

# **Board of Directors Meeting Agenda** June 23, 2022, 9:00am

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84093060151

# Meeting call to order, Introductions

9:00 am

1.	Public Comment	INFORMATION			
2. 3. 4.	CONSENT ITEMS  May 2022 Board Meeting Minutes  FACT Services Updates through April 2022  Board Officer (Vice Chair) Appointment	p-2 p-9	ACTION INFORMATION ACTION		
5.	FY 2022-23 Finance Committee Report	p-12	ACTION		
6.	SANDAG – Ongoing Discussions, recent actions by TC, ITOC	p-14	INFORMATION		
7.	Meetings Planning  • Norine Sigafoose Partner of the Year Award		INFORMATION		
8.	<ul> <li>New opportunities – Grants and Services:</li> <li>SANDAG Access for All RFP</li> <li>MV proposal review</li> <li>County Senior Rides for All</li> </ul>		INFORMATION		
9.	<ul> <li>Executive Director's Report:</li> <li>Call Center report</li> <li>FTA - ICAM grant award</li> <li>FTA Briefing at SANDAG on 6/7/22</li> </ul>	p-16	INFORMATION		
10.	Board member updates  CLOSED SESSION		INFORMATION		

o ED Review Committee Report

**END CLOSED SESSION, Report - Closed Session reportable actions** 

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**FACT's Mission**- Assist San Diego County residents with barriers to mobility to achieve independence through coordination of transportation services

# **FACT Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

May 26, 2022, 9:00 AM (Zoom Meeting)

Board Members Attending	Hon. Phil Monroe, Hon. George Gastil, Hon. Dave Roberts, Susan Hafner, LaVonna Connelly, Hon. Corinna Contreras						
Board Members Absent	Hon. Jewel Edson, Hon. Kellie Shay Hinze, Hon. Bob Campbell						
Staff Attending	Arun Prem, Meagan Schmidt, Budd Anderson, Julius Burgos, Ali Poorman, Cynthia Pedersen, Christian Hernandez Farah Rizvi, Jocelyn Barrueta, Kim Moreno						
Public/Guests	Kathleen Ferrier – Policy Director, Office of Councilmember Joe LaCava, District 1; Dr. Tiffany Boyd-Hodgson; Ivan Ebba, Furaat; Firas Jasim and Zeyad Jasim, SDMED; Brian Lane, SANDAG; Robert Gebo, NCTD.						
Public Comments							
Consent Agenda: April Board Meeting Minutes/ FACT Services Updates through March 2022/Staffing Update/New Board Member Appointment  Motion to approve the May Consent Items was made by Hon. Susan Hafner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous thanked her for her interest and for joining the Board. Hon. Continuing FACT's mission.							
	Meagan Schmidt gave an update regarding ridership numbers increasing to almost pre-Covid levels. FACT has added new vendors which has helped with capacity. The RideFACT program continued to have the most ridership, followed by hospitals and cities Contracted Services. The Escondido lunch program continues to add more riders with a large increase from February to March.  Meagan referred to Hon. Phil Monroe's request at the retreat for more information regarding the special NCTD Lift riders that FACT has been assisting. Only a couple						

of vendors are providing transportation to these riders because of their special mobility needs.

Arun said this was an example of filling the gaps. The Regional Center was unable to provide transportation to these individuals, who then turned to NCTD, this region's Accessible Services Provider, but as a public transit, does not cater to people with highly specialized needs.

Arun reported on the higher costs of providing transportation due to the Covid epidemic. The average cost per ride in May was \$34.80 which is comparatively low for a paratransit trip. In San Diego, an MTS one-way paratransit trip is nearly \$150. Pre-pandemic FACT trips averaged \$12-13; the cost has increased substantially.

Susan Hafner said FACT should fill in the gaps, but FACT needs to review its policy as far as replacing solutions because they are too expensive or too difficult from an operating authority perspective. She said it's good to have alternatives to certain situations, but the solutions can be expensive and will reduce other options for the rest of the community unless FACT can determine how best to provide services that have already been provided by other entities. Costs will rise and reduce the impact FACT has on the entire community.

