



INYO COUNTY



LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Michael Errante, Executive Director

Social Services Transit Advisory Council Minutes

April 7, 2021, 11AM ZOOM Meeting

INTRODUCTIONS / PARTICIPANTS

Michael Errante, Exec. Dir., ICLTC

John Pinckney, LTC Planner

Cynthia Browning, LTC secretary

Tyler Davis, ESAAA, Inyo County HHS

Jenny Park, IMAH

Robert Hughes, IMACA

Phil Moores, Director, ESTA

Mark Heckman, Caltrans

Adam Weitzmann, Caltrans

Rick Franz, Caltrans

Arlene Calahan- Rider

Oscar Esparza- NIHD Care Shuttle

Quanah Mason- ESTA Rider

REVIEW OF PURPOSE

John Pinckney, LTC Staff started by stating the purpose of the meeting and introducing himself. He stated that the Transportation Development Act requires that we allocate LTF funding only after considering whether local transit agencies are recognizing and accommodating for unmet transit needs, if they are reasonable to meet.

SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The LTC is required to have this initial meeting as well as two public hearings which are generally at the LTC's regularly scheduled meetings. The public hearings will be scheduled at the LTC meetings on April 21st and May 19th, 2021

OPEN DISCUSSION OF IDEAS & POTENTIAL ISSUES:

Phil Moores of ESTA stated that he has a list of requests for the following:

-An increase of frequency for the Lone Pine/Bishop connection.

-Weekend 395 service.

-Inyo County trailhead service for Whitney Portal, Horseshoe Meadows and Onion Valley.

-Lancaster and Reno service on Saturday and Sundays.

Phil said that the expansion of the Bishop Airport will probably stress the existing dial a ride services. He said he has a short range transit plan coming this summer that will address all of these points.

Phil went on to report that he recently came across a grant program called "Community Ride" through the FTA. The money would last for 15 months after which he would need to figure out how to keep funding.

*Jenny Park of ESTA said that they would like longer hours for Bishop Dial a Ride and also weekend trips to Lancaster would be very helpful for their clients.

*Arlene Calahan, Rider, said she would like to see longer hours for Bishop Dial a Ride.

*Robert Hughs of IMACA said his staff has talked about wanting fixed route service in Bishop instead of having to call Dial a Ride for pick-ups.

*Rick Franz of Caltrans stated he is excited about the prospect of a fixed route service.

*Mark Heckman of Caltrans said he would like to see Dial-a-Ride service to the river and to the White Mountain Research Station. He also said that the Dial-a-Ride phone system is hard to navigate and needs to be updated.

Phil Moores replied to Mark that he has recently reached out to a company for a new phone system and is looking into updated technology. Phil also said that service to the White Mountain Research Station is a good idea and thanked Mark for the feedback.

*Oscar Esparza of Northern Inyo Hospital said that the numbers with Care Shuttle are good and doing about 10 drives a day and doing service at night when ESTA is not available. Oscar said he would like to see ESTA extend its hours as well.

*John Pinckney concluded the meeting by saying that all of these suggestions and ideas will be looked into and will be brought to the Commission. John also said that everyone is welcome to participate at the public hearings on April 21st and May 19th.

Meeting adjourned: 12:00 p.m.