



## Southwest Transit Coordinating Council

### Regular Meeting Agenda

Friday November 17, 2017, 9:00 a.m.

Carnegie Building 1188 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Durango

- I. Introductions
- II. Consent Agenda:
  - 1. September 2017 Meeting Minutes
- IV. Discussion Items
  - 1. Southwest Rides Program update
  - 2. City of Durango Transit update
- V. Reports
  - 1. Transit Provider Updates
  - 2. Human Service Provider Updates
  - 3. Grant Updates

Video/Phone Conference Info:

<https://www.zoom.us/j/510934526>

1-646-558-8656 (US Toll), Meeting ID: 510 934 526

PO Box 963, Durango, CO 81301  
970.779.4592  
[www.swccog.org](http://www.swccog.org)

**Southwest Transit Coordinating Council – Meeting Minutes**  
**29 September 2017**  
**Carnegie Building, 1188 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Durango, CO 81301**

In Attendance:

Kent Harris – City of Durango  
Matt Nesbitt – SUCAP Transit  
Jason Armstrong - Southwest Center for Independence Southwest Rides  
Angel Tracy - Southwest Center for Independence Southwest Rides  
Sheila Casey – La Plata County  
Kalisha Crossland – San Juan Basin Health Department  
Daren Caldwell - Animas Transportation  
Nita Purkat – Dolores County (by phone)  
Mary Holaday - Montezuma County Senior Services (by phone)  
Debbie Condrey – Archuleta County (by phone)  
Michelle Hamilton – Town of Silverton (by phone)  
Peter Tregillus – SUCAP Transit (by phone)  
Jessica Laitsch-Southwest Colorado Council of Governments  
Dylan Lucas– Southwest Colorado Council of Governments

**I. Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

**II. Consent Agenda**

1. January 2017 meeting minutes

No comments.

**III. Discussion Items**

1. Southwest Center for Independence - Southwest Rides Program

Angel reported that they have begun scheduling rides. Jason added that they have a second vehicle on the way. At this point they are primarily providing services in La Plata County, but there is interest in expanding to include rides from Archuleta and Montezuma Counties for medical appointments.

2. CDOT grant funds – FTA 5310 and 5311

Jason explained that he has been in contact with the state about possible funding and would like to discuss with the group where there are gaps that could be filled, in the hopes of avoiding overlap. He added that their target population is people with disabilities and seniors. He asked if anyone is planning to apply for CDOT capital funds. Kent replied they do plan to apply, but are facing challenges with operating funding. He asked if Southwest Rides has considered buying a used bus. There was discussion about vehicle maintenance. Daren explained that there will be times when he will be looking to recommend passengers to Southwest Rides. There was discussion about billing for medical trips. Jason mentioned that they will be doing more advertising. Kalisha described some of the confusion people face with respect to which transportation providers they may use for medical trips.

3. SUCAP Intercity bus

Peter explained that there have been service interruptions due to inadequate maintenance infrastructure locally. He reported that they will be reducing service until the spring when they will be receiving new buses. They also will be exploring adjusting the driving schedules for bus drivers.

#### **IV. Reports**

##### **1. May 2017 Meeting Notes**

##### **2. Transit Provider Updates**

Nita reported that they are seeing more trips to Durango which is becoming difficult. They are preparing to open a new senior center in Dove Creek, which will reduce deadhead miles. Daren asked if it would be possible to split routes. He added that he had seen information about a new Bayfield Transportation service. Sheila added that there has been an increasing need for service outside of city limits which is challenging for their program to meet. Matt mentioned that they may not be able to maintain their Bayfield route. Angel mentioned that they cover all of La Plata County. There was discussion about how various agencies manage overlapping requests for service. There was discussion about the possibility of splitting routes and expected challenges with such a solution. There was discussion about challenges with long distance medical trips. Kalisha mentioned that Medicaid should be able to assist with return trips. Mary expressed concern about increased deadhead miles with splitting routes. Mary and Nita described their funding for various trips. The group asked for an updated list of providers. Daren asked what services Southwest Rides provides. Jason replied that they do Medicaid and there are some changes pending through the PUC that they are looking into. There was general discussion about necessary certifications for transportation providers. There was general discussion about possibilities related to route splitting.

Kent reported that Durango Transit is preparing to go live on Google Transit. They are facing possible budget cuts. There was discussion about preferred Medicaid providers through La Plata County.

Mary reported that they received their new bus. They have been very busy with increased demand.

Nita asked if Southwest Rides provides service to Dolores County. Jason replied that expansion to the other counties is part of the long-term plan.

Sheila reported that they have a nine passenger bus on order.

Matt reported that they are looking at options to keep their buses running while complying with maintenance requirements, including alternate options for having maintenance done.

Debbie reported that they received their new bus. They are working through some issues with their buses. Sheila asked if they receive Older American's Act funding. Debbie replied yes. Kalisha asked about other providers in Archuleta County. Debbie replied there is Pagosa Cab and Wilderness Journeys. Angel asked about meeting with Debbie to discuss transportation between Archuleta and La Plata Counties.

##### **3. Human Service Provider Updates**

Angel mentioned that Southwest Rides offers free rides to the food bank every Thursday and free rides to commodities once per month. They are also looking to partner with Veteran's Services.

##### **4. Grant Updates**

The meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m.