Arun agreed and referred to the "maintenance of effort" requirement. The agency is supposed to maintain the effort that was demonstrated in the past without making the service another agency's responsibility. Arun said that while the agencies negotiate details, riders need continued transportation. For now, services are being provided to the individuals in question with hopes that a resolution can be found.

Susan said NCTD's responsibility in their federal requirements with the Americans with Disability Act, is to transport certain individuals who came to FACT for their rides, and that NCTD should work with FACT to resolve this issue.

Phil said the funding for some individuals for FACT rides is a tremendous amount of money for that need when the state has provided NCTD the funds for these rides. Phil said the Board did not realize the extent of the costs of some of these rides. George said that this was a topic that needed to be discussed further at the next Board meeting. Phil requested a list of riders that FACT has supported under this program, and the amount of money that's been spent for each rider since FACT started this, before the next Board meeting.

Susan said she would like to request this report designate whether the rider was a referral from the ADA service at NCTD.

## **Meeting Planning**

Arun gave an update regarding the 2022 Annual Meeting Plan. It will be held on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, in person, at the San Diego History Center in Balboa Park from 8:30am -10:45am. Hon. Raul Campillo has been confirmed as the keynote speaker. Arun said he looked forward to the Board's recommendations regarding a giveaway and the 2022 Norine Sigafoose Award recipient.

# Update on FACT Owned Vehicles; Contactless Card Demonstration

Budd Anderson gave an update with regards to the new vehicles in the process of being purchased. As of May 20, 2022 FACT owns eleven vehicles. This included two accessible mini-vans, two medium buses funded through Caltran's 5310 program, and seven accessible mini-vans funded through SANDAG's Specialized Transportation Grant Program (STGP). FACT has agreements with Renewing Life, City of Oceanside, St. Paul's Senior Services, City of Vista, and North County Transit District (NCTD) to share vehicles.

Vehicles are retired based on FTA's useful life standards. SANDAG has determined that three vehicles have reached the end of their minimum useful life and are eligible for disposition. FACT has signed the SANDAG contract amendments in April to release the vehicles. FACT received the final paperwork and vehicle titles in the mail from SANDAG on May 19<sup>th</sup>. FACT staff will begin negotiations with vendors to get the most benefit out of the vehicles and ensure they continue to serve the public. All four Caltrans funded vehicles are retired and are no longer under contract. Renewing Life, St. Paul's, and NCTD continue to operate these vehicles under an MOU with FACT.

FACT was awarded \$778,910 through FTA's Bus and Bus Facilities Grant Program to purchase twelve new accessible vans to replace retired vehicles. The accessible vehicles are nine low floor mini-vans and two medium cutaway buses and FTA funded to replace retired vehicles and expand FACT's vehicle fleet. The grant requires the recipient to purchase the vehicles and then request reimbursement. Financing was not an option; FACT staff is working on a short term loan to fund the vehicle purchase. Once the loan is secured, an accurate timeline on when the vehicles will be delivered and when they will be available for lease will be announced.

FACT hosted a Vehicle and Insurance Workshop on March 8, 2022, to discuss the details of FACT's vehicles and vehicle sharing program in addition to insurance issues such as cost and policy constraints that prevent vehicle sharing among agencies. FACT will issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to operate the new vehicles and schedule a follow-up workshop once a clear timeline is established.

Phil asked how vehicles can continue to be used by agencies if they are considered retired. Arun said they are retired based on FTA's useful life standards, but are still in good enough condition to be utilized in service.

