

Board of Directors  
NATALIE ARROYO  
County of Humboldt  
LESLIE CASTELLANO  
City of Eureka  
DEBRA GARNES  
City of Rio Dell  
ALEX STILLMAN  
City of Arcata  
TAMI TRENT  
City of Fortuna  
JACK TUTTLE  
City of Trinidad  
MIKE WILSON  
County of Humboldt

HTA Board Staff  
GREG PRATT  
General Manager  
CONSUELO ESPINOSA  
Secretary to the Board



**Humboldt Transit Authority  
Governing Board of Directors  
HTA Conference Room - 133 V Street Eureka  
AGENDA**

Public Participation In-person or Teleconference

Microsoft Teams

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 258 851 465 789

Passcode: QT26zy2B

**August 6, 2025**

**9:00 AM**

**Regular Board Meeting**

**A. Call Meeting to Order**

**B. Roll Call & Introductions**

**C. Community Members Communication**

Members of the community are invited to comment on items or issues not on the agenda.

**D. Special Presentation**

None

**E. Consent Calendar**

By motion, recommend the approval of the following items considered to be routine and enacted in one motion. Items may be removed from the consent calendar upon request and will be heard separately.

1. Minutes from July 11, 2025, and minutes from July 25, 2025, Special Board Meetings.

Page 03

Staff: [Consuelo Espinosa](#)

**Action Recommended: Approve Minutes**

2. Agreement between the Humboldt Transit Authority, County of Humboldt and the Humboldt County Association of Governments Regarding Dial-A-Ride Services Operating and Administrative Cost-Sharing.

Page 11

Staff: [Greg Pratt](#)

Staff has prepared a funding agreement for regional Dial-A-Ride services in fiscal year 2025-2026.

The contract is for a one-year term with no increase from last year.

~Agreement Enclosed

**Action Recommended: Approve the Agreement between the Humboldt Transit Authority, County of Humboldt and the Humboldt County Association of Governments Regarding Dial-A-Ride Services Operating and Administrative Cost-Sharing.**

3. Notice of Untimely Claim

Page 12

Staff: [Greg Pratt](#)

A claim was presented to HTA by Ted Sheets for damages to a bus decal. However, the claim was submitted well over six months past the original date of occurrence.

**Action Recommended: Authorize the General Manager to send a Notice of Untimely Claim to Mr. Sheets.**

F. Item Removed from Consent Calendar

G. Reports

1. Caltrans District 1 Report

Caltrans Staff: [Saskia Rymer-Burnett & Tasha Ahlstrand](#)

**No Action Required**

2. HTA Projects Update

Page 16

Staff: [Jerome Qirazi](#)

Staff will update the Board on current and future projects.

**No Action Required**

3. Draft April & May 2025 statistics and financial statements for all systems operated by HTA.

Enclosed

Staff: [Carolann Aggeler](#)

**No Action Required**

H. New Business

1. MOU with HCAOG for the PAACT Project

Page 18

HTA partnered with HCAOG on this planning project to actively support transportation and land use planning needs at the regional level for achieving the Safe and Sustainable Transportation (SST) Targets in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). A number of the SST Targets rely on public transit ridership growth.

**Authorize the General Manager to execute a MOU with HCAOG for the PAACT Project in the amount of \$55,735.**

I. Board Communications

J. Staff Communications

1. Week Without Driving 9/29-10/5

K. Closed Session

None

L. Adjournment

*Humboldt Transit Authority (HTA) is committed to a policy of non-discrimination pursuant to the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Persons who require special accommodations, accessible seating, or documentation in alternative formats under the American with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact HTA at least two days prior to the meeting.*

*Humboldt Transit Authority (HTA) se compromete a una norma de no discriminación de acuerdo a los requisitos del Artículo VI del Acto Derechos Civiles de 1964. Las personas que requieren alojamiento especial de acuerdo con el American with Disabilities Act, o personas que requieren servicios de traducción (libre de cargo) deben comunicarse con HTA al menos dos días antes de la reunión.*

