or take a position. Ultimately, the ad hoc members agreed that MCOG's priority should be to deliver energy efficiency programs to

Mendocino County, which could be accomplished either as part of the proposed reduced RuralREN or as part of the original RuralREN. They recommended remaining neutral in the ongoing debate and did not see a need to submit a formal comment to the CPUC, which would require submitting a Motion for Party Status.

Since that time, the southern RuralREN members (Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, San Luis Obispo, County of Ventura, High Sierra Energy Foundation, and San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization) have submitted their own joint Petition for Modification of the RuralREN, requesting removal of reference to RCEA as the Portfolio Administrator, establishment of a more simplified method for changing the administrator, and clarification of the REN's governing autonomy. The joint PFM proposes that the RuralREN would otherwise remain the same.

In addition to the two PFMs, comments have been submitted from a few other agencies not directly involved in the RuralREN. One comment was submitted jointly by BayREN and 3CREN clarifying their understanding of REN governance and recommending that the CPUC clarify several things, including how a lead administrator is determined and their role within a REN. The Yurok tribe has also submitted a formal comment in support of RCEA's PFM. The Public Advocates Office has submitted a comment in opposition to RCEA's PFM, stating that it is too substantive a change from the original approval of the RuralREN and that a change of that magnitude would be more appropriately included in a new request for REN status.

Sierra Business Council, the other agency included in the reduced RuralREN proposed by RCEA, has stated a neutral position in this issue and has submitted comments to that effect, also expressing their desire to begin implementing programs.

There are pros and cons to both the full and reduced versions of the RuralREN. The full REN includes member agencies with greater expertise in some of the programs from which the other partners would benefit. On the other hand, the reduced REN is more rural in nature and may lead to program design that's a better fit for our rural needs. The RCEA's PFM provides a clear opportunity for MCOG to become a full REN partner, whereas there is no guarantee of that with the original RuralREN. In fact, it's possible that if the RCEA PFM is denied, RCEA may opt out of the RuralREN. That would mean MCOG would need to partner with another agency to be part of the RuralREN, possibly the new lead administrator.

Included with this staff report are RCEA's Petition for Modification (PFM) to the CPUC and the joint PFM from the southern RuralREN partner agencies. Section III, pages 7 through 11, of the joint PFM summarizes their requests. Pages 3 through 18 of RCEA's PFM describe the history of the disputes among the partners. The specific modifications requested begin on page 18 of the PFM. The proposed budget for this reduced REN is on page 27. Although the population of the proposed smaller REN area is much lower than the original, the programs to be delivered in these areas are far greater due to the lack of existing programs. Therefore, the budget change is not proportionate to the change in population served. MCOG staff has expressed to RCEA a need to review the budget if this petition is approved due to the change in partnership status. Exhibits and attachments filed with both PFMs containing additional background information are available upon request.

This item is presented to the MCOG Board today to give board members an opportunity to weigh in on the issue and determine if a statement in favor of one alternative or another should be submitted. The ad hoc committee has recommended a neutral position and concluded that there is no need to submit a Motion for Party Status and formal comments.

ACTION REQUIRED: Approve the ad hoc committee’s recommendation to maintain a position of neutrality regarding the Petition for Modification of the RuralREN decision and to express this position to the RuralREN partner agencies informally rather than filing a Motion for Party Status and proof of service.

ALTERNATIVES: Alternatively, the Board may choose to take a position in favor of one of the alternatives or to direct staff to file a Motion for Party Status and file formal comments.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the ad hoc committee’s recommendation to maintain a position of neutrality regarding the Petition for Modification of the RuralREN decision and to express this position to the RuralREN partner agencies informally rather than filing a Motion for Party Status and proof of service.

Enclosures:

RCEA’s Petition for Modification (PFM) to the CPUC

Joint Petition for Modification (PFM) to the CPUC



MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Agenda # 12
Regular Calendar
MCOG Meeting
2/5/2024

STAFF REPORT

TITLE: Annual Committee Appointments

SUBMITTED BY: Janet Orth, Deputy Director & CFO

DATE PREPARED: 1/25/2024

BACKGROUND:

Following are the procedures for appointment of Board members to MCOG's standing committees. I have attached the appropriate sections of the bylaws for your reference. (Seats on the other standing committees are not filled by MCOG Board members.)

- The Council may appoint an Executive Committee, consisting of the Chair, the Vice Chair, and one other member reflecting a city-county balance.
- The Chair shall appoint two members to the Transit Productivity Committee. Note: to preserve MCOG's oversight role, staff advises that at least one should not also be serving as a board member of Mendocino Transit Authority.
- The Council shall appoint two members to CALCOG, including at least one Executive Committee member. One serves as the delegate and the other as the alternate.