	Meagan gave an update with regards to the Contactless Payment Pilot. She said to date, vendors Eleet and SDMED are participating with a total of 11 devices. Riders will now be able to choose to pay with the tap credit card or cash.
Ongoing Discussions with SANDAG re: RideFACT Ridership Trend, Demand	Arun said that FACT is waiting for SANDAG's proposed Draft for Cycle 12 Funding Plan to go before the Transportation Committee for approval.  Brian Lane said the Draft is still being worked on.
Business Plan Update	Budd gave an update regarding the proposed Business Plan updates. FACT's CTSA contract with SANDAG requires an annual update of the Business Plan. The current Business Plan update (2022-2027) was approved in June 2021. Staff plans to send the Draft Plan to the Board in early June for review and feedback. Staff will seek Board approval at the June Board of Directors meeting to have the final plan in place by July 1, 2022, the start of FACT's fiscal year.  Budd highlighted some of the changes to this year's Business Plan:  • An updated Executive Summary • Social Equity • Cycle 11 STGP – Any new Activities and Projects • Update on the new vehicles • Electric and Alternative Fuel Vehicles – Reducing emissions, low or no emissions for future grant applications • SANDAG 5 Big Moves and FACT's involvement with Flexible Fleets • Transportation Network Company (TNC) and Access for All (AFA) FACT's involvement in providing accessible transportation in San Diego County through this funding source • Integrated and Shared Technology – Contactless Payment Pilot Program and FACT's involvement in the Community Information Exchange with 2-1-1 and help SANDAG with outreach coordination in shared technology • Annual work plan submitted to SANDAG, where funds will be spent  Budd requested input from the Board regarding the Business Plan updates.  LaVonna thanked Budd and anyone else involved with putting together the plan and all of the updates. She said she appreciates all of the work to integrate the new items.

# New Opportunities – Grants and Services

Arun said SANDAG recently announced an RFP for the Access for All Grant. Phil and Susan volunteered to help with this proposal. Arun said that by the end of July a proposal should be ready for the Board's authorization to submit to SANDAG.

Arun said that with regards to Cycle 12 funding, verbal commitments have been made to FACT designating transportation funds, but any final decisions are still ongoing.

Arun and Meagan met with Robert Gebo and other NCTD staff to review the proposed MV contract.

FACT recently submitted a proposal for the "No Cost Transportation for Older Adults," a new program through HSSA; still awaiting final word on that decision.

# Conversation with Kathleen Ferrier, Policy Director from Office of Hon. LaCava Councilmember, District 1, San Diego

George introduced Kathleen Ferrier to everyone. She was familiar with FACT through her work at Circulate San Diego for many years. Kathleen said Councilmember LaCava is currently Chair of the Environment Committee; he serves on the city's Land Use and Housing Committee, and on the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. One of his top priorities is implementing the City's Climate Plan.

Kathleen said District 1 has a strong employment base with very high trolley use. San Diego is an age friendly community and transportation is one aspect of fulfilling that need. Arun thanked Kathleen for her attendance at the meeting and for Councilmember LaCava's interest and awareness of the issues FACT is addressing all over the County.

Arun said that 12,000 to 14,000 of the 40,000 rides FACT provides are in the City of San Diego. He said that despite MTS Access and other services, there is still unmet need in the City of San Diego. FACT would like to work with the City to focus on the lack of accessible vehicles in the taxi-cab community, and change the status quo by acquiring accessible vehicles to share with taxi-cab vendors.

Arun said he hopes Kathleen will stay in touch with FACT and he welcomed Hon. Joe LaCava whenever he would like to attend a Board meeting. George thanked

Kathleen for attending and said she and the Councilmember are both welcome to attend the Annual Meeting in December. Kathleen said she would like to follow up with more conversations regarding improvement of the taxi industry in San Diego.

# Conversation with Dr. Tiffany Boyd-Hodgson

Arun introduced Dr. Tiffany Boyd-Hodgson, a candidate for San Diego County Supervisor, District 5 in November 2022. She is a neuroscientist and small business owner, running for a district that is 94 per cent unincorporated, stretching from Oceanside, Borrego Springs and Ocotillo Wells to the county line. She said transportation is lacking in many parts of the unincorporated areas and she is interested in finding transportation solutions for people in those communities. As many seniors move to North County, these folks are less mobile, on fixed incomes, and wanting to stay in their homes and communities. She would like to learn more about FACT's concerns with those issues to better understand and find solutions.