**MINUTES FOR THE HUMBOLDT TRANSIT AUTHORITY**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

**July 11, 2025**

**9:00 am**

**PRESENT**

Board Members

Alex Stillman, City of Arcata  
Jack Tuttle, City of Trinidad  
Leslie Castellano, City of Eureka  
Natalie Arroyo, County of Humboldt  
Debra L. Garnes, City of Rio Dell  
Tami Trent, City of Fortuna

**ABSENT**

Mike Wilson, County of Humboldt

Staff

Greg Pratt, General Manager  
Consuelo Espinosa, Human Resources Manager  
Carolann Aggeler, Admin & Finance Assistant  
Jerome Qiriaz, Transit Planner  
Jim Wilson, Director of Maintenance  
Stephanie Groves, Transportation Supervisor  
Cody Ferreira, Safety & ADA Coordinator

Andi Evans, Bookkeeper  
Dan Scales, Operations Manager  
Katie Collender, Finance Manager

**1. Opening, Icebreaker, and Agenda Overview**

**Time: 9:00 – 9:15 AM**

**Facilitator: Councilmember Leslie Castellano**

- Councilmember Castellano welcomed attendees and introduced an icebreaker: each participant was asked to share a personal public or school transit experience.
  - Participants shared stories from cities around the world including San Francisco, Paris, New York, Arcata, Okinawa, Russia, Hawaii, Santa Cruz, Los Angeles, Austin, New Orleans, Mexico, and Detroit.
  - Common themes included independence, affordability, cultural contrasts, public safety, and the joy or challenge of navigating transit systems at a young age.
  - The community art and performance space hosting the meeting has operated for 20 years, with 5 years at the current location (previously near the Free Meal in Old Town).
  - Castellano then provided an overview of the agenda, with a focus on funding, project updates, strategic planning, and board development.
- 

**2. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

**Time: 9:15 – 9:20 AM**

**Facilitator: Chairperson Natalie Arroyo**

- No public comments were made.

### 3. “State of Transit” Presentation – Humboldt Transit Authority

**Time: 9:20 – 9:50 AM**

**Facilitators: Interim Finance Manager Carolann Aggeler, General Manager Greg Pratt**

Transit Funding Overview

- Stable and diversified funding sources include:
  - o State Transit Assistance (STA): \$1.2M
  - o State of Good Repair (SB1): \$250K
  - o Federal 5311/5311F: \$1.2M
  - o Low Carbon Transit Operators Program (LCTOP): \$400K+
  - o Local contributions: ~\$3.6M
  - o New funding: Measure O (\$3.6M) and REAP 2.0
- HTA operates as a subrecipient of federal funds via Caltrans.

Joint Powers Authority (JPA) & Regional Collaboration

- JPA structure based on population:
  - o County: 50%, Eureka: 23%, Arcata: 14.5%, Fortuna: 10%, Rio Dell: 2.8%, Trinidad: 0.3%
- County fully funds Willow Creek and Southern Humboldt services.
- Redwood Transit was formed under this structure, but current expansion needs may require amendments to include tribal lands or adjacent counties.
- Competitive grant programs like TIRCP (e.g., Del Norte County) operate outside the JPA framework, raising coordination challenges.

Current Projects and Programs

- North State Express (NSE): Connects 50 underserved communities to airports/rail, funded by CARES Act, Measure O, and federal programs.
  - Transit branding: NSE 101/299 rebranding, pamphlet distribution, and website updates.
  - Facility and Service Improvements:
    - o Bus stop redesigns, microtransit in Eureka, RTS frequency increase
    - o Eureka Transit Center improvements
    - o Zero-emission transition planning (hydrogen fleet), new driver training facility
    - o Coordination with HCOG on land use (PACT project)
- 

### 4. Break

**Time: 9:50 – 10:00 AM**

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### 5. Organizational Goals & Priorities

**Time: 10:00 – 11:15 AM**

**Facilitators: Chairperson Natalie Arroyo, HTA Staff**

Strategic Visioning:

- Recognized decline in traditional transit ridership since 2013.
- Staff committed to affordability, accessibility, innovation, and community-centered service.
- Focus on balancing frequency and coverage.
- Farebox recovery standards are under review by state-level task force.

