

Meeting Agenda and Notice
FACT BOARD of DIRECTORS RETREAT
May 27, 2021, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon
Zoom meeting link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86772367799>

8:00 AM – Virtual Breakfast, Networking

8:30 AM - PART A

Call to Order

Welcoming Remarks, Introductions, Regular Business

1. Public Comment
2. Board minutes - April 2021 P-2 Action

8:45 AM - PART B

Review of Equity, Inclusion in FACT's Mission, Policies, Services P-7 Possible Action

1. Review of Regulations and FACT Policies
2. Anthony Foxx video
3. Tamika Butler video
4. Equitable access to specialized transportation in SD County
5. Discussion

9:30 AM - PART C

Financial Overview & FACT Services Information

1. Financial Overview
 - a. FY 20-21 Grants, Budget Performance, Reserve
 - b. FY 21-22 Budget Projections for FY 21-22
2. Services Overview
 - a. CTSA – CAM, Database, Referrals, Special Services
 - b. Status of Contracted Services
 - c. RideFACT – Cost of transportation, Demand, Funding

10:15 BREAK

10:25 AM - PART D

1. Leveraging CTSA Services to Enhance Regional Mobility Information
 - a. SANDAG - CRRSAA funding request
 - b. TNC *Access for All* revenue
 - c. Support ADA paratransit services as subcontractor
 - d. Review specialized transportation grants administration process
2. Discussion with Ray Traynor and Elisa Arias (SANDAG)

11:45 AM LUNCH BREAK

12:00 Noon - Closing Remarks

FACT Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Board Members Attending	Hon. Jewel Edson, Hon. Phil Monroe, Hon. Bob Campbell, LaVonna Connelly, Hon. John Aguilera, Hon. George Gastil, Hon. Kellie Hinze
Board Members Absent	Hon. Dave Roberts, Susan Hafner
Staff Attending	Arun Prem, Meagan Schmidt, Budd Anderson, Julius Burgos, Cynthia Pedersen, Kalin Alston
Public/Guests	Raul Campillo, Council Member; Anthony Hackett, Community Representative; Justine Murray, Policy Director - City of San Diego, District 7; Brian Lane, SANDAG; Ivan Ebba, Furaat
Public Comments	
CONSENT ITEMS: March 2021 Board Meeting Minutes/ Financial Updates February 2021/FACT Services Updates	Hon. George Gastil called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. March 2021 Board Meeting Minutes, Financial Updates February 2021, FACT Services Updates, Hon. Bob Campbell moved to approve Consent Calendar. Hon. Jewel Edson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
FACT Business Plan Updates	Budd Anderson gave updates with regards to the Business Plan 2022-27. He reminded everyone that the last update was in July 2020. Topics that will be updated include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance • Social Equity – as it pertains to access to transportation • COVID-19 Related Needs and Service Demand • Core CTSA Services • FACT Transportation Services • COVID-19 Response, Coordination, and Special Services • New Vehicles • Coordinated Outreach • Services statistics • SANDAG 5 big Moves, Flexible Fleets • Pandemic/Non-traditional services • Grants • COVID-19 Funding Impacts • Service projections

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendices <p>Budd said the timeline for the Business Plan draft is mid-May 2021, with final approval of the plan at the June 2021 Board meeting. He asked for any feedback from the Board with regards to the plan. Phil thanked Budd for his work on the business plan.</p>
<p>Conversation with Hon. Raul Campillo</p>	<p>Arun and George introduced Council Member Raul Campillo, City of San Diego, District 7 and his staff members, Justine Murray and Anthony Hackett. Council Member Campillo said that they are committed to improving transportation options in places that need it the most, specifically Linda Vista in District 7. He said there are many people living in areas with very limited access to transportation and struggle with daily activities such as shopping and medical trips. He said there is a high level of childhood poverty in this area, according to the census. Hon. Campillo said that a lack of transportation is a barrier to economics, health, and education and that Linda Vista has been left behind for the last several decades and needs improvement.</p> <p>Hon. Campillo said he and his staff are working to find solutions to transportation issues, and as Vice Chair on the SANDAG Transportation Committee, he is working to find resolutions to big issues, as in regional planning. He thanked TC member, Jewel Edson, for putting him in touch with FACT, and for being invited as a guest.</p> <p>Hon. Campillo offered his help as an advocate in voicing how important transportation services are, and stressed his willingness to collaborate with FACT and other agencies to find solutions.</p> <p>Arun thanked Hon. Campillo, Anthony, and Justine for creating awareness about the lack of transportation in many areas in San Diego County. Arun said that FACT, as a CTSA, has more flexibility in coordinating efforts. Hon. Campillo said that he believes that collectively, transportation services are becoming more of a priority to serve the needs of those who have been left out. He thanked everyone for opportunity to attend the meeting.</p>
<p>Response to RideFACT Ridership Trend and Potential Demand</p>	<p>Arun said that March’s ridership fell by nearly 1,000 ride compared to February rides. This decrease is due to the reinstatement of fares, elimination of food deliveries and essential worker rides, and a cap of 100 rides per day.</p> <p>Arun read an email from an elderly, disabled RideFACT rider who cited frustration and despair in her attempts to use FACT for transportation because of less availability of rides, and the uncertainty of a guaranteed ride when calling to reserve one.</p> <p>Arun updated the status of the request for CRRSAA Funding. Arun said SANDAG has been very receptive to the request of \$300,000 for additional funding by tentatively</p>