George said FACT was originally founded by North County Transit District 16 years ago. Arun thanked Dr. Boyd-Hodgson for her interest and offer to assist in accomplishing FACT's mission. He said FACT's mission is to fill gaps in transportation services as the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency appointed by SANDAG in 2006. With the increase and spread in population, gaps in services provided have grown while the available resources in San Diego for seniors and people with disabilities have not kept pace. Arun said FACT appreciates anything she can do to help.

LaVonna Connelly said she is glad Dr. Boyd-Hodgson is concerned with rural area needs in San Diego County. LaVonna said there is the belief among some that people who choose to live in these areas pay less taxes and therefore deserve less services. Less attention is paid to rural areas due to lack of mayors and city councils to represent citizens in the less populated areas. LaVonna thanked Dr. Boyd-Hodgson for her attendance at the meeting and offered so share her knowledge of working in rural areas.

Dr. Boyd-Hodgson thanked LaVonna for her comments and said that people move to more affordable areas, sometimes without a clear understanding of the services such places offer. She said she would like to see a plan that would offer better transportation solutions in unincorporated areas.

George thanked Dr. Boyd-Hodgson for her attendance at the meeting.

# Executive Director's Report: SANDAG Retreat, TDA Triennial Audit DRAFT (2019-2021) Report/School

Arun said SANDAG was hosting its Retreat in Balboa Park with an Agenda primarily focused on Team Building.

He said FACT received its TDA Triennial Audit Report commissioned by SANDAG. It appears to be a clean audit. TDA auditors recommend FACT continue creating awareness for the need for funding at the SSTAC, a subcommittee of the Transportation Committee of SANDAG.

# Transportation Follow-up Arun gave an update regarding the school transportation discussion regarding lack of transit for school aged students, a topic initiated by Mayor Blakespear. The request was made to FACT to find vendors who could fill a specific need in the Oceanside Unified School District to transport young children to school. At the May Retreat, FACT Board members requested a letter from SANDAG confirming this request from SANDAG to FACT. SANDAG's response is after consideration of options to this proposal, FTA funding could have compliance issues. Therefore, SANDAG will not be moving forward on this proposal. LaVonna asked if FACT might invite the school district transportation providers to CAM meetings to address their options and build their case. Arun said it sounded like a good idea for the school district to speak to CAM. **Board Member** Arun said Hon. John Aguilera would like to come back to a future meeting to say **Updates** goodbye to the Board. John left the Board in May due to growing work commitments. Arun said he wanted to recognize John's nearly a decade of service on the FACT Board, and appreciated his knowledge and financial expertise in FACT's financial reviews and budget planning. Arun thanked Dave, Susan and LaVonna for their time as a committee, in reviewing the by-laws for Board compensation. The committee members have agreed to perform the upcoming Executive Director's Review. Arun said that currently FACT has no Board Vice-Chair. George said this should be on next month's agenda. Hon. Corinna Contreras said she is very excited for the opportunity to bridge the gaps and happy FACT is having conversations with North County Transit District. She said working together is how we serve our community. She thanked FACT for bringing her on to the Board and said there is a lot of work to do. **ADJOURNMENT** George thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:40am.

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: Meagan Schmidt, Director of Operations

**RE:** FACT Services updates

#### **ISSUE:**

This item presents a monthly RideFACT and agency services update.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

	April
SERVICE	ONE-WAY TRIPS
PACE	44
County COVID-19	0
Scripps	124
Escondido	754
County HHSA TB	30
San Marcos	94
Oceanside	0
Parkinson's Assoc.	4
Tri-City	72
MV	0
Other	0
RideFACT	2,848
TOTAL	3,970

## **Gary Mary WestPACE**

Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) - These trips are to medical destinations throughout North County as well as a few destinations further south. Trips began in late May 2021 and 1,603 were provided through April 2022.

#### **Scripps Health**

FACT's service agreement with Scripps Health began January 15, 2020; 1,670 trips were provided through the end of April 2022. FACT brokerage vendors are transporting discharged patients to pharmacies, their residences and/or to hospitals outside of San Diego County. FACT currently provides trips for 4 locations, Scripps Mercy Hospital Hillcrest and Chula Vista, Scripps La Jolla and Scripps Vista Clinic. FACT signed an Evergreen contract amendment expanding to all of these locations in August 2021.

