



Planning Directors Forum

Monday, August 25, 2025

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/98537003102?pwd=EEQbokb0cGx4eaKscxyEBZcYLwgbld.1>

AGENDA

1. Welcome/Roll Call (10 mins)

2. Discussion Items

- a. **Draft 2025 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan (Regina Valentine, AMBAG) (15 mins)**

AMBAG staff will provide an overview of the Draft 2025 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan). Planning Directors are asked to provide input and comments on the Draft 2025 Coordinated Plan.

3. Information Items

- a. **Central California Rural Regional Energy Network Overview (Amaury Berteaud, AMBAG) (20 mins)**

AMBAG staff will provide a presentation on the Central California Rural Regional Energy Network (CCR REN) and the programs available to promote energy efficiency and electrification, with a focus on hard-to-reach customers, as well as underserved and disadvantaged communities.

- b. **2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Update (Heather Adamson, AMBAG) (10 mins)**

AMBAG staff will provide an update on the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS).

4. Presentation

- a. **Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program Overview (Maziar Movassaghi, HCD) (30 mins)**

California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) staff will provide an overview of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR) Disaster Recovery Program, including a soon to be released Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).

5. Other Items (5 mins)

- a. APA California 2025 Conference – September 28th – October 1st in Monterey

6. Next Steps/Adjourn (5 mins)

Staff Contact

Heather Adamson, AMBAG

(831) 264-5086

hadamson@ambag.org

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: AMBAG Planning Directors Forum

FROM: Regina Valentine, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Draft 2025 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan

MEETING DATE: August 25, 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff will provide an overview of the Draft 2025 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan). Members are asked provide input and comments on the Draft 2025 Coordinated Plan.

BACKGROUND:

AMBAG is required to develop a Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan) for the tri-county region. Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) / Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021, this plan must be completed and used in developing applications for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) grant program. The plan identifies local transportation needs for seniors, persons with disabilities, and persons of limited means to facilitate applications for the FTA Section 5310 program.

The FTA Section 5310 program provides funding to assist private non-profit groups and public transportation providers in meeting the transportation needs of seniors and persons with disabilities when the transportation services provided are unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meeting these needs. The funds are apportioned based on each State's share of the population of these demographics and awarded to projects through a statewide competitive process. Funds may be used for capital or operating expenses. The Coordinated Plan, as required by the 2021 BIL/IIJA, must include the following elements:

- An assessment of currently available transportation services (public, private, and non-profit);
- An assessment of transportation needs for seniors and persons with disabilities. This assessment can be based on the experiences and perceptions of the planning partners or on more sophisticated data collection efforts;
- Strategies, activities, and/or projects to address the identified gaps between current services and needs, as well as opportunities to achieve efficiencies in service delivery;
- Priorities for implementation based on resources (from multiple program sources), time, and feasibility for implementing specific strategies and/or activities; and
- Where less than 100 percent of the demand response fleet is accessible, a demonstration of how the requirement for equivalent service will be met.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of the Coordinated Plan is to improve public transportation for seniors, persons with disabilities, and persons of limited means. This is accomplished through identifying where the public transportation system can better meet these needs and describing projects or changes which would help alleviate the shortcomings. The Plan also includes a list of public transportation services that serves these populations.

The projects and changes identified in this Plan are made eligible for federal funding through the FTA Section 5310 grant program. In the past, this funding source has been used by public transportation agencies to replace or purchase new paratransit vehicles, as well as for operating expenses.

The Draft 2025 Coordinated Plan is composed of six main chapters, each of which is summarized below:

Chapter 1: Executive Summary

The executive summary provides an overview of the main points of the longer document.

Chapter 2: Introduction

The introduction provides background on the purpose of the plan, an overview of the federal requirements, and associated funding sources.

Chapter 3: Monterey County

This chapter covers the federal requirements for Monterey County. It provides the community setting, describes the public outreach that was conducted, assesses the currently available transportation services, assesses the transportation needs for the target populations, lists strategies/activities/projects to address the identified gaps, and priorities their implementation.

Chapter 4: San Benito County

This chapter covers the federal requirements for San Benito County, as described for Chapter 3.

Chapter 5: Santa Cruz County

This chapter covers the federal requirements for Santa Cruz County, as described for Chapter 3.

Chapter 6: Conclusion

The conclusion provides next steps.

NEXT STEPS:

The Draft 2025 Coordinated Plan will be presented at various meetings throughout the region, including the RTPAs' Technical Advisory Committees and other transportation related committees. The Draft 2025 Coordinated Plan is available on the AMBAG website at <https://www.ambag.org/plans/monterey-bay-area-coordinated-public-transit-human-services-transportation-plan>.

The public comment period will close on September 26, 2025. All comments should be sent to Regina Valentine, AMBAG, 24580 Silver Cloud Court, Monterey, CA 93940 or via email at rvalentine@ambag.org. Staff will incorporate comments received into the Final 2025 Coordinated Plan, which is scheduled to be adopted by the AMBAG Board at the November 12, 2025 meeting.