Transportation and Aging in Community Notes

Date: 10/12/23

In Person Meeting

Committee members present: Kathy Uhl, Monika Lee, Marita Leth, Irene Liana, Liz Taylor

Staff: Suki Ho, Anna Sawamura

Public: Margaret Baggerly, Pgm. Coord. Sr. & Vets. Mobility, SamTrans

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 pm by Monika Lee; Kathy Uhl joined us at 3:13pm.

1. Note taking: Commissioner Liana agreed to take notes.
2. Public
   a. No comments from the public.
3. Review and Approve Agenda
   a. Commissioner Taylor moved the agenda be approved and Commissioner Leth seconded. All present approved.
4. Review and Approve Notes from prior meeting.
   a. Commissioner Taylor moved for approval and Commissioner Lee seconded. All present approved.
5. Sam Trans Report
   a. Margaret Baggerly reported that the new Senior Mobility Guide will be out in late November or early December. Spanish and Chinese versions will be out later. Senior Centers and in service organizations (15 currently) have been contacted and scheduled for in person presentations by Sam Trans on all transportation services in San Mateo County.
      i. The Senior Mobility Ambassador Program has been reactivated and they will be present at events such as senior luncheons
      ii. Also there will be a reconnect with a designated CHP Officer and the AARP Senior Driving Instruction Program.
      iii. Presence at the Senior Showcase and Caregiver Events in Foster City in November.
   iv. A taxi voucher program was launched in Colma on 10/04. Colma residents 55 or older can apply at the Rec Dept. Providing proof of both to be eligible for a monthly rider card for 8 one-way rides per month @ $5 a ride. Colma Cab Connect will provide the service.
   v. Margaret will stop by the Vets” Center to provide flyers.
b. Commissioner Taylor acknowledged these positive additions and commented on the ongoing need for a bus stop at or nearer to the Vets’ Center. (Current one is at least 2 miles away). She also distributed a very detailed map demonstrating the need for this stop, Jessica Epstein from Sam Trans will be at the TAIC 11/09 meeting to further discuss this issue.

c. The Ride Plus Program is working well and attracting more ridership: July – 620, August – 817.

d. Commissioner Leth asked if the HMB Program could be expanded to include outlying areas in need of service. Margaret will pose expanding the service to the appropriate person in Sam Trans.

6. New Goals and Work Plan Discussion
   a. The work plan currently in draft was reviewed. After much discussion, it was determined that the goals, especially on housing, needed to be more realistic. The best plan is to work on keeping people in their homes with need services if possible. CoA can also advocate for Senior Housing allocations in current hotels being repurposed or new structures being constructed.
   b. Be aware of current funding available and promote the needs of seniors to be included in allocations.

7. Member Reports
   a. Reports were given as part of other agenda items

8. New Business
   a. Commissioner Uhl distributed the new San Mateo County Paratransit Riders’s Guide.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 4:32 by a motion Commissioner Taylor and a second by Commissioner Leth. The next meeting will be on November 9, 2023 at 3:00pm.