County Connection



**Summary Minutes**
**Advisory Committee (Ad-Comm)**
**Thursday, April 2, 2026**

**Members Present**:
Allison Picard, City of Martinez
John Crowe, City of Pleasant Hill
Ivan Fedorenko, City of San Ramon
Michael Carr, Town of Danville (ZOOM)
Matthew Guo, At-Large
Sean B. Barry, At-Large (ZOOM)
Subhang Mall, At-Large

**Members Absent:**
Peggy Hall, Town of Moraga
Ian McLaughlin, City of Walnut Creek
Sarah Birdwell, Contra Costa County
Ivan Fedorenko, City of San Ramon

**Staff Present**:
Rosa Noya (CCCTA)
Maria Portan (CCCTA)
Andrew Smith (CCCTA)
Pranjal Dixit (CCCTA)
John Sanderson (CCCTA)

**Public Attendees**: Jeanette Green (ZOOM), and Haleema Bharoocha-Jobe (CCTA)

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 1:32 PM.
   **Roll Call/Confirmation of Quorum:** Quorum confirmed with four members present at time of roll call. Three additional members joined later in the meeting.

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Vice-chair Crowe moved approval of the Agenda. Member Mall seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

3. **Public Comment:** No public comments were submitted.

4. **Approval of Minutes of prior meeting held on March 5, 2026**
   A motion was made by Vice-chair Crowe and seconded by Member Mall to approve prior meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

5. **Accessible Transportation Strategic Plan Workshop Update:** Ms. Bharoocha-Jobe, staff member from the Contra Costa Transportation Authority, provided an update on the Accessible Transportation Strategic Plan workshop held earlier in the year.
   Key points included:
   - The workshop followed a prior 2024 session and was expanded to two days with approximately 40 attendees per day.

- Topics included:
    - Accessible transportation challenges and opportunities
    - Progress on the Accessible Transportation Strategic Plan
    - Funding programs (Measure J, Measure X, FTA 5310, TNC Access for All)
    - Emergency evacuation planning with accessibility considerations
    - Travel training program development
    - Development of an information/referral tool (OptiMAT) to help users identify accessible transportation options

Workshop feedback and outcomes included input on improving the Measure A Claim 15 process (including potential webinar support for claimants), guidance for an emergency evacuation accessibility study RFP, continued development of a countywide travel training program, and discussion of a potential low-income paratransit fare assistance program.

Participants generally valued in-person collaboration, requested additional discussion time, suggested minor venue and technology improvements, and supported continuation of annual workshops, preferably in a two-day format.

Members Mall and Crowe asked for clarification on the OptiMAT tool and Emergency evacuation planning with accessibility considerations. Ms. Bharoocha-Jobe provided some clarification. No public comments were received.

6. **Spring Bid Update:** Mr. Dixit Staff provided an update on recent service changes, including route adjustments, improved weekend BART connection timing, addition of a school tripper to address capacity, and coordination with housing-related funding to support service increases. Updates were also provided on regional bus stop standardization efforts and transit data alignment across trip-planning platforms.
   Staff noted discrepancies between agency schedules and Google Maps due to external data refresh timing, with other platforms reflecting more current GTFS feeds.
   An update was provided on the planned San Ramon Transit Center relocation and mobility hub project, which will improve transit access, bicycle facilities, and future multimodal integration; construction is anticipated within 12–18 months pending approvals.
   Preliminary express service concepts were discussed, including potential restructuring toward simplified all-day service patterns and coordination with regional partners, with final design still in development.
   Ridership was reported at approximately 75% of pre-pandemic levels for local service, 42% for express service, and 82% systemwide recovery relative to service restoration, with continued growth in school and weekend travel.
   Members raised questions regarding school tripper timing, weekend transfer coordination with BART, and express service planning. Staff noted operational constraints and agreed to review connection timing concerns.

7. **Advisory Committee Bylaws Review:** Chair Picard introduced a discussion item regarding proposed updates to the Committee bylaws. Staff presented a draft with tracked (strikeout) changes for Committee review and feedback only. Any final amendments would require approval by the full County Connection Board.
   Staff noted that the proposed revisions were intended to clarify language and better align the bylaws with current practices.
   Key items discussed included:
   - **Paratransit Coordinating Council appointments:** Proposed change from "shall appoint" to "may appoint" to reflect discretionary authority.
   - **Membership expectations:** Clarification added regarding attendance and staying informed of Committee activities.
   - **Appointment language:** "Recommend" revised to "nominate" to reflect forwarding of appointments to the Board for approval.
   - **Term staggering:** Discussion of upcoming June expirations and the importance of maintaining staggered terms; members were asked to confirm intent to continue service and coordinate with appointing jurisdictions.
   - **Quorum language:** Clarification to include remote participation was generally supported as consistent with current practice.
   - **Minutes to Board:** Consideration of forwarding Advisory Committee minutes to the full Board was discussed; item was tabled pending staff review.
   - **Work plan requirement:** Members discussed removal or revision of outdated language; consensus that a formal work plan is not consistent with current Committee practice.
   - **Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700):** Applicability and compliance requirements were discussed; item was tabled pending legal clarification.

   No action taken. Items related to Committee minutes to the Board and Statement of Economic Interest requirements were tabled for further review.

8. Ad-Comm Member Communications: A discussion occurred regarding the newly implemented remote participation format under Brown Act provisions.
   Members provided feedback including:
   - Occasional technical link issues at the start of the meeting
   - Desire for improved camera setup to better view in-person speakers
   - Observation that more members attended in person than remotely

9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:39 PM. The next meeting of the Ad-Comm will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2026.

Minutes prepared by Rosa Noya on April 21, 2026.