#### **City of Escondido**

FACT provides transportation to/from the City of Escondido's senior lunch nutrition program Monday-Friday. Service began November 1, 2019. Trips were paused in mid-March 2020-May 2021 due to COVID-19. Service resumed on June 15<sup>th</sup>. FACT provided 12,323 trips between November 2019 and April 2022. This contract term was renewed through June 2023 with up to 3 renewal periods.

#### **County HHSA**

This service provides trips for the County to non-contagious Tuberculosis patients from their residences to clinics for treatment. 736 trips have been performed under this contract between late November 2018 through April 2022. This contract term is through June 30, 2023.

#### The Parkinson's Association of San Diego

The Parkinson's Association of San Diego (PASD) contracts with FACT to provide transportation for neurological medical appointments, support groups and Parkinson's Association related events for their clients. Between June 2018 – April 2022, 194 trips have been provided.

#### **City of San Marcos**

Catch a Ride! provides transportation for eligible seniors 60+ within San Marcos city limits as well as for medical purposes outside of the city within a 20 mile radius. FACT has provided 4,661 trips between February 2018 – April 2022. FACT and the City signed Amendment 5 to extend the contract through June 2023.

#### **MV NCTD LIFT Service**

Inactive. Currently in meetings regarding FACT resuming LIFT service.

#### <u>Tri-City Contracts – Emergency Room & Outpatient Behavioral Health</u>

FACT began transportation services for Tri-City Medical Center in December 2016. FACT has provided6,451 trips for Tri-City patients between December 2016 – April 2022.

#### **City of Oceanside Senior Van Service**

Contracted service for Oceanside began in September 2013. FACT has invoiced City of Oceanside for 34,322 trips from September 2013 – April 2021. As of May 1, 2021 this service was stopped due to lack of funds.

RideFACT & Contracted Service statistics ytd for fiscal year July 2019 – April 2022

				New	Total						
CTSA,				Agencies			RideFACT				
RideFACT &			Programs	in	for	RideFACT	Trips	Contracted		RideFACT	RideFACT
Contracted			in	Databas	RideFACT	Trips	Unable to	Trips		Avg	Avg Trip
Service Data	Web hits	Referrals	Database	е	Trips	Provided	Provide	Provided	Total Trips	Mileage	Cost
July	823	108	176	2	2,515	2,455	60	771	3,226	9.6	\$13.29
August	948	90	177	1	2,424	2,365	59	844	3,209	9.1	\$11.47
September	1,157	129	179	2	2,757	2,621	136	674	3,295	9.3	\$11.88
October	1,263	139	180	1	2,952	2,735	217	781	3,516	9.5	\$12.63
November	1,089	122	180	0	2,652	2,388	264	1,452	3,840	9.8	\$14.38
December	1,052	82	180	0	2,636	2,508	128	1,572	4,080	9.4	\$14.86
20-Jan	1,372	132	176	0	2,994	2,849	145	1,680	4,529	10.1	\$13.99
February	1,237	138	176	0	2,693	2,608	85	1,567	4,175	9	\$15.30
March	1,650	141	177	1	2,015	1,931	84	988	2,919	8.8	\$13.95
April	1,720	347	183	6	1,586	1,555	31	383	1,938	8.8	\$15.29
May	1,253	384	183	0	2,082	2,024	58	473	2,497	10.2	\$18.65
June	1,392	297	185	2	2,502	2,416	86	421	2,837	10.2	\$20.60
Subtotal	14,956	2109	185		29,808	28,455	1353	11,606	40,061		
July	1,510	304	180	-5	3,202	3,096	106	447	3,543	10.3	\$21.12
August	1,571	300	181	1	3,623	3,371	252	459	3,830	9.5	\$20.64
September	1,625	312	181	0	3,924	3,617	307	457	4,074	10	\$21.13
October	1,839	426	185	4	4,419	4,035	384	436	4,471	10.3	\$22.32
November	1,591	488	189	5	4,102	3,716	386	453	4,169	10.5	\$21.39
December	1,488	515	189	0	4,638	4,191	447	433	4,624	11	\$22.45
January	1,480	466	189	0	4,270	3,891	379	361	4,252	11	\$22.40
February	1,569	310	189	0	3,809	3,447	362	403	3,850	10.5	\$19.78
March	2,042	189	189	0	2,978	2,637	341	488	3,125	9.5	\$19.79
Apr	1,884	162	189	0	2,429	1,916	513	513	2,429	9.6	\$19.39
May	1,867	102	189	0	2,259	1,630	629	323	1,953	10.2	\$21.25
June	2,221	155	189	0	2,306	1,746	560	795	2,541	9.9	\$21.31
Subtotal	20,687	3729	189	10	39,653	37,293	4666	5,568	42,861		
July	2,715	163	193	4	2,281	1,569	712	1,429	2,998	11	\$22.19
August	3,677	153	193	0	2,047	1,212	835	1,408	2,620	9.5	\$21.74
September	2,315	155	193	0	1,904	1,393	511	1,403	2,796	9.2	\$21.92
October	2,334	178	193	0	2,019	1,498	521	1,373	2,871	9	\$21.30
November	2,129	124	193	0	2,083	1,577	506	1,306	2,883	10	\$22.99
December	3,000	158	193	0	2,023	1,630	393	1,290	2,920	9.3	\$21.14
January	1,964	136	193	0	1,734	1,469	265	1,037	2,506	9.2	\$22.93
February	1,956	175	193	0	2,032	1,752	280	1,066	2,818	9.2	\$27.95
March	2,497	221	178	0	2,800	2,585	215	1,295	3,880	9	\$34.89
Apr	2,537	206	178	0	3,111	2,848	263	1,122	3,970	9.5	\$34.90
Subtotal	25,124	1669		0	18,923	17,533	4501	12,729	30,262		
TOTAL	221,023	11,006	178	4		191,851	14,469	100,051	291,902		

