



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

## Committee Meeting Minutes - Draft

### Advisory Council on Aging

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Monday, April 6, 2026

1:00 PM

500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill, CA.  
Corner Conference Room

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Senior Mobility Action Council (SMAC) Transportation Committee  
<https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/81323443518>

The public may attend this meeting in person at the above location. The public may also attend this meeting remotely via webinar. Login information is provided above. ACOA members will also be participating from the following locations: 500 Saint Mary's Road, Lafayette | 28 Orinda Way, Orinda | 1280 Civic Drive, Suite 206 | 1280 Civic Drive, Suite 206 Walnut Creek

1:00 Welcome – Bryan Harris & Jim Donnelly, Interim Co-Chairs, SMAC  
- Call to Order: Jim Donnelly called the meeting to order at 1:04pm.

Self-Introductions – All Attendees

Roll Call – Bryan Harris

**Present** Chalo Buckman, Jim Donnelly, Riki Juster, and Bryan Harris

**Absent** Kevin Donovan, Candace Evans, Deanna Perry, and Elaine Welch

1:05 Approval of March 2026 Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** Donnelly

**Second:** Juster

**Aye:** Buckman, Donnelly, Juster, and Harris

**Absent:** Evans, Perry, and Welch

**Result:** Passed

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## 1:10 SMAC History Reviewed – Jim Donnelly

- Jim Donnelly reviewed this history of SMAC, starting from when he first joined in 2016. He noted that He noted that the first meeting he attended had approximately twenty-five (25) people in the room.
- At that time, Shirley Krohn served as chair, and there was representation from nearly all local transportation agencies and organizations (with the exception of BART and AC Transit), as well as eight members of ACOA.
- SMAC produced a newsletter four times per year that discussed mobility issues in the county and reported on efforts by other organizations.
- Jim explained that attendance declined during COVID-19 and has not yet fully recovered.
- Jim reviewed an infographic presentation developed by SMAC that included information on older adult demographics, transportation modalities used by older adults, available public and nonprofit transportation options, geographic distribution of older adults, and transit route coverage using a heat map format.
- SMAC presented this infographic to the community at numerous senior centers. A broader rollout had been planned but was delayed due to COVID-19.
- Jim reviewed the CCTA 2020 Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP) fact sheet, which was developed to highlight key information SMAC identified as important for public awareness.
- Jim reviewed materials related to the event planning process, including templates and procedures for key milestones, cost estimates, and agenda structure, outlining speakers, schedule, food arrangements, confirmation status, and other event details.

SMAC History Reviewed

[26-1365](#)

1:35 SMAC Reset: A review of where we are, who we are, where we want to go and how we plan to get there – Jim Donnelly

- The group reviewed a page from the ACOA Annual Report, noting that it included numerous presentations from service providers and emphasized outreach to communities.
  - It was observed that approximately half of past meetings consisted of transit provider presentations, prompting discussion on whether to continue this approach.
- The group reviewed the Area Plan Update (APU) and discussed its goals and clarity.
  - Goal 1.4 was described as overly vague and not actionable.
  - Goal 2.2 commits to advocating through at least four (4) community presentations, which could include updating prior presentation materials.
  - Overall, the APU was noted to contain only two (2) transportation-related goals.
- The group noted that there are approximately four to five (4–5) representatives from various providers serving on the CCTA Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC).
  - Members suggested identifying these individuals and inviting them to participate in SMAC.
- The group discussed key messaging priorities, including evaluating how transportation needs have changed since prior presentations and whether conditions have improved or worsened.
- The group discussed the need to differentiate SMAC’s role from the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC).
  - Members emphasized identifying a clear niche to avoid redundancy and to ensure both groups complement each other’s work.
  - It was noted that AAC is largely staff-driven, while SMAC could take on a more community-focused role.
- SMAC expressed interest in incorporating more presentations into meetings moving forward.
- The group discussed the possibility of SMAC and AAC co-hosting a future transportation event, noting that such an event is unlikely to occur this year.
- During group brainstorming:
  - Jim stated that he will reach out to Haleema at CCTA to discuss coordination between AAC and SMAC moving forward.
  - Bryan expressed interest in reviving a SMAC newsletter. Potential content could include five to six (5–6) articles, success stories, highlights of effective programs, organizational spotlights, and quotes or testimonials from riders.
  - The group discussed updating the presentation shared in the beginning of this meeting with the goal of comparing 2020 and 2025 figures. The updated data could first be presented internally to SMAC, then to ACOA, and eventually shared with the broader community.

SMAC Reset:

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Break: 2:10-2:15pm

## 2:10 Program Updates

- Mobility Matters reported that the “Way to Go Contra Costa” informational pamphlet is currently being updated and is expected to be printed in May.
  - The organization will also host a Volunteer Appreciation Day on April 18.
- Riki Juster shared that the LaMorinda Spirit Van will hold an invitation-only event in May to celebrate its twentieth (20th) anniversary.
- Deanna Perry reported that she is consulting with a transit agency to support the launch of a non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) program.
  - She is also starting a consulting firm focused on NEMT services and ADA paratransit training for staff.
  - In addition, she is contracting with a private agency.
- Bryan Harris reported that the Richmond Commission on Aging will host the third (3rd) Annual Senior Transportation Workshop and Town Hall on Thursday, April 30, 2026, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Richmond Auditorium Lobby, 403 Civic Center Plaza.

## 2:25 Public Comment

- ACOA President Jill Kleiner noted she had not attended a SMAC meeting in sometime but was glad to see how much collaboration and positive action is occurring.

## Next Transportation – Senior Mobility Action Council Committee Meeting:

- Monday, May 4, 2026 1:00pm – 2:30pm

## 2:30 Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:44pm.

## For Additional Information Contact:

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