

BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION
OF GOVERNMENTS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JUNE 23, 2022

Acronyms for Butte County Association of Governments

ACRONYM	MEANING
AB	Assembly Bill
ACOE	Army Corps of Engineers
AFR	Accident Frequency Ratio
APS	Alternative Planning Strategy
AQMD	Air Quality Management District
ARB	Air Resource Board
AVL	Automatic Vehicle Location
BCAG	Butte County Association of Governments
CALCOG	California Association Council of Governments
CARB	California Air Resource Board
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CMAQ	Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality
CON	Construction
CTC	California Transportation Commission
CTIPS	California Transportation Improvement Program System
DFG	California Department of Fish and Game
DOT	Department of Transportation
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EMFAC	Emissions Factors
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
FTIP	Federal Transportation Improvement Program
FY	Fiscal Year
GARVEE	Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle Program
GhG	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
GIC	Geographical Information Center
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GPS	Global Positional Satellite
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
IIP	Interregional Improvement Program
IPG	Intermodal Planning Group
ITIP	Interregional Transportation Improvement Program
ITS	Intelligent Transportation Systems
JPA	Joint Powers Agreement
LAFCO	Local Agency Formation Commission
LTF	Local Transportation Fund
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization
NAAQS	National Air Quality Standards
NCCP	Natural Community Conservation Plan
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service (Also NOAA Fisheries)

ACRONYM	MEANING
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries (Also NMFS)
OWP	Overall Work Program
PA&ED	Project Approval & Environmental Document
PDT	Project Development Team
PEER	Permit Engineering Evaluation Report
PL	Federal Planning Funds
PPH	Passengers Per Revenue Hour
PLH	Public Lands Highway
PPM	Planning Programming & Monitoring
PPNO	Project Programming Number
PS&E	Plans, Specifications & Estimates
PSR	Project Study Report
PTMISEA	Public Transportation Modernization Improvement and Service Enhancement Account
PUC	Public Utilities Code
RW	Right of Way
RFP	Request for Proposals
RHNA	Regional Housing Needs Allocation
RHNP	Regional Housing Needs Plan
RIP	Regional Improvement Program
RTAC	Regional Target Advisory Committee
RTIP	Regional Transportation Improvement Program
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
RTPA	Regional Transportation Planning Agency
SACOG	Sacramento Area Council of Governments
SAFETEA-LU	Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users
SCEA	Sustainable Community Environmental Assessment
SCS	Sustainable Community Strategy
SDP	Strategic Deployment Plan
SHOPP	State Highway Operation Protection Program
SSTAC	Social Services Transportation Advisory Council
STA	State Transit Assistance
STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program
TAC	Transportation Advisory Committee
TAOC	Transit Administrative Oversight Committee
TCRP	Transportation Congestion Relief Program
TDA	Transportation Development Act
TE	Transportation Enhancements
TIP	Transportation Improvement Program
TPP	Transit Priority Project
TSGP	Transit Security Grant Program
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
UTN	Unmet Transit Needs
WE	Work Element



BCAG Board of Directors Meeting

June 23, 2022
9:00 a.m.



BCAG Board Room

326 Huss Drive, Suite 100
Chico, CA 95928

[BCAG BOARD MEETING LIVE](#)

This meeting of the BCAG Board of Directors will also be available via Zoom through the following Zoom link:

Zoom Meeting ID: 840 3850 9768 Password: 592114

To join the meeting by phone: +1 669 900 6833

Members of the public may attend the meeting in person or via Zoom, public comments may also be sent to: board@bcag.org

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call

CONSENT AGENDA

3. Approval of Minutes from the May 26, 2022, BCAG Board of Directors Meeting (Attachment) – **Ashley**
4. Approval of Capital Reserve Funds for IT Infrastructure Upgrades for Butte Regional Transit & BCAG (Attachment) – **Andy**
5. Approval of Resolution 2021/22-22 Approving the Revised Allocation Amount for the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) for the Zero Emission Electric Bus Implementation Project (Attachment) - **Sara**

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA – *If Any*

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6. North Valley Passenger Rail Strategic Plan Update (Attachment) – **Chris**
7. Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Plan Update (Attachment) - **Sara**