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

NONE.

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ARUN PREM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JULIUS BURGOS, ACCOUNTANT

RE: FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT – REVIEW OF DRAFT 2022-23 BUDGET

#### **ISSUE**

Staff wish to thank the Finance Committee – Board Treasurer Phil Monroe and Board member Susan Hafner, for meeting with us on 6/20/22, and for their assistance with a detailed review, feedback and recommendations, which were subsequently incorporated into the original DRAFT. The updated DRAFT Budget is presented below for review; staff requests Board members to adopt the Budget recommended by the Finance Committee.

#### Summary of DRAFT FY 2022-23 Budget Proposal:

The proposed Budget is balanced and all grants (revenues) have been fully awarded. TDA Article 4.5 funding increased by \$42,415.00, to a total of \$188.798.00. Income and expenses for the FY 2022-23 Budget are \$2,514,675.00 a 19% increase over the prior year budget of \$2,048,538.00.

Current year, FY 2022 expenses are projected 3.23% under budget (\$65,045.69). Most of this underspending was due to less than anticipated expenses in Contracted Services from the COVID-19 pandemic and some savings in Telecommunications, Payroll Taxes, Website Design, and Community Outreach.

Last year, a considerable amount of the awarded CRRSSA-ARPA 5310 Grant was used to pay for and match the RideFACT SMG grant which fully funded in March 2021. The projected income generated from contracted services during the FY 21-22 (\$74,950.92) will help increase some of the reserve impacted from the prior year. It was identified as such on the expense side of the budget and was not factored into Income, since it is a projected number.

Notes on Explanations of Variances to explain variance between the Year-to -ate Total FY 21-22 Expenses and the DRAFT FY 22-23 Budget amounts are at the bottom of the budget spreadsheet.

#### <u>Income</u>

Major revenue sources for purchased transportation/RideFACT are 5310, SMG and Reserves. This year, consistent with prior years, \$400,000 is budgeted for RideFACT (\$200,000 from SMG grant; \$200,000 5310 grant as 50% match).

Major sources of Mobility Management income include SANDAG Cycle 11 Grant for two years (\$527,172 in 5310, \$410,375 in SMG each year). Caltrans 5310 is also a two-year grant totaling \$187,500 each year.

