



AGENDA

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Advisory Council on Aging

Thursday, September 11, 2025

12:30 PM

500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill, CA
Classroom

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

PUBLIC ACCESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

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: 52 San Gregorio Ct., Danville, CA 94526 | 1954 Pomar Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94598 | 28 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA. 94563 | 2612 Roosevelt Ave., Richmond CA 94804

12:30 Welcome – Candace Evans, Chair, SMAC Workgroup

Self-Introductions – all attendees

Roll Call – Candace Evans

12:35 Approval June 2025 Minutes

SM 06.02.25 Draft Minutes

[25-3510](#)

Attachments: [SM 06.02.25 Draft Minutes](#)

12:40 SMAC Events Discussion – Candace & Bryan

“SMAC SENIOR TRANSPORTATION WORKSHOP “

SMAC WORKSHOP ITENIRARY.docx

[25-3749](#)

Attachments: [SMAC WORKSHOP ITENIRARY.docx](#)

1:05 SMAC Draft Annual Report

DRAFT 2025 Annual Report

[25-3748](#)

Attachments: [DRAFT 2025 Annual Report](#)

- 1:25 Break
- 1:35 Program Updates
- 1:50 Public Comment
- 2:00 Adjourn

The next meeting is currently scheduled for October 6, 2025 1:00-2:30

The Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at www.contracosta.ca.gov. If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact:

Thomas Weisbrich at 925 655-07751 or tweisbrich@ehsd.cccounty.us



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-3510

Agenda Date: 9/11/2025

Agenda #:



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Committee Meeting Minutes - Draft

Advisory Council on Aging

Monday, June 2, 2025

1:00 PM

400 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill
Room 303 (Third Floor)

Senior Mobility Action Council (SMAC) Transportation Committee

| Link: | [https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/89685119586?](https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/89685119586?pwd=256w0IcbrhS9V9ykBUpDbIHlkT0b8.1)

pwd=256w0IcbrhS9V9ykBUpDbIHlkT0b8.1 |

Password: 299987 | USA 214 765 0478 | USA 8882780254 (Toll Free)

Code: 32877987

PUBLIC ACCESS INSTRUCTIONS:

The public may attend this meeting in person at the posted locations. The public also may attend this meeting remotely via Zoom or call-in. Login information and call-in information is provided above. Remote attendance of this meeting is being held at the following locations:

28 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

2612 Roosevelt Ave., Richmond, CA 94804

1954 Pomar Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

500 Saint Mary's Road, Lafayette, CA 94549

1167 Pleasant Hill Circle, Lafayette, CA 94549

1:00 Welcome - Candace Evans, Chair, SMAC Committee
Candace Evans called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Self-Introductions - all attendees

Roll Call - Candace Evans

Present Kevin Donovan, James Donnelly, Candace Evans, Bryan Harris,
Denise Kalm, Deanna Perry, Elaine Welch, and Riki Juster

1:05 Approve May 2025 Draft Minutes

[25-2084](#)

Attachments: [SMAC.05.05.25DraftMinutes](#)

Motion: Harris

Second: Juster

Aye: Donovan, Donnelly, Evans, Harris, Kalm, Perry, Welch, and
Juster

Result: Passed

1:10 SMAC Events Discussion - Candace & Bryan

"SMAC SENIOR TRANSPORTATION WORKSHOP"

The group discussed the need to engage the community around education, resources and advocacy as it relates to senior mobility transportation via workshops.

It was proposed that these workshops happen in Central, East, West and South County to provide accessibility to all.

1:40 Update on BART - Next Generation Fare Gate Press Conference & Ribbon Cutting - Candace & Bryan

Candace and Bryan reported on the Next Generation Fare Gate Press Conference and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at the Pleasant Hill/Contra Costa Centre Station that took place 5/29/25.

2:00 Break

2:10 Program Updates

County Office of Emergency Services (Jennifer Cannon): Not present, therefore no update.

ECCTA Transit Authority (DeAnna Perry): No updates.

County Connection (Rosa Noya): Not present, therefore, no updates.

LaMorinda Spirit Van (Riki Juster): No updates.

Richmond ParaTransit (Byran Harris): No updates.

WestCAT: Not present, therefore, no updates.

Mobility Matters (Elaine Welch): No updates.

West Contra Costa Transit Authority (Coire Reilly): Not present, therefore, no update.

East Contra Costa Transit Authority: Not present, therefore, no update.

Conservation and Development (Samatha Harris): No updates.

2:25 Public Comment: None.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for Monday, August 4, 2025 at 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm.

2:30 Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 pm.

The Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 400 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill attn: Alicia Espinoza during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at www.contracosta.ca.gov.

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

Persons who wish to address the Advisory Council on Aging during public comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee that are not on the agenda, or who wish to comment with respect to an item on the agenda, may comment in person, via Zoom, or via call-in. Those participating in person should speak when called upon by the chair. Those participating via Zoom should indicate they wish to speak by using the “raise your hand” feature in the Zoom app. Those calling in should indicate they wish to speak by pushing * 9 on their phone. All public comments will be limited to 2 minutes per speaker. For assistance with remote access contact: 925 655-0771.

Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full workday prior to the published meeting time at email at aespinoza@ehsd.cccounty.us or by voice mail at 925 655-0771. Comments submitted by email or voice mail will be included in the record of the meeting but will not be read or played aloud during the meeting.

For Additional Information Contact: aespinoza@ehsd.cccounty.us or by voice mail at 925 655-0771.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-3749

Agenda Date: 9/11/2025

Agenda #:

SENIOR TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY WORKSHOP & Harvest Fair ITINERARY

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM: Resource Vendors SET-UP - various local transportation agencies such as Lafayette Spirit, BART, County Connection, Mobility Matters, etc.