ITEMS FOR ACTION

8. Acceptance of the TDA Triennial Performance Audit for BCAG, Butte Regional Transit & the Gridley Golden Feather Flyer (Attachment) – **Sara**

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

9. Members of the public may present items to the BCAG Board of Directors, but no action will be taken other than placement on a future agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

10. The next meeting of the BCAG Board of Directors has been scheduled for Thursday July 28, 2022, **at the BCAG Board Room & via Zoom.**

*Copies of staff reports or other written documentation relating to items of the business referred to on the agenda are on file at the office of the Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG).
Persons with questions concerning agenda items may call BCAG at (530) 809-4616.*

Any handouts presented by speakers are to be distributed to the Board by the Clerk of the Board.

BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION
OF GOVERNMENTS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
ITEM #3



**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
OF THE BUTTE COUNTY
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
MAY 26, 2022**

The following minutes are a summary of actions taken by the Board of Directors. A digital recording of the actual meeting is available at BCAG’s office located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico, CA.

Board Member Jones called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the BCAG Board Room, 326 Huss Drive, Suite 100, Chico, CA.

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON

Jody Jones	Councilmember	Town of Paradise
J Angel Calderon	Councilmember	City of Gridley
Chuck Nuchols	Councilmember	City of Biggs
Tami Ritter	Supervisor	District 3
Doug Teeter	Supervisor	District 5
Bill Connelly	Supervisor	District 1
Debra Lucero	Supervisor	District 2
Kasey Reynolds (9:03 am)	Vice Mayor	City of Chico

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tod Kimmelshue	Supervisor	District 4
Chuck Reynolds	Mayor	City of Oroville

STAFF PRESENT

Jon Clark	Executive Director
Sara Cain	Associate Senior Planner
Cheryl Massae	Human Resources Manager
Ivan Garcia	Programming Specialist
Victoria Proctor	Assistant Planner
Ashley Carriere	Administrative Assistant
Amy White	Assistant Planner
Julie Quinn	Chief Financial Officer

OTHERS PRESENT

Lance Atencio, Transdev
Dawn Nevers, City of Oroville
Maria, Lamar Transit

BCAG Board of Directors Meeting – Item #3

June 23, 2022

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- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Roll Call**

CONSENT AGENDA

3. Approval of Minutes from the April 28, 2022 BCAG Board of Directors Meeting
4. Approval of 2021/22 Final Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claims
5. Approval of 2022/23 Findings of Apportionment for the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Funds
6. Approval of Capital Reserve Funds to Purchase Maintenance Vehicle for Butte Regional Transit & BCAG
7. Approval of Amendment #6 to the 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP)

On motion by Board Member Ritter and seconded by Board Member Lucero, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

8: Approval of the 2022/23 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment & Findings

Staff presented to the Board the finalized version of the 2022/23 Unmet Transit Needs and Findings for adoption. Each year Staff must identify any public unmet transit needs that exist within Butte County in order to determine if they are reasonable to meet. If there are unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet, those needs must be met before TDA funds can be expended for non-transit uses. Outreach was conducted in February and March 2022, and many comments were received.

For the 2022/23 fiscal year, Staff found that that there are no unmet needs that are reasonable to meet. There was general conversation with the Board on this finding, with Board Member Lucero pointing out that the population data presented in Chapter 2 has a much different total population for Butte County than the 2020 Census number. Staff assured the Board that they would verify the source of this number, and its accuracy, before sending the final document on to Caltrans for approval.

On motion by Board Member Connelly, with the clarification made on the population chart in the document, and seconded by Board Member Kasey Reynolds, the 2022/23 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment was unanimously approved.

9: Approval of Revisions to Butte Regional Transit Advertising Policy and Agreement Amendment with Lamar Transit LLC

Staff informed the Board that following a corporate acquisition, Lamar Transit LLC was assigned the current advertising agreement that Butte Regional Transit previously had with STOTT Outdoor Advertising. In April 2022, Staff met with Lamar in order to discuss current conditions and the agreement with BRT. Staff was presented a proposal to greatly increase advertising revenues on the buses, which they presented to the Board. This increase of revenues would come from opening up the sides of the buses to advertisements, whereas they are currently limited to the tails of the buses.