Contracted services are projected to increase from continued demand with the City of Escondido, West Pace, and Scripps Health. Contracted Services' gross revenue is estimated at \$417,000.00. This is a 52%

increase compared the 2021-22 budget. Actual gross revenue from contracts – projected through June 2021 is totaling \$458,652.17.

FACT applies for additional County Grants totaling \$50,000. We were awarded \$43,000 of them last year.

A pending FTA grant award for technology upgrades was added to the FY 2022-23 budget - \$240,000.00. This income will match the expenses to facilitate contactless payments and automate part of trip reservations.

#### **Expenses**

The largest expense line item is Salary and Wages - \$750,000. The proposed expenses include employee recognitions, annual increases for merit and inflation, and some benefits for 10 employees at this time.

Proposed Contracted service expenses are \$350,000, up from \$150,000 (budgeted) in the prior year. An increase of 25% of actual expenses at end of June are expected totaling \$383,701.57. RideFACT expenses are projected at \$400,000. This is the same amount as budget for last year and the CRRSSA-ARPA (Covid relief grants) – 5310 was fully funded and no longer available. With continued demand and costs increasing the RideFACT grant may be fully expended early again.

Office space lease expenses will increase in 2022-23 as per the existing agreement. The total outlay is \$80,000 which includes funds for facility maintenance, common space utilities, and repairs. Insurance costs are expected to be \$65,000 this year, mainly due to the Employee Medical Insurance being added and rate changes anticipated by the insurance broker. In view of higher utilization of legal services recently, the legal fees are projected at \$30,000. Audit fees are \$15,000 to cover a single-audit as the previous year.

Telecommunications will increase to cover the after-hours dispatch CARS, Inc. and Polycom phone system.

#### **Discussion**

The last item on the budget titled Reserve / Grant Balance represents a replenishment of spent reserves as a result an un-awarded 5310 grant match two years ago. Several factors are expected to affect FACT revenues and reserves this year – Reserve spending will stop as the SMG 5310 grant is still being awarded; due to the increased rate of inflation there is uncertainty regarding ability to meet the demand for RideFACT transportation, which is also rising. Staff continues to monitor ridership growth and proactively are taking steps toward managing demand in order to minimize the impact on FACT's riders. Referrals continue to rise.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff requests Board members to approve the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the FY-2022-23 Budget proposal.

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ARUN PREM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: SANDAG – Ongoing Discussions, recent actions by TC, ITOC

ISSUE: Ongoing discussions with SANDAG.

In anticipation of STGP Cycle 12 funding plan going before Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee (ITOC) and Transportation Committee (TC) during the week of June 12, 2022, Chair George Gastil, Hon. Jewel, and Arun Prem discussed our position with respect to the set-aside funds – that the set-aside funding proposed for FACT - \$790,758 was not sufficient for FACT's needs during Cycle 12 and the need to apply for additional funds competitively poses a risk and is counter to the informal agreement reached with SANDAG earlier for a minimum 25% set aside of the Cycle 12 funds as well as future cycles. The subsequent partial funding decision was made due to the fact that TransNet ordinance would need to be amended beforehand in order to allow enable such an allocation; due to SANDAG's potential timeline the amendments would not be reviewed by SANDAG's Board prior to the end of 2022 at the earliest.

This is a critical issue that will impact the way FACT is funded in future. The TC unanimously approved SANDAG staff recommendation to proceed with the funding Cycle 12 and award FACT \$790,758 in Section 5310 funds directly. FACT staff will meet with SANDAG to request a specific follow up plan that addresses our need for sustainable funds as well as SANDAG concern about due process for TransNet funded direct allocations.

#### **Background**

#### Meeting Update, Nov 22, 2021

A follow up meeting with Mr. Hasan Ikhrata and Mr. Ray Major, Ms. Coleen Clementson Mr. Brian Lane was held on Nov 22, 2021. Arun Prem discussed FACT's cost for trips, and explained the invoicing process that provides detailed data to SANDAG on the purchase price for rides.

