

**SAN BENITO COUNTY  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**February 17, 2015 1:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Vice-Chair Muenzer, Director Boch, Director Botelho, and Director Velazquez

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Deputy County Counsel, Shirley Murphy; Interim Executive Director, Mary Gilbert; Transportation Planner, Veronica Lezama, Secretary, Monica Gomez; Transportation Planning Technician, Todd Kubiak

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Pauline Valdivia, Jovenes de Antaño; Tony Mercado, MV Transportation

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Vice-Chair Muenzer called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**B. CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

*Upon a motion duly made by Director Botelho, and seconded by Director Boch, the Directors unanimously approved the Certificate of Posting.*

*1:00 P.M. Public Hearing (Or As Soon Thereafter As the Matter May Be Heard)*

**TRANSPORTATION ITEMS:**

**1. Unmet Transit Needs Hearing – Lezama**

- a. **RECEIVE** Report on Unmet Transit Needs Hearing
- b. **OPEN** Public Hearing
- c. **CLOSE** Public Hearing
- d. **DIRECT** Staff to Return to Council of Governments with Recommendation.

Ms. Lezama presented the item. She noted that this was the first of two public hearings. The second hearing will take place at the Council of Governments Board meeting Thursday, February 19, 2015 at the Board of Supervisors Chambers at 3:00 p.m.

Tony Mercado of MV Transportation provided an overview of the services provided by County Express. Pauline Valdivia of Jovenes de Antaño provided an overview of the services provided by Jovenes de Antaño.

Vice-Chair Muenzer opened the public hearing at 1:05 p.m.

Judy Johnson inquired about the Fixed Route service. She wanted to know where bus schedules are posted because people seem to have difficulty finding them. She also inquired about the bus stop locations and whether there were any bus stop shelters.

Ms. Lezama explained that bus schedules should be available on the buses and at the Council of Governments office and Dispatch office. She stated that with regards to bus shelters there are currently a few bus shelters in town however, due to a lack of funding they are not able to provide shelters at all of the bus stops.

Ms. Lezama mentioned that staff will be working on the Bus Stop Improvement Plan over the next few months. The plan will help to identify amenities that need improvement. She noted that staff will also be holding public hearings for the Bus Stop Improvement Plan. She stated that members of the public who would like to be a part of that process could provide their contact information so that staff may contact them directly.

Pauline Valdivia of Jovenes de Antaño stated that there is a need in the community for an extra bus to provide additional Dialysis service. She stated that they currently provide one Dialysis schedule which service from Monday through Friday. She stated that they are receiving more frequent calls to provide transportation to the Dialysis center in Salinas but do not have the resources to provide the service.

Vice-Chair Muenzer closed the public hearing at 1:09 p.m.

Ms. Lezama announced that staff will hold a second hearing at the regularly scheduled COG Board meeting on February 19, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. A general public meeting will take place at the San Juan Bautista Library on February 18, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. Staff will be accepting comments until March 11, 2015.

Ms. Lezama stated that staff and the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council will review all of the comments received and provide a recommended determination of Unmet Transit Needs to the Council of Governments Board of Directors at a future meeting.

The COG Board and staff thanked the members of the public for their time and for providing feedback about the Jovenes de Antaño and County Express services.

*Upon a motion made by Director Boch, and seconded by Director Botelho, the Directors directed staff to report back with a recommendation at a future meeting. Vote: 4/0 motion passes.*

**ADJOURN TO REGULAR COG MEETING FEBRUARY 19, 2015.**