

Summary Minutes
Marketing, Planning, and Legislative Committee
Supervisor Andersen's Office
3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA
Thursday, September 5, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

Directors: Candace Andersen, Kevin Wilk, Amy Worth
Staff: Bill Churchill, Ruby Horta, Andrew Smith, Pranjal Dixit, Ryan Jones
Public: None

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Director Andersen.

1. Approval of Agenda

The Committee approved the agenda.

2. Public Communication

None

3. Approval of Minutes from July 11, 2024

The Committee approved the minutes.

4. State Legislative Update

Mr. Churchill shared AB 2561 (McKinnor) has gone to the Governor's desk. The bill would require public agencies to meet with unions if the vacancy rate exceeds 10% for longer than 100 days. AB 1904 (Ward) is making its way to the Governor's desk and proposes public transit buses have the option to mount a yield sign to the side of vehicles. SB 1420 (Caballero, Archuleta, Dodd, Newman) amends the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by redefining "energy infrastructure projects" to include hydrogen production facilities while excluding certain biomass energy sources, allowing for streamlined certifications by the Governor. SB 1116 (Portantino, Durazo), which would offer unemployment insurance during union disputes, did not make it out of committee. AB 1837 (Papan) would create the Regional Network Management Council as an 11-member council to represent the interests of its stakeholders, to provide leadership and critical input on regional transit policies, and to provide executive guidance on regional transit policies and actionable implementation plans in pursuit of transformative improvements in the customer experience San Francisco Bay area transit. Finally, SB 961 (Weiner) failed and would have required all new passenger vehicles, motortrucks, and buses in California to have a speed assistance system that alerts drivers when exceeding the speed limit by over 10 mph, with exemptions for certain vehicles.

5. Alamo Creek Shuttle Update

Mr. Dixit presented an overview of the Alamo Creek Shuttle, noting that ridership has declined from pre-pandemic levels of an average of 523 riders per month, to an average of 109 riders per month, with fewer than seven passengers using the park-n-ride connection. This decrease in ridership reflects a shift in commuting patterns, suggesting many riders may have transitioned to remote work. Staff has been working with the county to promote the shuttle through HOA newsletters, an updated Alamo Creek Shuttle webpage, and by offering a frequent rider program.

6. Clean Air Day

Mr. Jones shared that County Connection will be participating in California Clean Air Day on Wednesday, October 2 by offering a day of fare-free transit on all fixed-routes. California Clean Air Day is a project of the coalition for Clean Air and calls on individuals, businesses, and public entities to take action to help promote clean air and a breathable future. Staff estimates by waving fares for the day, there will be a five to 10% boost in ridership, and an estimated fare loss of about \$8,000-\$10,000. WestCAT and Wheels will also be participating by waving fares for the day.

7. Community Events

Mr. Jones shared the outreach calendar for September, which includes 18 Mobile Lobby events scheduled at select locations throughout the month, including the Emergency Preparedness Fair in Concord (9/5), co-sponsoring the Latino/a Heritage Festival in Concord (9/15), and partnering with the City of Pleasant Hill and the Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano on a Food Drive & County Connection Hiring Event (9/20-21). Staff will also be participating in the 50th Anniversary Celebration parade for the Town of Moraga (9/28).

8. Committee Comments

None.

9. Future Agenda Items

None.

10. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, October 3, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. in-person at Supervisor Andersen's Office, 3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, CA.

11. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Ryan Jones, Manager of Marketing & Communications.