**COMMITTEE:** Housing & Transportation  
**DATE:** September 15, 2021  
**LOCATION:** Zoom Teleconference

**PRESENT:** Sylvia Barry, Allan Bortel, Sybil Boutilier, Suellen Lamorte, Ralph Marchese, Judith Saffran, *Linda Jackson (Aging Action Initiative)*, Joanna Huitt (Marin Transit), Mandy Reyes (Area Agency on Aging), Diana López (Commission on Aging), Rhea Brown (community) Noelle Kostelic (The Redwoods), Terry Scusse (Consultant), Erick Villalobos (Vivalon), Dan Steckline (Ombudsman), Kristin Taylor (EAH Housing), Andrew Hening (Opening Doors Marin)  
**ABSENT:** Diana Bradley

**RECORER:** Mandy Reyes, AAA Sr. Program Coordinator, Area Agency on Aging

**NEXT MEETING:** November 17, 2021, 1:00 p.m. – 3 p.m., Zoom Teleconference

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<th>NOTES SUMMARY</th>
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**Call to Order:**  
Chair Barry called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda:**  
- Commissioner Lamorte made a motion to approve the agenda for Sept. 15, 2021  
- Commissioner Bortel seconded the motion  
- Motion carried 5-0

**Approval of Minutes:**  
- Commissioner Lamorte made a motion to approve the July 21, 2021 minutes as written  
- Commissioner Saffran seconded the motion  
- Motion carried 5-0.

**Open Time for Public Expression:**  
None

**Announcements:**  
None
NOTES SUMMARY

Chair’s Report:
• Consider 1:30 p.m. start time for Housing and Transportation Committee meetings and 1 and ½ hour meetings – the committee decided to keep the 1 o’clock start time and requested that everyone be on time.
• Speaker Presentations – not discussed
• Future Agenda Items – not discussed

Marin County Paratransit Service Status – Allan Bortel
Those present at this meeting discussed in length the Marin Transit Board of Directors decision to award the Marin Access contract to Transdev.

Transportation Partner’s Reports:
Joanna Huitt, Mobility Planner, Marin Transit reported on the following:

• In August 2021, the Marin Transit Board of Directors approved a series of fare promotion and pilot programs that will be offered near term, on Marin Transit local service. Starting in October, all rides on local fixed route service will be free for older adults age 65+ and persons with disabilities. This will be a 6-month pilot from October 2021 through March 2022. Demand response services (paratransit, Catch-A-Ride, Dial-A-Ride, and Connect) will be exempt from the free fare offerings. As part of the upcoming free fares for Seniors and low income families, Marin Transit will be running a parallel campaign in October through December. Fares will be the primary focus of the campaign geared to promote our new near term fare promotions and raise rider awareness on various fare assistance programs offered by the District. For more info, visit: https://marintransit.org/news/fare-promotions-starting-october

• Last week we rolled out a new eligibility database to support the Marin Access programs. This is a new resource to assist the Travel Navigator team as they work with community members that use or apply for Marin Access services and programs. We’re excited about this and how it will streamline the work of the Travel Navigator team.

• On Monday September 13th the Marin Transit Board of Directors unanimously concurred with staff recommendation to award the Marin Access contract to Transdev, contingent upon the General Manager denying any timely request for reconsideration. The board packet (including staff report) and supplemental materials can be found here: https://marintransit.org/meetings-events/2021/september-
### Housing Partner’s Reports:
None

### Presentation: “Homekey 2.0: Creating New Housing in Marin County”, by Andrew Hening, Project Director, Opening Doors Marin

- **Background:**
  - Insight - Most of Marin County’s challenges with homelessness stem from a small group of people experiencing chronic homelessness.
  - Costs – In Marin they are costing $60K per year per person.
  - Vulnerability – Studies show these people are passing away 20 – 25 years before their peers. Not from the cold but from chronic health issues.
  - Historical Focus – The focus has always been on the temporary homelessness and not the chronic homelessness.
  - In 2016 Opening Doors Marin went on field trips to surrounding counties to learn how they were addressing chronic homelessness.
  - They realized that Marin had created a jumbled maze of services that was hard for the homeless to navigate.
  - Created HOT Team (Homeless Outreach Team) which works with small groups of the most vulnerable.
  - Housing First – Takes these people off the street first and then wraps them in intensive services.
  - These two initiatives housed 23 of the most vulnerable.
  - In 2017 - Launched Coordinated Entry. A countywide strategy for solving homelessness. This strategy works to create a list of the most vulnerable and provide housing for them. Marin has been
able to house almost 400 over the last 4 years. Goal is to end chronic homelessness in Marin County.

- How are people being housed?
  - Finding landlord partners in the community and placing Section 8 vouchers throughout the county.
  - Working with existing affordable housing programs.

- Opening Doors
  - Broader array of stakeholders were needed so this is where Opening Doors comes in.
  - Opening Doors looks at raising philanthropic dollars.
  - Homekey 1.0 – Due to the pandemic, this project focused on getting people out of group shelters by using hotel, motel and other buildings.
  - Homekey 2.0 – The state is pledging almost $3 billion dollars over the next 2 years with $200 million set aside for the Bay Area to fund more housing acquisition across the state.

- First applications can be submitted end of Sept./early Oct.

Review of Final FY 21-22 Objectives Submitted for Area Plan Update (Standing Agenda):
Not reviewed

Action Items:
None

New Business:
Commission President Diana López called a special public meeting to discuss the paratransit procurement process. Friday, Sept. 17, 2021 at 11:30 a.m.

Adjournment:
The meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: November 17, 2021, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m., Zoom Teleconference