agreeing to present this to the SANDAG Board and committees for approval. A survey was put to stakeholders for feedback on additional funding for FACT. The request will be presented to the Transportation Committee and the SANDAG Board with consideration based on feedback from the survey.

Arun highlighted discrepancies in funding in different areas of San Diego, with NCTD Lift Operating Budget pre-COVID 19, at \$10.5M, MTS Access Operating Budget, pre-COVID 19, at \$19.7M and the remaining county budget at \$2M STGP Funds. This translates to a lack of convenient access to transportation in many parts of San Diego County due to lack of funding.

Arun gave updates regarding the April 19, 2021 SANDAG meeting with Hasan Ikhata, SANDAG Board Chair Mayor Blakespear, Brian Lane, George, Jewel, Kellie and Arun. The meeting agenda focused on FACT's request for CRRSAA funds, the countywide distribution of specialized transportation resources, and the importance of coordination of services in the San Diego region. Kellie said the representation of George, an MTS Board member, and Jewel, an NCTD Board member, and others at the meeting portrayed a qualified collaboration for prioritizing transportation for the residents of San Diego. Jewel agreed and said it appears that Mayor Blakespear has a desire to find a solution. A conclusion from this meeting was that mobility agencies work best when all agencies work together.

Phil Monroe said that FACT has great strength with two councilmembers on FACT's Board that are also on MTS and NCTD's Boards, and he appreciates all they do for FACT and the people of the county. George said he believes that SANDAG is supportive of FACT. Arun said that the funding provided to FACT every year is discretionary based on Competitive award, therefore the issue and solution is funding.

Brian Lane said that SANDAG is looking at ways to improve coordination with the carve off money awarded to FACT. He said that with the help of cities and hospitals in the region chipping in to help pay for rides, there would be more funding available. Brian said that MTS and NCTD coordinating with FACT will reduce the constraints due to the limited funding provided by SANDAG, but it will take some effort to bring all parties together and get it done.

Phil said that priorities in cities, regions and states are shifting, therefore, so should funding. Phil said that shifting priorities should be enough to make the case for more funding to SANDAG. LaVonna said that since the writing of the CTSA charter, the vision has changed and maybe there should be a reconsideration of the actual language dealing with nonprofits and funding.