#### Board Reflections:

- Jerome and Natalie shared visions and asked questions about equity, innovation, and rider needs.
  - Greg and Carolann emphasized improving transit messaging and public engagement.
  - Natalie outlined broader long-term goals (5–20 years), including employee retention, ridership growth, facility development, and cultural integration in service.
- 

## 6. Break

**Time: 11:15 – 11:20 AM**

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## 7. Vision for the HTA Board

**Time: 11:20 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Facilitator: Councilmember Leslie Castellano**

- The board explored its evolving role in advocacy, legislative influence, public outreach, and strategic oversight.
  - Emphasis was placed on building a united voice across JPA members to improve regional outcomes and compete for funding.
  - Discussion highlighted the potential for expanding HTA’s reach, visibility, and alignment with state mobility goals.
- 

## 7A. Lobbying & Advocacy

**Time: Incorporated within Item 7 discussion**

**Facilitator: General Manager Greg Pratt**

- The board emphasized the importance of coordinated legislative advocacy to advance regional transit priorities.
  - Members expressed support for creating a legislative platform that clearly defines HTA’s policy priorities and talking points for lobbying efforts and support letters.
  - Plans were made to invite a legislative affairs expert to present strategies for effective transit-related advocacy and stakeholder engagement.
  - Advocacy efforts will focus on:
    - Sustaining and expanding transit funding
    - Flexibility in farebox recovery policies
    - Equity-driven service expansion
    - Workforce development
    - Integration with housing, land use, and environmental policy
  - The board supported aligning HTA messaging with state-level transportation goals (CalSTA, Caltrans, CARB, CTC) to strengthen competitiveness for grant programs like TIRCP, AHSC, and others.
- 

## 8. Public Comment, Review of Action Items, and Next Steps

**Time: 12:00 – 12:15 PM**

**Facilitator: Chairperson Natalie Arroyo**

#### Action Items:

1. Draft Mission, Vision, and Strategic Plan
  - o Form ad hoc committee to develop a five-year strategic plan, with a 20-year goals appendix.
2. Develop Legislative Platform
  - o Create a platform outlining policy priorities, advocacy talking points, and guidance for support letters.
3. Review and Update JPA
  - o Consult legal counsel to evaluate and propose changes to the JPA that support regional collaboration and potential expansion.
4. Schedule Legislative Platform Presentation
  - o Invite a legislative affairs expert to educate the board on best practices in developing and implementing a platform.
5. Conduct Organizational Assessment
  - o Work with HTA staff to analyze internal strengths, weaknesses, and capacity for inclusion in strategic planning.
6. Coordinate Recognition Programs
  - o Propose new staff and driver appreciation strategies, including merchandise, public acknowledgments, and letters of support.

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#### **ADJOURNMENT**

12:33 pm

MINUTES FOR THE HUBOLDT TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

June 25, 2025

9:00 AM

Present

Board Members

Tami Trent – City of Fortuna

Debra Garnes – City of Rio Dell

Alex Stillman – City of Arcata

Natalie Arroyo – County of Humboldt

Jack Tuttle - City of Trinidad

Leslie Castellano – City of Eureka

Absent

Mike Wilson – County of Humboldt

Attended via Teams

Shawn Quincy, County of Humboldt; Oona Smith, HCAOG; Colin Fisk, CRTP; Genevieve Stubblefield

Staff

Greg Pratt – HTA General Manager

Katie Collender – Deputy General Manager

Andi Evans – Interim Finance and Administration Assistant

Carolann Aggeler – Interim Finance Manager

Jim Wilson – HTA Director of Maintenance

Cody Ferreira – HTA ADA & Safety Coordinator

Also present –

Nick Kloepel – The Mitchel Law Firm; Nancy Diamond, HTA Legal Counsel; Dan Scales, HTA; Jerome Qiriaz, HTA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Natalie Aroyo called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

Adjourned to closed session at 9:04

Resumed Open Session at 9:40 am

Nothing to report out.

## ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Introduction were made at 9:42 am.

## COMMUNITY MEMBERS COMMUNICATIONS

None

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None

## CONSENT CALENDAR

By motion, recommend the approval of the following items considered to be routine and enacted in one motion. Items may be removed from the consent calendar upon request and will be heard separately.

1. Minutes from the June 4, 2025 Regular Meeting

***Action Recommended: Approve Minutes***

2. Resolution 25-08 Correcting Dollar Amount in Resolution 25-07

At a Special Meeting on May 23, 2025, the Humboldt Transit Authority Board approved Resolution 25-07, awarding a contract to Linde Engineering North America, LLC for the design-build of a hydrogen fueling station. Resolution 25-08 has been prepared to revise and correct a clerical error in the cost award that was made in Resolution 25-07.

***Action Recommended: Approve Resolution 25-08 Revising Resolution 25-07 to Correct the Cost Award for Two Years of Transitional Fuel, Operations, and Maintenance Services.***

***Motion by Chairperson Natalie Arroyo and second by Councilmember Alex Stillman to approve the consent calendar.***

***Motion carried unanimously.***

## New Business

### Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Final Budget for Humboldt Transit Authority

Staff presented the final budget, noting a few revisions from the previous submission. Changes include the renaming of cost categories to better reflect the budget structure—specifically, categorizing them as Operational (to show all 8 systems) and Capital Projects. Additionally, Measure O allocations were finalized. While the overall financial totals remain unchanged, funds were reallocated among different system categories. The final budget was presented along with a narrative explanation. Staff clarified that capital and operational budgets are clearly separated, with large grant-funded projects identified distinctly to ensure transparency. It was



noted that while some grants may offset operational costs, projects involving capital depreciation are accounted for separately. There was also discussion about future-year budget projections; staff indicated that although desirable, such forecasting is currently limited by the dynamic nature of funding and would require significant collaboration to implement.

No public comment, no online comment.

***Motion by Councilmember Tami Trent, Second by Councilmember Leslie Castellano to approve the final budget by adopting Resolution 25-09.***

***Motion carried unanimously.***

Humboldt Transit Authority Ad Hoc Committee

Staff requested that the Board appoint a replacement member to the Ad Hoc Committee established to advise on all projects related to the TIRCP grant. The committee was originally formed upon receipt of the TIRCP grant, with the purpose of guiding project development and defining spending authority for the General Manager, up to \$150,000, with subsequent reporting to the Board. Supervisor Mike Wilson asked Chairperson Natalie Arroyo to submit his name for consideration. Councilmembers Alex Stillman and Leslie Castellano are the standing members of the committee. All members agreed to nominate Mike Wilson to join the Ad Hoc Committee.

***Motion by Councilmember Alex Stillman, Second by Councilmember Leslie Castellano to appoint Supervisor Mike Wilson to the TIRCP Ad Hoc Committee and to approve clarifying and memorializing the authority of the TIRCP Ad Hoc Committee by adopting Resolution 25-10. The motion also included memorializing the intent to sunset the committee upon completion of the Hydrogen Station and the EaRTH Center projects.***

***Motion carried unanimously.***

Measure O Work Plan for the Humboldt Transit Authority

Staff presented the Measure O Work Plan (page 27 of the Board packet), highlighting the estimated annual revenue of approximately \$24 million, including \$3.6 million allocated to HTA, with 25% provided as an advance. The finalized allocations and the proposed distribution of any excess revenue were also reviewed. Staff explained that quarterly reporting to the County will be required and that funds may carry over beginning in the second year. Additionally, the Work Plan allows bus purchases to extend to 18 months. HTA's spending plan and associated projects—previously presented and approved by consensus by the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council—were also outlined.