The Board and Staff discussed the included list of guidelines for advertisements, with the Board asking specific questions about the limitations placed on cannabis and smoking related products. Board Member Lucero believes that CBD product advertisements should be allowed, while Board Member Teeter sees no problem allowing all cannabis related advertising once it's federally legalized. The Board requested that the list of guidelines be brought back at a later date for further discussion should cannabis be legalized at the federal level.

On Motion by Board Member Lucero and seconded by Board Member Teeter, with the caveat that the advertising rules be brought back to the Board for review should recreational cannabis be made federally legal, the revisions to the B-Line Advertising Policy and Agreement Amendment with Lamar Transit was unanimously approved.

10: Executive Director Request to Extend Employment Agreement to January 31, 2024

Staff informed the Board that due to current ongoing projects, and with a desire to leave Staff on a more level footing, the Executive Director wishes to extend his retirement date from January 31, 2023 to January 31, 2024.

There was general discussion between Staff and the Board regarding the request, with the Board enthusiastic about the decision and continuing to work with the Executive Director. On Motion by Board Member Reynolds and seconded by Board Member Jones, the employment agreement for the Executive Director was approved unanimously.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

11: Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) Recruitment of Members for FY 2022/23

Staff informed the Board that recruitment has opened up for a three-year term on the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC). The SSTAC meets at least once a year to review the Unmet Transit Needs Assessment and Findings, with a third of all member terms coming to an end at the end of each fiscal year.

BCAG Board of Directors Meeting – Item #3

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There was general conversation between Staff and the Board regarding how notices were sent out and what level of engagement is expected from the public. Staff placed flyers in all of the buses, sent out targeted emails to interested parties, put up notices on social media, and sent out a press release. Since there is no term limit, it is expected that current members whose terms are ending will re-apply if they are still interested.

This item was presented for information. The final roster for the 2022/23 SSTAC will be presented to the Board for approval after the recruitment period is over.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

11: Members of the public may present items to the BCAG Board of Directors, but no action will be taken other than placement on a future agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, the BCAG Board meeting adjourned at 9:17 AM.

Attest:

Jon Clark, Executive Director

Ashley Carriere, Board Clerk

Butte County Association of Governments

BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION
OF GOVERNMENTS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
ITEM #4



BCAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Item #4 Consent

June 23, 2022

APPROVAL OF CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS FOR IT INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES AT BUTTE REGIONAL TRANSIT & BCAG

PREPARED BY: Andy Newsum, Deputy Director

ISSUE: BCAG and Butte Regional Transit require upgrades to IT infrastructure for hardware, firmware and software operations into currently supported formats on services, applications and security.

DISCUSSION: Campus construction was completed in the Fall of 2015 and is approaching 7 years of age. The Chico Transit Center has been in service just over 20 years and the Oroville Transit Center has been in service for 8 years. IT infrastructure, network, hardware and software were installed to manage all applications in use relating to operations delivered on the campus including communications with satellite properties in Oroville and Chico.

IT infrastructure life cycles are approximately 5 years. The current IT infrastructure has reached 7 years of age and requires investments for the efficiency of operations and communications consistent with supported software operating systems. Of particular concern is cyber security and the ability to securely access functions remotely as needed.

Managed IT services consultant Apex Technology Management conducted a comprehensive assessment of current IT infrastructure and processes and has recommended investments needed to achieve current standards. The assessment began in early March 2022 and was completed in late May 2022. An investment of approximately \$85,000 is required for new servers, licensing, backup processes, security, monitoring and labor to accomplish transition of the IT infrastructure to a more current, manageable and adaptable system.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff requests Board authorization for the Executive Director to utilize up to \$85,000 in Capital Reserves for BCAG and B-Line IT infrastructure upgrades.

