

Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging
3725 WESTWIND BLVD., SUITE 101, P.O. BOX 4059, SANTA ROSA, CA 95402
(707) 565-5950 FAX (707) 565-5957

AAA ADVISORY COUNCIL
Sonoma Access Coordinated Transportation Services (SACTS)
Consortium Meeting
Tuesday – October 13, 2015
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Adult & Aging Services Division Office
Carnelian Room
3725 Westwind Blvd

Attendees: Michelle Alba, Sandra Bodley, Dean Brittingham, Sarah Finnigan, Jon Gaffney, Lauren Garibaldi, Stan Gow, Elece Hempel, Terry Kelley, Marsha Sue Lustig, Michele Osman, Jim Poore, Jacob Rich, Ruth Robeson, Rabon Saip, Anita Tanenberg, Dana Turrey

Staff: Tracy Repp, Susan Sudduth

Absent: Robert Cortez, Alain Serkissian

1. Welcome and Introductions: (Kelley) The meeting was opened with a welcome to all and introductions were made.
2. Approval of minutes from September 8, 2015 & June 9, 2015: Saip/Poore MSC
3. Discussion of Aging and Society by Dr. Brian Gillespie, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Sonoma State University
Dr. Gillespie's presentation was titled *Transportation and Mobility among US Older Adults*. Currently the percentage of adults older than age 60 in Sonoma County is at an all-time high. In addition to an aging suburbia, Sonoma County also has a high number of rural spaces which can lead to isolation for older individuals. He talked about the importance of meeting transportation needs for successful aging. Isolation can lead to malnutrition, poor medical treatment and diagnosis, and financial and banking issues. Improving mobility includes (1) identifying needs, (2) providing strategies to meet those needs and (3) prioritizing the needs and strategies. It will require a multi-modal approach. He also discussed the importance of harnessing technology to prevent isolation and to make livable communities.
4. Discuss Meeting Frequency and Communication Plan: Kelley advised that the Consortium will meet two times a year. The Advisory Council Transportation and Mobility Committee will continue to meet monthly. All are welcome to attend the monthly meetings.
5. Review 3 Committee Goals for FY 15/16 and Identify Implementation Action
 1. Expand knowledge of transportation options.
 2. Identify/sustain/implement areas of transportation connectivity for seniors.
 3. Reduce barriers faced in using fixed route and other transportation options.
 - Repp requested Consortium members to report back when they are aware of informal and formal transportation options such as the informal car pools of Vet Connect.
 - Sarah Finnigan with 2-1-1 Sonoma County advised that 2-1-1 keeps a list of unmet transportation needs, and she will prepare a list for a future meeting.
 - Carma Carpooling is a new ride-sharing app primarily for commuters. Shuddle is also a new ride sharing app with advance booking capability.
 - Repp reported that an analyst has been hired by Adult & Aging whose primary responsibility will be transportation.
6. Transportation Grant Update – New Freedom Cycle 5 and Cal Trans/FTA Funding
 - *Sonoma Access Website and Call Center:* Repp reported that the redesign is nearing completion. When it is launched there will be an event to announce its enhancements.

- *Travel Voucher Program*: Repp advised that there is no news to report. The plan is to identify one organization to pilot the program.
- *Volunteer Driver Program*: Through Older Americans Act funding there are 4 volunteer programs; West County (Sebastopol Area Senior Center), Petaluma (PPSC), Central Santa Rosa (Catholic Charities), and Sonoma (Vintage House). Representatives from each program meet informally to discuss best practices and share concerns. They've identified needs for appropriate screening of volunteers and riders, prioritizing rides, educating riders about all available transportation resources and training drivers. There is a desire to expand it into the County's coastal communities. FISH's volunteer driver program might be able to provide advice about operations. Additional Volunteer Driver programs will be implemented with Cal Trans grant funding when received in early 2016 (possibly Jan/Feb).

7. Public Comments (three minutes each): There were no public comments.

8. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 3:15.

9. Next Meeting – SACTS Consortium Meeting to be Determined

Next Area Agency on Aging Transportation & Mobility Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 2015 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM

Adult & Aging Services Division Office

Carnelian Room

3725 Westwind Blvd

Santa Rosa, CA