Staff presented the detailed Work Plan with accompanying narrative, which includes the planned acquisition of two 40-foot diesel motor coaches to address aging fleet needs, as over 75% of vehicles have exceeded their useful life, many with over 750,000 miles. While hydrogen-fueled buses remain a long-term goal (estimated five-year timeline), diesel buses will supplement the fleet in the interim.

The plan also includes the transition of the Paratransit (DAR) system to in-house operations, beginning next week. Staff discussed efforts to enhance service through added vehicles, reassessment of service areas, and expanded funding. Community outreach is ongoing, with public meetings planned to gather input. Staff also addressed the expiration of CARES Act funding for late-night and early-morning routes, noting that Measure O will provide approximately \$837,000 annually to restore and expand these services.

The Work Plan further outlines new and continued services, including North South Express (US-101 corridor), which will address gaps left by Amtrak between Willits and Benbow; NSE299, which will improve westbound travel times and expand to Blue Lake; ETS operational support; and a new Southern Humboldt route launching July 6 to meet community requests for later service from Eureka.

Board discussion addressed resolution language, anticipated future updates, and long-term planning. Staff noted the County's five-year plan for funding allocation, with annual updates anticipated as needs and priorities evolve.

***Motion by Councilmember Garnes and second by Councilmember Alex Stillman to approve Resolution 25-11 and approve General Manager to execute the agreement authorize spending.***

***Motion carried unanimously.***

#### Board Communications

Chairperson Natalie Arroyo invited everyone to the Grand Opening of the Humboldt Bay Trail on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. Shuttle bus service will be provided from Eureka to Arcata.

#### Staff Communications

General Manager Greg Pratt advised of Promotions for Katie Collender to Deputy General Manager, Carolann Aggeler to Interim Finance Manager, and Andi Evans to Finance and Administrative Assistant.

#### Meeting Adjourned

10:41 AM



133 V Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

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Fax: (707) 443-2032  
[www.hta.org](http://www.hta.org)

TO: Chair Arroyo  
All Governing Board Members

FROM: Greg Pratt, General Manager

DATE: August 6, 2025

SUBJECT: Agreement between the Humboldt Transit Authority, County of Humboldt and the Humboldt County Association of Governments Regarding Dial-A-Ride (DAR) Services Operating and Administrative Cost-Sharing.

The Humboldt Transit Authority is the Coordinated Transportation Services Agency for the region and is tasked with consolidating contracts, zones, and schedules to streamline the system to keep costs down and make it easier for passengers to navigate the system.

On July 1, 2025, HTA assumed direct operation of the Dial-A-Ride (DAR) program to reduce administrative overhead and improve service delivery. The transition was seamless, and HTA staff have since been evaluating the program and identifying opportunities for operational improvements. Primary areas of focus include reducing costs, improving on-time performance, and maintaining high-quality customer service.

The agreement is for a one-year term beginning July 1, 2025. There is no increase in cost from the previous year, reflecting HTA's ongoing efforts to manage the program efficiently while delivering reliable and accessible service to the community.

***Action Recommended: Approve the Agreement between the Humboldt Transit Authority, County of Humboldt and the Humboldt County Association of Governments Regarding Dial-A-Ride Services Operating and Administrative Cost-Sharing.***



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TO: Chair Arroyo  
All Governing Board Members

FROM: Greg Pratt, General Manager

DATE: August 6, 2025

SUBJECT: Notice of Untimely Claim

July 9, 2025, Advanced Display and Signs submitted a claim to HTA for an incident that occurred in 2021 for damage to (prior) advertising contractor's bus decal that was torn in an accident.

Sedgwick, HTA Claims Administrator, advised Staff to send a Notice of Untimely Claim to Advanced Display and Signs. The notice is included in your packet.