Key staff: Andy Newsum, Deputy Director
Jon Clark, Executive Director

BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION
OF GOVERNMENTS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
ITEM #5



BCAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Item # 5 Consent

June 23, 2022

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2021/22-22 APPROVING THE REVISED ALLOCATION AMOUNT FOR THE LOW CARBON TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM (LCTOP) FOR THE ZERO-EMISSION ELECTRIC BUS IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT

PREPARED BY: Sara Cain, Associate Senior Planner

ISSUE: BCAG has applied for FY 2021/22 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) funds for \$520,990 towards the Zero-Emission Electric Bus Implementation Project. Approval of Resolution 2021/22-22 will provide an additional \$375 from the City of Gridley's LCTOP allocation, updating BCAG's FY 2021/22 apportionment to \$521,365.

DISCUSSION: BCAG has submitted its FY 2021/22 LCTOP allocation request to purchase an electric bus and charging infrastructure. The City of Gridley received an allocation of \$375; however, the City has submitted a letter to LCTOP redirecting these funds towards BCAG's Zero-Emission Electric Bus Implementation Project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff requests the BCAG Board of Directors adopt Resolution 2021/22-22 approving the revised allocation amount for the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) for the Zero-Emission Electric Bus Implementation Project.

Key Staff: Sara Cain, Associate Senior Planner
Julie Quinn, Chief Fiscal Officer



**BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION NO 2021/2022-22**



**RESOLUTION OF THE BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
APPROVING THE REVISED ALLOCATION AMOUNT FOR THE LOW CARBON
TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM (LCTOP) FOR THE ZERO-EMISSION
ELECTRIC BUS IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Butte County Association of Governments is an eligible project sponsor and may receive state funding from the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) for transit projects; and

WHEREAS, the statutes related to state-funded transit projects require a local or regional implementing agency to abide by various regulations; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 862 (2014) named the Department of Transportation (Department) as the administrative agency for the LCTOP; and

WHEREAS, the Department has development guidelines for the purpose of administering and distributing LCTOP funds to eligible project sponsors (local agencies); and

WHEREAS, the City of Gridley wishes to redirect their FY 2021/22 allocation request of \$375 to BCAG's Zero-Emission Electric Bus Implementation Project; and

WHEREAS, the Butte County Association of Governments wishes to update its FY 2021/22 allocation request amount to \$521,365,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Butte County Association of Governments that it hereby authorizes the revised allocation amount for the following FY 2021/22 LCTOP project:

Project Name: Zero-Emission Electric Bus Implementation

Amount of LCTOP funds requested: \$521,365

Short description of project: BCAG is continuing its commitment to converting its fleet to zero-emission vehicles and will utilize LCTOP funds to purchase an electric bus and charging infrastructure. This project is separate from the 18-19-D03-018 LCTOP project.

Benefit to a Priority Populations: The zero-emission electric bus will address an unmet need for residents in a disadvantaged community in Chico on Routes 14/15. The bus will significantly reduce greenhouse gas Emissions, noise, and improve system reliability.

Amount to benefit Priority Populations: \$260,682

Contributing Sponsors (if applicable): City of Gridley

PASSED AND ADOPTED

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

JODY JONES, CHAIR
BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

ATTEST:

JON A. CLARK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
ITEM #6



BCAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Item #6 Information

June 23, 2022

NORTH VALLEY PASSENGER RAIL STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

PREPARED BY: Chris Devine, Planning Manager

ISSUE: BCAG received \$500,000 in grant funding from Caltrans to study expanding passenger rail service northward from the Sacramento area to Butte County and the study is progressing.

DISCUSSION: The development of the North Valley Passenger Rail Strategic Plan continues to move forward with initial planning work and rail modeling by Caltrans Division of Rail and Mass Transportation (DRMT). Following the project kick-off meeting in January of this year, the Project Management Team (PMT), which includes staff from BCAG and San Joaquin Joint Powers Agency (SJJPA) and the consultant team at AECOM, moved forward with determining initial service and operations planning assumptions so that required modeling work by Caltrans DRMT and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) could move forward. Data gathered included:

- Potential station locations and layover/light maintenance facility locations
- Initial service levels and configurations
- Initial rail service schedule
- Consideration of bus connections

A PowerPoint presentation today will go into more detail regarding these assumptions. Development of this data included site visits with the PMT and city/county staff in the cities of Chico, Gridley, Oroville, and Marysville as well as the unincorporated community of Plumas Lake (located south of Yuba City). The initial assumptions were then reviewed with the Project Development Team in March which includes city and county representatives from the study area, as well as staff from Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), Caltrans and Yuba-Sutter Transit.

