



HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Regional Transportation Planning Agency
Humboldt County Local Transportation Authority
Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies
611 I Street, Suite B
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 444-8208
www.hcaog.net

AGENDA ITEM 5a
TAC Meeting
April 7, 2022

DATE: March 30, 2022
TO: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
FROM: Stephen Luther, Associate Regional Planner
SUBJECT: **FY 2022-23 Unmet Transit Needs (UTN) Draft Report of Findings**

STAFF REPORT

Contents:

- Staff's Recommended Action
- Staff Summary
- Draft FY 22-23 Unmet Transit Needs Report of Findings

Staff's Recommended Action:

1. Introduce the item as an action item;
2. Allow staff to present the item;
3. Receive public comment;
4. After receiving public comment and discussing, make the following motion:

“The TAC recommends that the HCAOG Board adopt the FY 22-23 Unmet Transit Needs Report of Findings determining that there are no unmet needs that are reasonable to meet.”

Staff Summary:

As the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for Humboldt County, HCAOG is responsible for the administration of Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds. TDA funds (funded through ¼ percent of the statewide sales tax) are the primary funding source for most transit systems. As part of its TDA duties, HCAOG is required to implement an annual unmet transit needs process, which has three key components: soliciting testimony on unmet transit needs; analyzing needs in accordance to adopted definitions of unmet transit needs reasonable to meet; and adoption of a finding regarding unmet transit needs that may exist for the upcoming

fiscal year. Unmet transit needs findings ensure that jurisdictions expend all TDA funds on transit purposes, if there is a need found reasonable to meet. HCAOG's adopted definitions and criteria for unmet transit needs are on page 4 and 5 of the attached report.

The SSTAC is required by TDA law to participate in the process and recommend to the HCAOG Board one of the following findings:

- (A) there are no unmet transit needs;
- (B) there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet; or,
- (C) there are unmet transit needs including needs that are reasonable to meet.

At the February 2 meeting, the SSTAC directed staff to further analyze whether public transit service from southern Humboldt to connecting points in Mendocino County met the criteria of reasonable to meet. Staff reviewed the *Transit Development Plan 2017-2022* and a more recent analysis for the proposed Redwood Coast Express route to determine expected ridership would be approximately 3,375 passenger trips annually. With a marginal operating cost of \$350,000 and estimated farebox revenue of \$18,562, the marginal farebox return ratio for the route is 5.3%. Therefore, the unmet need for intercity service from Humboldt County to Mendocino County is not reasonable to meet.

Farebox ratio calculation:

$$(3,375 * 5.50) / (350,000) = 0.053 \times 100 = 5.3\%$$

All SSTAC and TAC revisions will be incorporated into a final FY 22-23 UTN Report of Finding and forwarded to the HCAOG Board for consideration of adoption at their April 21st meeting.