***Action Recommended: Authorize the General Manager to Send a Notice of Untimely Claim to Progressive Insurance.***

California Government Claim Form – Gov. Code §910

Claimant Information:

Name: Ted Sheets

Business Name: Advanced Display & Signs

Address: 726 2nd Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Phone: (707) 443-2816

Email: advanceddisplaysigns@gmail.com

Date: July 01, 2025



Agency Being Filed Against:

Humboldt Transit Authority

133 V Street

Eureka, CA 95501

Incident Details:

Date of Incident: On or about August 2021

Bus Involved: HTA Bus #885

Location: HTA-operated transit route (exact location unknown)

Description of Incident:

Bus #885 was involved in a motor vehicle accident which damaged advertising vinyl placed and maintained by Advanced Display & Signs. An invoice for \$335.17 was submitted to HTA on August 5, 2021, for replacement materials and labor, including applicable sales tax. Despite clear damage and timely invoicing, no payment was received. Claimant believes HTA may have filed and received insurance funds for this damage without disbursing the owed amount to the vendor.

Amount of Claim: \$335.17

When and How Did You Present the Claim to the Agency?

The invoice (#517891) was submitted to HTA via email to Greg Pratt on or around August 5, 2021. HTA never responded or paid the invoice despite follow-up communication attempts.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

7-2-25



726 2nd Street, Eureka, CA. 95501

**Invoice #517891**

**8/5/2021**

**Prepared For:**

Humboldt Transit Authority  
Greg Pratt  
133 V Street  
Eureka, CA 95501  
USA

Phone: (707) 443-0826

Fax: Kelly x113

Alt. Phone: jim x102 (0828)

E-Mail: jim@hta.org

**Prepared By:**

Ted Sheets  
Advanced Display and Signs  
726 2nd St.  
Eureka, CA 95501  
USA

Phone: 7074432816

Fax: 7074432044

Alt. Phone:

E-Mail: adseureka@sbcglobal.net

**Description:**

Replace damaged lower portion Kreations bus ad (bus 885 curbside)  
This Job's due date: 6/20/2022

Quantity	Description	Each	Total	Taxable
1	94.00 in x 44.00 in Avery MPI 1105 EZ Premium Cast vinyl Top laminated with Overlamine - Gloss - Avery DOL 1360Z Mounted on A CLIENT SUPPLIED MATERIAL	306.7917	\$306.79	✓
		Subtotal	\$306.79	
		Eureka 9.25%	\$28.38	
		<b>Total Due</b>	<b>\$335.17</b>	

**Terms:**

Total due. PLEASE CHECK YOUR RECORDS FOR PREVIOUS PAYMENT TO THIS INVOICE NUMBER BEFORE  
SENDING PAYMENT.

August 6, 2025

Advanced Display & Signs  
726 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

RE:            Claimant        :        Advanced Display & Signs  
                 Claim No.       :        C566577485-0001-01  
                 Date of Loss    :        August 1, 2021

Dear Advanced Display & Signs:

**NOTICE OF UNTIMELY CLAIM AFTER SIX MONTHS**

**Notice is Hereby Given** that the claim you presented to Humboldt Transit Authority on **July 9, 2025**, will not be accepted for consideration because it was not presented within six months of the date after the event or occurrence as required by law. Accordingly, the claim has not and will not be considered on its merits. See Section 911.2 of the Government Code.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact **Jennifer Loncaric at 925-988-1525**.

Sincerely,

Humboldt Transit Authority

Greg Pratt  
General Manager



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Eureka, CA 95501

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TO: HTA Chair Natalie Arroyo  
All Governing Board Members

FROM: Jerome Qiriaz, Transit Planner

DATE: August 6, 2025

SUBJECT: Humboldt Transit Authority Project Updates

#### TIRCP Cycle 5 Grant

This project funds the purchase of fuel cell electric buses, construction of a hydrogen fueling station, upgrades to maintenance bays, and construction of an intermodal transit center.

- Extended Range Hydrogen Bus Pilot
  - a. Targeting for the hydrogen bus to be in service starting this month
  - b. HTA mechanics completed a week-long training on the hydrogen bus
- Hydrogen Production Buses
  - a. On track for buses arriving starting January, 2026
- Hydrogen Fueling Infrastructure
  - a. Executed Contract with Linde for the liquid fueling station last month. Notice to Proceed is pending shortly.
- Eureka Transit Center
  - a. Danco submitted application for tax credits last month. Waiting to hear results.
- Maintenance Bay Upgrades
  - a. Building permit issued
  - b. Procuring construction contractor next month

#### Bus Stop Signage for North State Express: 101 Route

Staff are in the permitting process for installing signage poles and signs at all stops on the route

#### Real-Time Bus Stop Signage Pilot

Staff are working with CalTrans Mobility Data Standards Engineering Branch on their pilot statewide procurement of real-time bus stop signage. CalTrans is handling the competitive procurement and providing match funds to reduce the costs of installation. HTA will use this pilot to inform the technology selection for real-time signage funded under the TIRCP Cycle 7 Project.

#### Partnering Assets and Authorities for Comprehensive Transit (PAACT) Project

This is a planning project lead by HCAOG to support active transportation and land use planning needs at the regional level for achieving the Safe and Sustainable Transportation (SST) Targets in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

- Project kicking off this month (see agenda Item H.1)
- Supporting HCAOG in procuring Consultant





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#### Next Generation Facility Project

The first phase of the Master Planning step in this project is kicking off this month. This is a project with LDA Partners, Inc. and GHD for the following scope:

- Assessment of existing and future facility needs
- Design and engineering criteria for architectural, civil, structural, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, fire protection, environmental studies
- Cost estimate based on design and engineering criteria
- Sea level rise projections out to 2080 consistent with City of Eureka Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Adaptation Plan 2023
- Community outreach meeting

#### ***Action Recommended:***

- ***Review, discuss, and make recommendations of other items if necessary.***



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**TO:** Chair Arroyo  
All Governing Board Members

**FROM:** Jerome Qiriaz, Transit Planner

**DATE:** August 6, 2025

**SUBJECT:** MOU with HCAOG for the PAACT Project

## **BACKGROUND**

In January of 2024 the Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG) applied to the CalTrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program - Strategic Partnerships for the Humboldt Partnering Assets and Authorities for Comprehensive Transit (PAACT) Project. HTA is a sub-applicant on the project.

## **DISCUSSION AND RATIONAL**

HTA partnered with HCAOG on this planning project to active support transportation and land use planning needs at the regional level for achieving the Safe and Sustainable Transportation (SST) Targets in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). A number of the SST Targets rely on public transit ridership growth. To address these needs, the PAACT Project will:

- Focus on building strong working relationships among HCAOG, Humboldt Transit Authority (HTA), other transit and mobility-service providers, Caltrans, local tribes, cities, and county agencies in order to plan transportation and land use together, taking into account socio-economic and equity factors and funding mechanisms.
- Encourage project partners to collaborate to find consensus on regional multimodal goals and priorities for planning, prioritizing, and funding transit and other active mobility investments. The consensus will help direct and respond to a comprehensive assessment of the transit network, including multimodal connections.
- Develop deliverables that will serve as a guide for agencies with land-use authority to increase consideration, and coordination, of multi-modal access in land use goals, policy, codes, and discretionary permitting.

The timeline for the PAACT Project is Summer, 2025 through Fall 2027.

HTA's total budget exceeds the General Manager's spending authority. Therefore, Board approval is required to enter into an MOU for the total contract amount of \$55,735.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The total budget for HTA's effort on the project is \$55,735. Sources for these funds are:

- \$50,000: grant funds from HCAOG
- \$5,735: committed match from State Transit Assistance FY26/27 funds



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### **ADVANTAGES/DISADVANTAGES**

This project is intended to improve transit planning, operations, and ridership. There are no disadvantages to this project.

### **ALTERNATIVE BOARD ACTIONS**

The Board could choose not to enter into an MOU with HCAOG. Staff does not recommend this as this could significantly reduce the effectiveness of this Project.

### **PRIOR RELEVANT BOARD ACTION / POLICIES**

None

### **ACTION RECOMMENDED**

1. *Authorize the General Manager to execute a MOU with HCAOG for the PAACT Project in the amount of \$55,735.*