With the development of the initial assumptions complete, Caltrans DRMT has initiated their modeling analysis using the assumptions as inputs and expects to be completed in late June. The Caltrans modeling analysis will identify train needs and capacity constraints, as well as verify runtimes and the feasibility of the initial assumptions.

Once complete, BCAG and AECOM staff will refine the assumptions as necessary and provide to UPRR to conduct their analysis which will largely determine any

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improvements required in order to accommodate passenger trains on UPRR facilities. Public workshops are then planned to follow upon completion of the UPRR analysis.

Following the UPRR analysis and public workshops, remaining study tasks will be completed including:

- Development of conceptual plans of improvements required by UPRR
- Final operating and capital improvements and costs
- Final conceptual timetable and preferred station locations
- Fare structure and pricing plan
- Ridership and revenue forecasts
- Financing plan
- Draft plan
- Final plan

A two-page fact sheet has been developed for the project and is included in **Attachment #1**.

A PowerPoint presentation will be provided at the meeting by BCAG staff, Dan Leavitt from SJJPA, and members of the consultant team at AECOM.

Staff will continue keep the Board informed as this study moves forward.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented as information only.

Key Staff: Chris Devine, Planning Manager
Jon Clark, Executive Director
Sara Cain, Associate Senior Planner

North Valley Rail

Project Overview

■ *What is the North Valley Rail?*

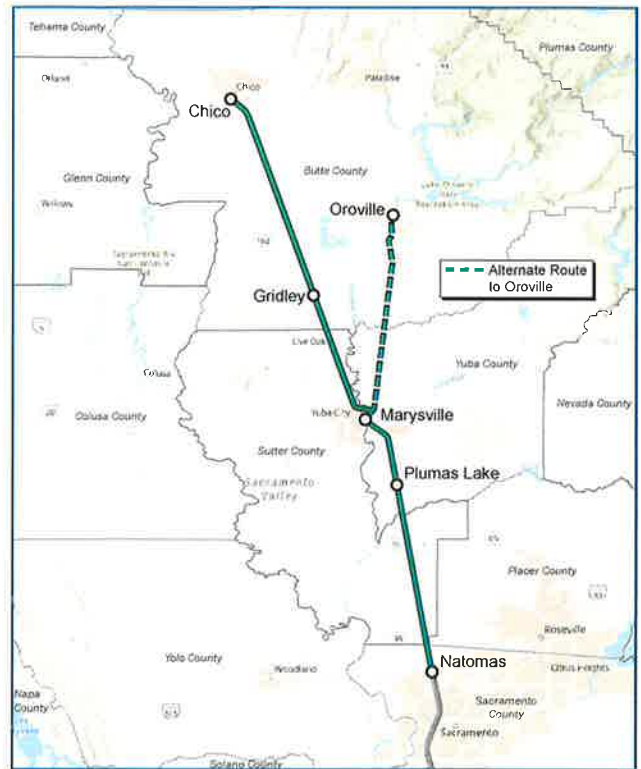
Currently, the North Valley region is only served by the once-daily Coast Starlight train between Seattle and Los Angeles. Without a dedicated passenger service, the region relies primarily on Thruway buses for transit connections to the rest of California. The North Valley Rail will bring new passenger service north of Sacramento to better integrate the region into the statewide rail network, including the future high-speed rail system.

■ *What has been completed to date?*

Work on a strategic plan to guide the development, design, and implementation of the project began in early 2022. Initial service planning—including identifying preferred station sites, assessing key ridership markets, and developing a conceptual timetable—has already been completed.

■ *Who is the lead agency?*

The Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) is a Joint Powers Agency of the County of Butte; the cities of Biggs, Chico, Gridley, and Oroville; and the Town of Paradise. Its primary responsibility is to prepare state and federally mandated plans and programs to secure funding for the county's transportation network. For the North Valley Rail, BCAG is working closely with Caltrans, local governments, and other stakeholders along the corridor.