MORNING / AFTERNOON FORMAT

- 11:00 AM - 11:15 AM: Welcoming remarks from SMAC COUNCIL / Chair Candace Evans and Vice Chair Bryan Harris
- **Icebreaker activity** (Introduction of vendors & ACOA executive board)
 - Brief overview of the day's goals and benefits of exploring resources/ Introduction of Guest Speakers: Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, Assemblywoman Rebecca Baurer-Kahan, BART Director Matt Rinn, and EBLC President Mark Orcutt.
 - Simple, engaging icebreaker to encourage interaction and create a welcoming atmosphere.
- 11:15 AM - 11:30 AM: **Welcome Video from Congressman Mark DeSaulnier**
- 11:30 PM – 12:30 PM: **Session 1: GUEST SPEAKERS** (15 mins each)
- **Local officials will answer questions from the Q&A Box**
 - Opportunity to ask questions related to sessions or personal concerns.
- 12:30 PM – 1:00 PM: **LUNCH Break and Informal networking**
 - Opportunity for attendees to chat, share experiences, and connect with peers and cohorts.
 - Question drop box for local officials and guest speakers to answer.
 - Food will be served / HOLIDAY BOXES* will be given out and accessible restrooms available. (* Holiday boxes include farm fresh food produce, eggs, cheese, and bottle of wine)

- 1:00 PM - 1:40 PM: **Session 2: NAVIGATING LOCAL SENIOR RESOURCES**
 - Presentations from local organizations and agencies supporting seniors (BART, East Bay Leadership Council)
 - Highlight key services like transportation, housing, home meal delivery, and home health services.
- 1:40 PM - 2:00PM: **Wrap-up and THANK YOU**
 - Summary of key takeaways and resources shared during the workshop.
 - Collection of feedback forms to improve future workshops.

What Our Seniors Want To Know:

Number 1 - Medi-CAL Cuts

Many seniors rely on Medi-Cal to cover transportation (NEMT) to medical appointments, and reductions could mean fewer people having this crucial benefit. Due to this more focus is on **Other Senior Transportation Options:** , including:

- Public Transportation Discounts
- Specialized Transit Services
- Volunteer Driving Programs
- Ride-Sharing Services Adapted for Seniors
- Private Ride Services

Number 2 - COLA and Senior Transportation Services

Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) are designed to help seniors maintain their purchasing power despite inflation. However, they often do not fully offset the rising costs, particularly for healthcare and housing.

Recent health policies now allow Medicare Advantage plans to offer transportation as a supplemental benefit for chronically ill enrollees. This includes providing rides for non-medical purposes, such as grocery shopping.

Example : The Metropolitan Transportation Commission focuses on addressing the transportation needs of older adults, people with disabilities, and low-income individuals

through programs like the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan and the Contra Costa Travel Training Program.

SUMMARY

In summary, while COLAs aim to mitigate the effects of inflation on seniors' fixed incomes, increasing food costs due to tariffs and other factors present a significant challenge. Access to affordable and reliable transportation is crucial for seniors, and changes in funding or available services can further affect their ability to obtain essential goods and services.

De-immigration and deportation of seniors; how they are being protected while being transported to their appointments etc. Most seniors are afraid to leave their homes and engage.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-3748

Agenda Date: 9/11/2025

Agenda #:

Transportation Workgroup Roster

- Candace Evans (Chair)
- Kevin Donovan
- Denise Kalm
- Rosa Noya (County Connection)
- Deanna Perry (ECC Transit Authority)
- Jim Donnelly
- Debbie Toth (Choice in Aging)
- Bryan Harris
- Elaine Welch (Mobility Matters)
- Riki Juster (Lamorinda Spirit Van)

EHSD staff member **Alicia Espinoza**, and **Thomas Weisbrich** strongly supported the Workgroup in 2025. SMAC went through Committee Structural Changes of times where we meet every first Monday of each Month from 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Workgroup's Role

To address transportation barriers and gaps in service experienced by Contra Costa older adults through education, advocacy and the promotion of effective coordination of services and mobility management that enhances the autonomy and independence of older adults in Contra Costa County.

Accomplishments

2025 Presentations from:

- Seamless Bay Area - Adina Levin
- People Centered Mobility - Tim Haile (CCTA)
- Next Generation Fare Gate Press Conference & Ribbon Cutting - Candace & Bryan
- GLYDWAYS "Transit should be for everyone" - Mariah Ray SVP, Head of Government Affairs
- Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) "Role in the Region" - Robert Franklin

Provided advocacy for:

- Mobility Management in Contra Costa City-based transportation programs.
- Reviewed and Reported survey data and report on COVID 19 Impacts on Accessible Transportation Services.
- Attended community meetings and training that provided information on the CCTA and Regional Transportation Organizations.
- Organized & Orchestrated SMAC Informational Workshop
- Provided updates of services for older adults in need of transportation services.

2026 Work Plan

- Continue to Schedule and Organize 3 SMAC Informational workshops
- Schedule five presentations in 2026 from transportation service providers and educators in Contra Costa County.

- Participate in the Paratransit Coordinating Council, DACLAC, Accessible Transportation Task Force, and Regional Transportation Organization meetings.
- Participate in Master Plan for Aging local implementation, ensuring senior transportation and people with disabilities' issues are addressed.
- Participate in CCC's Accessible Transportation Strategic Plan implementation.

Candace Evans

Transportation Workgroup Chair

2/18 Meeting was Cancelled

July meeting was on break

August meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum