



AGENDA
REGIONAL TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 17, 2025
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

253 Elks Lane, Cerro Conference Room
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Chair: Omar McPherson (South County Transit Committee)

Vice-Chair: Alex Fuchs (SLO Transit)

Other RTAC Members:

Darcy Price (City of Atascadero)

Anna Montgomery (County of SLO)

Janeen Burlingame (City of Morro Bay)

Mark Dariz (Runabout/DAR)

Todd Katz (Fixed-Route Transit alternative)

Marlene Cramer (Cal Poly)

Christopher Mutschnick (Cuesta College)

Ryan Cornell (City of Paso Robles)

Eric Greening (Fixed-Route Transit)

Lance Okuno (SLOCOG)

Individuals wishing accessibility accommodations at this meeting under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) may request such accommodations to aid hearing, visual, or mobility impairment (including Limited English Proficiency) by contacting the RTA offices at 805-541-2228 x4833. Please note that 48 hours advance notice will be necessary to honor your request.

RTA, de acuerdo con la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA), acomodará a las personas que requieran una modificación de la adaptación para participar en esta reunión. RTA también se compromete a ayudar a las personas con dominio limitado del inglés a acceder a los servicios públicos esenciales de la agencia y a la información pública en español. Para solicitar una adaptación, por favor llame al (805)541-2228 x4833. Requerimos al menos 48 horas de anticipación para proporcionar adaptaciones razonables.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS: This portion of the agenda is set aside for any members of the public to directly address the Regional Transit Advisory Committee on any items not on the agenda and within the jurisdiction of the Committee. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. The Committee will listen to all communication, but in compliance with the Brown Act, will not take any action on items that are not on the agenda.

3. A. INFORMATION AGENDA ITEMS:

A-1 Executive Director's Report (Verbal)

A-2 Member Comments / Reports from Jurisdictions (Verbal)

A-3 Discuss Planned Service & Fare Changes (Verbal)

B. ACTION AGENDA ITEMS: None

C. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

The following item is considered routine and non-controversial by staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the RTAC or the public wishes the item be removed. If discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered separately. Questions of clarification may be made by RTAC members, without the removal of the item from the Consent Agenda. Staff recommendations for each item are noted following the item.

C-1 RTAC Minutes of April 10, 2025 (Approve)

D. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting: October 16, 2025

Future Regular Meeting Dates: January 15, 2026, April 9, 2026, and July 16, 2026

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
REGIONAL TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

APRIL 10, 2025

DRAFT MINUTES

C-1

Members Present:

Janeen Burlingame

Marlene Cramer

Mark Dariz

Eric Greening

Alex Fuchs (*Vice Chair*)

Todd Katz

Omar McPherson (*Chair*)

Christopher Mutshnick

Catherine Piatti

Darcy Price

Morro Bay Transit (in at 2:07pm)

Cal Poly

Runabout/DAR Representative

Fixed Route Representative

SLO Transit

Fixed Route Alternate Rep.

South County Transit (SCT)

Cuesta College

City of Paso Robles

Atascadero Transit

Members Absent:

Anna Montgomery

County of San Luis Obispo

Staff Present:

Tania Arnold

Anthony Kalvans

Lance Okuno

RTA

RTA

SLOCOG

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER, ROLL CALL:** Chair Omar McPherson called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no public comments given for items not on the agenda.

3. A. INFORMATION AGENDA ITEMS:

A-1 Deputy Director/CFO's Report (Verbal, Receive)

Ms. Tania Arnold introduced her report and gave an overview of the ongoing consolidation efforts with Morro Bay Transit and the Atascadero Dial-A-Ride. She also noted that hiring is moving forward in a positive direction.

Ms. Arnold discussed the electric charging study is moving forward and discussed the budget impacts.

Mr. Greening welcomed the news about the Atascadero Dial-A-Ride consolidation and asked if the RTA will be working on coordination between Route 9 and the Dial-A-Ride. **Ms. Arnold** said that the RTA plans to keep everything status quo for both Atascadero and Morro Bay services until the RTA can determine how the systems currently function and then will work with the jurisdictions on changes, if any, based on the data the RTA has received.

A-2 Member Comments / Reports from Jurisdictions (Receive)

Ms. Marlene Cramer reported that Cal Poly is preparing for their open house and noted that 7,000 people RSVP'd to attend. Grand Avenue will temporarily be closed between Vista Grande and the Kennedy Library for their parade. The closures will mean that SLO Transit and RTA will have to reroute their buses routes that serve the campus.

Ms. Catherine Piatti reported that the Paso Robles bus pass outlet has been moved from the City Hall Annex to City Hall itself.

Mr. Mark Dariz reported that the City of Atascadero hopes to have its road construction finished before their tamale festival.

Mr. Greening expressed his concerns about unpredictability coming from the federal government and its impact on transit.

Mr. Alex Fuchs reported that SLO Transit's Short Range Transit Plan will go before their Council next week, with their finance plan going before the Council in June. He also noted that six new Gillig buses are almost ready for delivery, and that April 25th is National Get on Board Day.

Mr. Christopher Mutshnick introduced himself as the Cuesta College representative and said that the main administration building is on track to be open in the fall. It was noted that the Cuesta College bus stop will shift to the front of the campus once the building opens.

Ms. Janeen Burlingame said that Morro Bay is working on transitioning their bus service into RTA and a short range transit plan.

Ms. Darcy Price said that she is excited for Atascadero's Dial-A-Ride to join RTA.

A-3 Discuss Proposed Service & Fare Changes (Verbal)

Ms. Arnold introduced the item and noted that staff, including Operations Supervisors are handing out information and surveys at bus stops. She noted that over one hundred responses have been received to date and highlighted some of the initial feedback that has been received when discussing the proposal with riders. She also noted that paper bus passes will continue to be available, even with the proposed service and fare changes.

Mr. Greening made a comment about SLO Transit's B loops and connectivity with the RTA, which is included in the SLO Transit SRTP. He also said that he hopes RTA will keep the 8:33pm Route 10 southbound trip, even if it only goes to Nipomo. He also said that he is glad cash will still be an option under the new fare system; noting that the proposed fare change will reduce the need for riders to carry coins. **Mr. Greening** also inquired about how the proposed fare changes will impact Runabout fares. **Mr. McPherson** noted that the fare changes would only impact Runabout trips that are region based, while local trips would remain unchanged.

Mr. Fuchs asked when the survey period would close. **Ms. Arnold** said that April 24th is the tentative last day and if surveys are received after, they will be noted in the presentation to the Board on May 7th.

B. ACTION AGENDA ITEMS:

B-1 Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operating and Capital Budget (Recommend)

Ms. Arnold introduced the operating and capital budget and noted that the RTA is waiting on the Federal Transit Administration to approve grants but staff does anticipate the grants moving forward based on conversations with FTA Region 9 staff.

Ms. Arnold highlighted key issues impacting the budget. These issues include construction on Highway 101, liability costs, Runabout operational costs, and staffing and retention.

Ms. Arnold highlighted the major fund sources for RTA. She noted that State Transit Assistance funding (STA) is down, Local Tax Funding (LTF) is also down, and Federal funding is solid at this moment. **Ms. Arnold** went on to discuss that the RTA was looking at implementing the constrained version of the Short-Range Transit Plan.

Mr. Todd Katz asked what specifically LTF funding is. **Ms. Arnold** said it is a portion of sales tax funding.

Mr. Greening asked if Morro Bay and Atascadero Transit employees who transfer to work for RTA will be part of the upcoming Union contract. **Ms. Arnold** said yes they would be part of the union contract, and that they will have protected status for their current route bids for the first year after consolidation.

Ms. Arnold explained the RTA's budget formatting and the revision to the federal capital revenue breakdown, that it is designed to align with SLOCOG's formatting.

Mr. Greening made a motion to approve item B-1, **Mr. Fuchs** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously of those present via roll call vote.

B-2 Proposed RTAC Bylaws Revisions (Recommend)

Ms. Arnold introduced the Bylaw revisions noting that the RTAC has struggled to meet quorum requirements. The revisions will address those quorum challenges and clean up wording throughout the document. One change that she highlighted was adding SLOCOG as a member of the RTAC.

Mr. Greening expressed his support for the revisions and asked for clarification between the appointing authority and the title of the designated member.

A discussion ensued regarding whether the RTAC needed a member to directly represent seniors or other groups. **Ms. Arnold** noted existing appointing authorities have multiple alternates represent them.

Mr. Greening made a motion to approve item B-2, **Ms. Cramer** seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion was approved by unanimous consent of those present.

C. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

C-1 RTAC Minutes of January 16, 2025 (Approve)

Mr. Greening made a motion to approve the minutes, **Ms. Burlingame** seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion was approved by unanimous consent of those present.

D. ADJOURNMENT AND COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

Mr. McPherson adjourned the meeting at 3:16 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 17, 2025

Future Meeting Date: October 16, 2025, and January 15, 2026

Respectfully Submitted,

Acknowledged by,

Anthony Kalvans
Administrative Assistant

Omar McPherson
RTAC Chairperson 2025