Proposed initial service levels

Up to 4 roundtrips a day

Estimated start of service

2029

Proposed stations

- Chico*
- Gridley*
- Marysville
- Plumas Lake

*Note: If the Alternate Route to Oroville is selected, there would be a station in Oroville in lieu of these two stations.

Regional and intercity connections

- Greater Sacramento
- San Francisco Bay Area
- San Joaquin Valley
- Southern California

Order-of-magnitude cost

Approximately \$500 million (2022 dollars)

Over the next several years, the larger Valley Rail program will bring Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) and San Joaquins trains along a new route north of Stockton via Midtown Sacramento and Natomas. North Valley Rail will build off these improvements to extend service north of Natomas. BCAG is working in close coordination with the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRR) and the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA), the managing agencies for both of these train services.



Project Benefits



Provides rail service from North Valley to destinations in the Bay Area and San Joaquin Valley, with bus connections to Southern California and beyond



Provides train service tailored to the North Valley's needs, including commute options into Sacramento



Supports transit-oriented development and furthers California's climate goals by reducing greenhouse gas emissions



Creates new local transit hubs centered at train stations along the corridor



Provides service for Chico State University students, faculty, staff, and visitors



Provides direct link to California's High-Speed Rail System



Improves equity by providing access to jobs and educational opportunities for disadvantaged populations

Project Timeline



We want to hear from you!

For more information on the project, to view past presentation materials, to provide input, and to sign up for our email list, look for "North Valley Passenger Rail Specific Plan" under the "Planning" tab at:

<http://www.bcag.org/>

Stay Connected

Join us on Twitter for the most up to date information.



Contacts:

Chris Devine

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Butte County Association of Governments
cdevine@bcag.org
(530) 809-4616

Dan Leavitt

Manager of Planning Initiatives
San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission
San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority
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BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION
OF GOVERNMENTS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
ITEM #7



BCAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Item #7 Information

June 23, 2022

NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

PREPARED BY: Andy Newsum, Deputy Director & Sara Cain, Associate Senior Planner

ISSUE: BCAG is updating the Board on the progress of the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Plan.

DISCUSSION: BCAG is completing the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Plan to investigate and provide feasible solutions available to individuals not qualifying for ADA or Dial-a-Ride service in Butte County.

BCAG began working with its consultant, AMMA Transit Planning, in August 2021. The project team has completed an online survey, met with the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC), interviewed key stakeholders, held an alternatives workshop, and developed the [Draft Needs and Alternatives Report](#).

Draft Needs and Alternatives Report

The Draft Needs and Alternatives Report summarizes the project team's understanding of NEMT needs in Butte County. The Report was reviewed by the SSTAC and key stakeholders at the alternatives workshop in March.

The analysis showed B-Line fixed route and paratransit services do serve some NEMT needs. B-Line paratransit services provide an estimated one-third of all trips to medical destinations. Those who are unserved by existing B-Line services for NEMT trip purposes are mostly those who don't live near a fixed route line or those needing paratransit trips to a destination outside their home community.

There are multiple solutions identified in the report to respond to the county's NEMT challenges. The two alternatives that BCAG staff will study in further detail are the creation of a B-Line NEMT Program and a Volunteer-Driver Mileage Reimbursement Program. Both solutions comprehensively address gaps in existing NEMT within Butte County.

B-Line NEMT Program: Between Communities within B-Line Service Area

This alternative would consist of a new B-Line service to provide inter-city (i.e., between Paradise and Oroville) NEMT trips within the B-Line service area for seniors and persons with qualifying disabilities. This would require advanced reservation with deviation to homes on a semi-fixed schedule, likely 2-3 days a week. This program would build on B-Line's Paratransit service while supporting additional connectivity to healthcare facilities for older adults and those with disabilities that need to travel between communities.

Volunteer-Driver Mileage Reimbursement Program: Communities not in B-Line Service Area

This solution consists of participants choosing, recruiting, and reimbursing a volunteer driver for trips originating outside of the B-Line service area. This would enable residents in outlying areas (i.e., Concow, Berry Creek, etc.) to have reliable transportation to NEMT services at no cost to the rider. This program would be designed to be a low-cost, low-maintenance approach to providing transportation for transit-dependent older adults, persons with disabilities, and other difficult-to-serve populations.

Next Steps

BCAG staff will continue analyzing the operating and capital costs, recommended policies, marketing, and potential implementation strategies of the alternatives discussed above in FY 2022/23. The BCAG Board, SSTAC, and key stakeholders will remain engaged and actively participate in these potential solutions. Solutions identified for implementation would not likely not be implemented until FY 2023/24.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for the Board's information.

Key Staff: Andy Newsum, Deputy Director
 Jon Clark, Executive Director
 Sara Cain, Associate Senior Planner

BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION
OF GOVERNMENTS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
ITEM #8



BCAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Item #8 Action

June 23, 2022

ACCEPTANCE OF THE TDA TRIENNIAL PERFORMANCE AUDIT FOR BCAG, BUTTE REGIONAL TRANSIT, AND THE GRIDLEY GOLDEN FEATHER FLYER

PREPARED BY: Sara Cain, Associate Senior Planner

ISSUE: BCAG has contracted with Moore and Associates, Inc. to complete the TDA Triennial Performance Audit for FY 2018/19, 2019,20, and 2020/21 for the county's two transit operators and BCAG for the following:

- Butte County Association of Governments Management Audit
- BCAG – Butte Regional Transit/B-Line Paratransit
- The City of Gridley – Gridley Golden Feather Flyer

DISCUSSION: As the state and federally designated transportation planning agency for Butte County, BCAG is responsible for the preparation of all state and federal transportation plans and programs that are required to secure transportation funding for the cities and county. BCAG is also responsible for conducting triennial performance audits of the Local Transportation Funds (LTF) and State Transit Assistance Funds (STA) for the transit operators, as stipulated in the California Utilities Code Section 99246.

BCAG released a Request for Proposals for the TDA Triennial Performance Audit of Two Transit Operators on January 3, 2022 and received one proposal from Moore & Associates, Inc. Moore & Associates conducted a comprehensive review of BCAG and the two transit operators for the three year audit period and completed virtual interviews with applicable staff from the agencies. The audits can be found on the BCAG website here: <http://www.bcag.org/Planning/-Transportation-Development-Act-TDA/index.html>

BCAG Management Audit

The purpose of the BCAG Management Audit is to objectively evaluate the efficiency of BCAG as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA). The audit focused on the following objectives:

- Assess compliance with TDA regulations;
- Review actions taken to implement prior recommendations;
- Evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the RTPA through a review of its

BCAG Board of Directors Meeting – Item #8

June 23, 2022

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functions; and

- Provide sound, constructive recommendations for improving the efficiency and functionality of the RTPA.

With one exception, BCAG adheres to the TDA regulations in an efficient and effective manner. The single compliance finding for BCAG is “BCAG does not conduct or verify the STA efficiency tests as part of its TDA claims process.” BCAG will ensure that the STA efficiency calculations are included in the TDA Workbook update as part of the claims process.

Butte Regional Transit Audit

The B-Line Audit focused on the following tasks:

- Determine compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements;
- Follow-up on prior performance recommendations;
- Verify performance indicators; and
- Review operator functions.

There were no compliance findings for B-Line in this audit period. There was one functional finding that “BRT has not been using the TDA definition when reporting Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Employees to the State Controller.” BCAG will work with its contractor to calculate hours correctly moving forward.

Gridley Golden Feather Flyer

The City of Gridley operates the Golden Feather Flyer Transit Service, a curb-to-curb demand-response service available to the residents of Gridley. The Gridley Audit focused on the same tasks as the B-Line Audit. Based on discussions with City staff, analysis of program performance, and an audit of program compliance and function, the audit team presented two compliance findings for Gridley. The first is State Controller Reports were submitted after the established deadline each year of the audit period. The second finding is vehicle service hours are not excluding breaks from the calculation.

After the BCAG Board’s acceptance of this item, BCAG staff will submit the audit findings to Caltrans Division of Rail and Mass Transportation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff requests the BCAG Board accept the TDA Triennial Performance Audits prepared for BCAG, Butte Regional Transit, and the Gridley Golden Feather Flyer for FY 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21.

Key Staff: Sara Cain, Associate Senior Planner
Julie Quinn, Chief Financial Officer