The most recent appointments are:

- Executive Committee - Chair **Gjerde**, Vice Chair **Haschak**, and Director **Norvell**
- Transit Productivity Committee (TPC) – Directors **Gjerde** and **Carter**
- CALCOG – Director **Haschak** (Delegate) and Director **Norvell** (Alternate Delegate)

Additionally, there are two active Ad Hoc committees:

- Covelo SR 162 Corridor Multi-Purpose Trail Project – Directors Haschak and Carter
 - Regional Energy Network / Climate – Directors Gjerde, Haschak and Hansen
-

ACTION REQUIRED:

- a. Appointment of the Executive Committee. *Please note the annual meeting is to be scheduled for late February, preferably in the final week to allow for budget preparation and proper notice.*
 - b. Appointments to the Transit Productivity Committee. *One or two meetings are typically required in March, April and/or May to address transit performance and standards, MTA's annual funding claim, the unmet needs analysis, and any audit recommendations.*
 - c. Appointment of CALCOG Delegates. *Customarily CALCOG delegates meet annually at the Regional Leadership Forum and for quarterly business meetings. This year the Forum will be held in person February 7-9 in Monterey. Other meetings may be offered in a hybrid format for remote attendees.*
 - d. Appointment to Ad Hoc committee. *Both of the ad hoc issues are still in progress. Appoint no more than three seats to each committee, i.e. less than a quorum.*
-

ALTERNATIVES:

- The Executive Committee is optional according to the bylaws. The officers could meet with staff for annual business and as needed, ideally reflecting city-county balance.
- TPC membership is mandated by the bylaws, so there is no alternative without amendment.

- Annual CALCOG appointments are mandated also, so there is no alternative without amending the bylaws.
- Ad hoc committees may be dissolved when no longer needed or their purpose is completed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Appoint members to the standing committees described above, following MCOG's bylaws, and to the ad hoc committees. The Council may choose to approve a slate of appointments in one action.

Enc: Bylaws excerpts

Excerpts of MCOG Bylaws Amended June 6, 2022

ARTICLE III - OFFICERS/STAFF/COMMITTEES

Section 5. STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 5.2 Executive Committee: The Council may appoint an Executive Committee consisting of the Chair, the Vice Chair and one member from a city or the County. The Executive Committee may carry on the administrative and executive functions of the Council between regular meetings of the Council. The Executive Committee may also be used to oversee the personnel budget and policy issues and make recommendations to the full Council.

The Council shall attempt to appoint members to the Executive Committee that reflect a balance between City and County representation.

Section 5.4 Transit Productivity Committee (TPC): The TPC shall consist of five (5) voting members: two (2) members of the Council appointed by the Chair; two (2) members of the transit operator's Board of Directors; and one (1) senior centers representative to be selected by those senior centers under the Council's jurisdiction and then formally appointed by the Council. The TPC shall be staffed by the MCOG Executive Director or his/her authorized representative.

The purpose of the TPC will be to review and recommend on transit performance and productivity issues in accordance with approved standards adopted by the Council, including review of quarterly reports of the transit operator and to make recommendations to the Council for revisions to the standards. The TPC will review and make recommendations to the Council on the annual Transit Claim, and also provide input on the "unmet transit needs" process, including findings of the SSTAC. Meetings will be held at least once annually, or quarterly if warranted.

Section 6. ASSOCIATIONS

Section 6.1 California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG): The Council shall annually appoint two members of the Council, at least one of whom shall be an Executive Committee member, to the CALCOG organization for the purpose of voting on statewide issues. One member shall be the delegate, the other member, the alternate. The term of these appointments shall be for one year commencing on the first Monday in February when appointed and ending on the following first Monday in February or at the next year's committee appointments.



MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Agenda #14d
 Reports
 MCOG Meeting
 2/05/2024

STAFF REPORT

TITLE: Summary of Meetings

DATE PREPARED: 1/29/2024

SUBMITTED BY: Janet Orth for Jody Lowblad, Administrative Assistant

BACKGROUND: Since our last regular MCOG meeting packet, MCOG Administration and Planning staff have attended (or will have attended) the following meetings on behalf of MCOG:

Date	Meeting/Event	Staff
Dec 1	Covelo Trail Project Development Team (PDT)	Barrett, Sookne & Villa
Dec 1	North State Super Region – SB 125 TIRCP-ZETCP meeting	Orth, Sookne
Dec 1	Hopland MAC meeting	Barrett
Dec 1	Mendocino County DOT planning grant meeting	Barrett & Ellard
Dec 4	MCOG Board meeting	Barrett, Orth, Ellard, Sookne, Villa, Lowblad
Dec 5	Ukiah Transit Center meeting	Barrett & Ellard
Dec 5	Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPA) Group meeting	Barrett & Davey-Bates
Dec 6-7	California Transportation Commission (CTC) hybrid meeting in Riverside	Barrett, Orth
Dec 6	Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA) Board meeting – Ukiah Transit Center	Ellard & Sookne
Dec 7	Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant mtg. with City of Ukiah	Ellard
Dec 7	Caltrans public meeting - SR 222 Talmage Corridor	Barrett & Ellard
Dec 8	Covelo Project Development Team (PDT)	Barrett, Sookne & Villa
Dec 11	Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) annual meeting	Barrett
Dec 11	Covelo Trail Project meeting	Barrett & Sookne
Dec 13	MCOG Fort Bragg Town Hall planning meeting w/CTC Staff	Barrett, Orth, Ellard & Lowblad
Dec 14	MTA Short Range Transit Development Plan – Technical Advisory Group	Ellard & Sookne
Dec 14	Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant office hours w/MCDOT	Ellard
Dec 15	Covelo Trail Project Development Team (PDT)	Barrett, Sookne & Villa
Dec 18	Ukiah Transit Center monthly meeting	Barrett, Ellard & Sookne
Dec 21	Redwood Coast Energy Authority meeting re RuralREN	Barrett, Orth, Davey-Bates
Dec 28, 29	Grant planning meetings with MCDOT	Ellard
Jan 2, 4, 9, 12, 17	Grant planning meetings with MCDOT	Ellard
Jan 4	Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant office hours w/MCDOT	Ellard
Jan 4	MCOG REN/Climate Ad Hoc meeting	Barrett & Orth
Jan 8	CALCOG Forum - ZEV session planning	Orth
Jan 9	MTA Short Range Transit Development Plan workshop in Fort Bragg	Sookne
Jan 10	County Economic Development – CA Jobs First meeting	Barrett
Jan 11	MTA Short Range Transit Development Plan virtual public workshop	Ellard
Jan 12	Update/Expand Local Road Safety/Action Plans – contract negotiation	Orth & Ellard
Jan 16	RuralREN (Regional Energy Network) meeting	Barrett & Davey-Bates
Jan 17	MCOG Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting	Barrett, Ellard, Rodriguez
Jan 18	Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Estimate meeting w/County Auditor, MTA	Barrett & Orth
Jan 18	Strategic Highway Safety Plan Steering Committee	Barrett
Jan 18	Active Transportation Program (ATP) Ukiah project site visit	Ellard
Jan 22	Local Road Safety and Noyo Harbor planning grant kickoffs with Caltrans	Barrett, Ellard, Pedrotti
Jan 23	CALCOG Forum - ZEV speaker panel preparation	Orth
Jan 24	Caltrans meeting - SR 222 Talmage Corridor	Ellard
Jan 24	Northern CA STIP Hearing in Modesto	Barrett, Davey-Bates & Sookne
Jan 24	North State ZEV Working Group	Orth, Rodriguez

Jan 25-26	California Transportation Commission (CTC) meeting in Modesto	Barrett & Davey-Bates
Jan 25	Draft 2022/23 Fiscal Audit review meeting with CPA	Orth
Jan 25	Great Redwood Trail Agency board meeting in Ukiah	Ellard
Jan 25	Redwood Region RISE meeting	Barrett
Jan 25	Willits STIP project status meeting	Villa
Jan 26	Ukiah Transit Center monthly meeting	Barrett & Ellard
Jan 29	Update/Expand Local Road Safety/Action Plans – kickoff meeting	Barrett & Ellard
Jan 29	MCOG Fort Bragg Town Hall planning meeting w/CTC Staff	Barrett, Orth & Ellard
Jan 30	ATP Public Outreach planning meeting with Ukiah	Barrett & Ellard
Jan 30	RuralREN meeting with AMBAG	Barrett & Davey-Bates
Jan 31	MTA Board meeting	Sookne
Feb 1	Caltrans System Investment Strategy (CSIS) Workshop – Rural Perspective	Barrett, Davey-Bates & Ellard

We will provide information to the Board regarding the outcome of any of these meetings as requested.

ACTION REQUIRED: None.

ALTERNATIVES: None identified.

RECOMMENDATION: None. This is for information only.



MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

STAFF REPORT

Agenda # 14e
Reports
MCOG Meeting
2/5/2024

TITLE: Revised FY 2023/34 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Estimate

SUBMITTED BY: Janet Orth, Deputy Director & CFO

DATE: 1/29/2024

BACKGROUND:

On January 18, 2024, MCOG Administrative staff met by teleconference with Chair Gjerde; Sara Pierce, Acting County Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector; and Mendocino Transit Authority management to discuss the upcoming Local Transportation Fund revenue estimate.

According to Transportation Development Act (TDA) statute, the estimate is to be prepared by the County Auditor and is due February 1 annually. This forms the basis of MCOG's budget for the Local Transportation Funds, derived from the countywide transportation sales tax.

Also reviewed in the meeting were the past ten years of budget estimates compared to actual revenue, the 2022/23 fiscal year shortfall and how to avoid a repeat scenario. Information was shared from reports by the County's sales tax consultants.

The discussion was informative and productive. It was agreed to review quarterly so as to be prepared to respond to any significant changes during the year.

Ms. Pierce provided the attached letter indicating her revised estimate of 2023/24 LTF revenue. Another shortfall is projected, from the budget of \$4,901,913 to \$4,243,383, a decrease of \$658,530.

ACTION REQUIRED:

None, for information only.

ALTERNATIVES:

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION:

Address later in the fiscal year after the Executive Committee has reviewed the matter and reported a recommendation to the full Council.

Attachment:

Letter from Acting County Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector dated January 18, 2024

SARA PIERCE
ACTING AUDITOR-CONTROLLER
TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR



501 LOW GAP ROAD, ROOM 1080
UKIAH, CA 95482
707-234-6860
WWW.MENDOCINOCOUNTY.ORG

January 18, 2024

MCOG Board of Directors

RE; Local Transportation Fund – Revised Projection 2023/24

Dear Board Members:

The Auditor-Controller's office has updated the projection for fiscal year 2023/24 SB 325 revenue to be \$4,243,383, a decrease of \$658,530 from the original budget of \$4,901,913.

The updated projection is described below:

- July 2023 – October 2023 based on actual revenue received
- November 2023 – June 2024 based on fiscal year 2022/23 actuals with a 4.1% reduction applied
 - The 4.1% factor is obtained from the County's contracted sales tax consultants HdL Companies
 - HdL Companies is projecting a 4.1% decrease in sales tax revenue for calendar Quarter 3 2023 (July – September) when compared to calendar Quarter 3 2022. Quarter 3 is the most recent projection the County has received; therefore, this factor is applied for the remaining months of the fiscal year.

Please note, due to numerous economic factors and fluctuating sales tax revenue, this is an estimate and could be subject to change.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sara Pierce".

Sara Pierce

Acting Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector

Local Transportation Fund (LTF)
Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/24 - 2024/25
Munis Object 760155

REVENUE ONLY

	FY 2023/24 Original			FY 2023/24 Projection			FY 2023/24	FY 2022/23	Variance	FY 2024/25
Month	Actual	Budget	Variance	Projection	Budget	Variance	Projection	Actual	22/23 vs 23/24	Projection
Jul	379,830	592,835	(213,005)	379,830	592,835	(213,005)	379,830	530,646	(150,817)	379,830
Aug	435,840	344,336	91,505	435,840	344,336	91,505	435,840	284,685	151,155	435,840
Sept	380,077	468,596	(88,519)	380,077	468,596	(88,519)	380,077	425,488	(45,411)	380,077
Oct	333,673	550,065	(216,393)	333,673	550,065	(216,393)	333,673	496,770	(163,097)	333,673
Nov				339,876	286,700	53,176	339,876	354,407	(14,531)	339,876
Dec				352,086	444,275	(92,189)	352,086	367,138	(15,052)	352,086
Jan				350,663	403,155	(52,492)	350,663	365,654	(14,991)	350,663
Feb				340,213	345,346	(5,133)	340,213	354,758	(14,545)	340,213
Mar				311,527	388,273	(76,746)	311,527	324,846	(13,319)	311,527
Apr				326,572	382,751	(56,179)	326,572	340,534	(13,962)	326,572
May				338,420	284,091	54,329	338,420	352,889	(14,469)	338,420
Jun				354,606	411,490	(56,884)	354,606	369,766	(15,160)	354,606
Total	1,529,420	1,955,833	(426,413)	4,243,383	4,901,913	(658,530)	4,243,383	4,567,582	(324,198)	4,243,383
	Variance to Budget % (YTD)		-21.8%	Projection Variance to Budget %		-13.4%	Variance to FY 22/23		-7.10%	

Notes:

LTF, is derived from a ¼ cent of the general sales tax collected statewide. The State Board of Equalization, based on sales tax collected in each county, returns the general sales tax revenues to each county's LTF.

County Sales Tax Estimates when compared to same calendar year quarter from prior year

CY Q1 2023 vs Q1 2022 - down 9.6%

CY Q2 2023 vs Q2 2022 - down 8.6%

CY Q3 2023 vs Q3 2022 - down 4.1%

FY23/24 Projection is taking: Jul 2023 - Oct 2023 actual revenue received, Nov 2023 - Jun 2024 based on fiscal year 22/23 actuals with a 4.1% reduction

FY24/25 Projecting no increase