<p>Executive Director's Report</p>	<p>Arun said that FACT signed a new service agreement with West Pace located in San Marcos. FACT will provide transportation to seniors to and from this facility which offers a variety of medical care services in North County, and to dialysis centers. Arun said Meagan was instrumental in reaching this agreement.</p> <p>Arun said he spoke about the impact of COVID in this region and how FACT responded with special services, the budget, and ridership at an event sponsored by the Alameda CTC Joint Committee in the Bay Area.</p> <p>Arun said that Meagan, as the chair of SSTAC of SANDAG, is leading a regional discussion on how to develop a Code of Conduct that works for all the grantees in our region that is consistent and helps every agency and SANDAG monitor Code of Conduct rules and policies. This effort includes MTS, NCTD and nonprofits like JFS.</p> <p>Arun asked the Finance Committee to please set aside some time to review this year's expenses, expected expenses for next year, and the budget for approval for the Business Plan in May.</p> <p>The CalACT Spring Conference 2021 was held April 20-22; Arun gave updates on Meagan's and his presentations at this conference. Meagan's session dealt with RideFACT Services During the COVID-10 Pandemic. Arun's session titled, Leveraging CTSA in the Evolution of Transit dealt with how CTSA's can help counties with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support of transit services• Equity and Access (the introduction of accessible vehicles and catering to low-income riders)• Develop Mobility As A Service (coordinating existing transportation services)• Lower the cost of services by using models like FACT's brokerage• Support local taxicab industries by building their systems and capacities <p>Arun said another way CTSA's can be flexible and work outside of restrictions that other transit agencies face is by offering a more personalized service to individuals. LaVonna concurred and said that is important to remember. People have individual needs besides having access to the food bank or medical issues, which translates to an overall healthier society.</p> <p>Arun reminded everyone about the upcoming Board Retreat on Thursday, May 27. Some of the agenda topics to be discussed include equity and inclusion, demand projections, the budget, and regional coordination.</p> <p>Arun said that Phil, George and he recently toured parts of Chula Vista with Council Member Jill Galvez. She showed them numerous developments that the City of Chula Vista is investing in, including hotels, residential facilities, recreational</p>
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	facilities, and parks. Council Member Galvez is interested in developing a microtransit service with help and coordination with FACT.
Executive Director Review Committee Report	George said the Executive Director Review Committee, LaVonna, Susan and Bob Campbell decided to send out a questionnaire to the Board members for feedback. George said he will send the questionnaire and that it will be discussed at the retreat in May. He thanked the Committee for their efforts.
Board Member Updates	
ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:30 am.

PART B.1

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**FROM: ARUN PREM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, and BUDD ANDERSON, GRANTS
MANAGEMENT ANALYST**

RE: SOCIAL EQUITY and INCLUSION - FACT'S MISSION, POLICIES, AND SERVICES

ISSUE:

FACT's mission to "assist San Diego County residents with barriers to mobility to achieve independence through coordination of transportation services" reflects our commitment to inclusion and equity.

The target populations FACT serves include seniors, individuals with disabilities, people of low income, veterans, and other disadvantaged groups. FACT's services are available countywide including its RideFACT dial-a-ride service. FACT follows all federal and state laws including Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a subrecipient of FTA funds FACT is required to have a Title VI Plan. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act states that: No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. FACT also complies with the needs for populations having Limited English Proficiency (LEP). FACT's Title VI Plan includes a Language Assistance Plan (LAP) to improve access to services for persons with limited English proficiency.

As the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) for San Diego County, it is important that FACT is involved in regional initiatives to understand current demand, trends, and gaps in transit. This includes ensuring individuals have equal access to transit information and public outreach/planning platforms to voice their opinions regarding transit decisions.

San Diego Association of Government's (SANDAG) 2021 Regional Plan framework focuses on improving Social Equity in San Diego County. "Social equity" is a shorthand term SANDAG uses for an overarching goal that combines the concepts of environmental justice, the federal laws in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, and various other federal and state laws intended to promote an equitable distribution of the benefits and burdens resulting from SANDAG policies, programs, and projects."

SANDAG is working toward a transportation system that will improve air quality and provide access to basic needs, opportunities, and quality healthcare for our most underserved populations, including people of color, people of limited incomes, and seniors. Every segment of society should benefit from public transportation services. SANDAG has highlighted the importance of diversity and inclusion in the planning and decision-making process, meaningful data collection, and that strategies are measurable to ensure outcomes are beneficial.

There are many definitions of Environmental Justice. “In the context of transportation planning, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) considers environmental justice to be activities taken by a recipient of federal funding to ensure the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies” (SANDAG 2050 Regional Transportation Plan, Pg. 4-3

Most of FACT’s grant funding is earmarked to serve particular populations (E.g., seniors) or parts of the county (E.g., urban) with some flexibility to serve other populations. As stated earlier, SANDAG highlights the importance of meaningful data collection and that strategies are measurable to ensure outcomes are beneficial. Software has helped FACT track and analyze client demographic information, which is reported to SANDAG. FACT may need to improve protocols regarding virtual meeting options and translation services so LEP and mobility challenged individuals can access meetings. Although FACT has bilingual Spanish speaking staff and access to translation services for its programs, translation protocol has not been implemented for meetings.

Staff will continue to monitor SANDAG’s Social Equity plans and participate in discussions as needed. FACT understands the importance of diversity and inclusion and is dedicated to improving equity in San Diego County’s transportation system.

RECOMMENDATION:

NONE