#### Meeting with SANDAG, NCTD, MTS on Aug 4, 2021:

The following memo was sent from Arun to Mr. Hasan Ikhrata, Ms. Sharon Cooney and Mr. Matt Tucker ahead of the meeting:

MEMO - Aug 4, 2021 Meeting - MTS, NCTD, SANDAG – Review baseline CTSA services & potential for collaboration

San Diego County's CTSA is not structured as a supporting entity to the transit agencies, unlike in most other Counties that have CTSAs. Typically, CTSA's across CA are tasked with addressing a designated segment(s) of mobility with agreements in place with an intent to complement transit and paratransit services.

When the CTSA scope of services was drawn in the original SANDAG/FACT agreement completed in 2006, it did not recognize transportation services as an eligible activity for TDA funds. FACT began providing transportation in late 2010. SANDAG formally recognized the potential for the CTSA to operate transportation with TDA 4.5 funds during 2019 in the course of updating the CTSA services scope. Due to these changes, and concurrent changes in the County's leadership and vision for public transportation, there is value in a renewed discussion on the potential role the CTSA can play in future in supporting transit services and objectives.

Since FACT implemented its transportation brokerage in 2011, it has maintained that collaboration with transit agencies as an ADA paratransit subcontractor would help sustain it, and add value to regional transportation services by reducing expenses and promoting the local taxicab service capacity. This concept was validated when FACT independently (sub)contracted with NCTD's vendors to provide ADA paratransit. A critical benefit of this arrangement was the net revenue FACT generated from the pass-through payments from NCTD without competing directly with NCTD or any other grant funded mobility provider. The subcontractor arrangement with First Transit did not survive the transition to a new vendor - MV Transit, and is currently inactive.

In a post pandemic transit scenario there are indications that cost of paratransit services, and the taxicab industry's capacity limits will create bottlenecks to paratransit delivery. The growing interest in mobility as a service and micro-transit also present challenges that are better met with a coordinated approach. FACT is in a position to leverage SANDAG Mobility Management grant funds to assist with configuring and testing new services more quickly and at a lower cost.

In view of the above, I would like to recommend we consider some or all of the following as a means to promoting ongoing communication and collaboration where possible to address the current and potential specialized mobility needs effectively:

- Reinstate NCTD and MTS staff to FACT's Council on Access and Mobility (CAM) and Technical Advisory Committees (TAC)
- Monthly or Quarterly meetings between staff to review specific service needs and proposals
- MOU's to designate FACT as a back-up or overflow transportation and call-center service provider in case of contingencies
- Review opportunities for transit agencies to engage with FACT as contractor directly
- Opportunities to collaborate on 5310, other grants, by proposing joint vehicle procurements and other projects that would avoid conflict related to funding

#### Meeting update:

"I met with Hasan, Matt, Sharon and Brian today to review the Memo I shared with you (copied above) and discuss how the CTSA could be structured as a formal supporting entity for the 2 transit agencies.

We spoke for a little over 30 minutes, as planned (a more detailed description of the meeting was sent to Board members on the afternoon of Aug 4, 2021).

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### **NONE**

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: Arun Prem, Executive Director; Cynthia Pedersen, Office Manager

RE: Executive Director's Report

# Meetings and Events – May 2022

5/27/2022 Meeting – SANDAG Board of Directors

# Meeting and Events – June 2022

6/2-6/3/2022	Conference – CalACT - Far North Transit Symposium
6/07/2022	Meeting – SANDAG/FTA In-person Briefing – Ray Tellis + FTA Staff, George, Arun
6/08/2022	Meeting - SANDAG RFP Subcommittee – Susan, Phil, Arun, Budd, Meagan, Ali, Christian
6/09/2022	Meeting - Rebel group Teams – Ali Attari, Arun, Ali
6/09/2022	Webinar – DHCS Medi-Cal Non-Medical Transportation
6/09/2022	Meeting – SANDAG Interview – Meagan, Arun
6/10/2022	Meeting – SANDAG Funding for FACT Discussion – Jewel, George, Arun
6/13/2022	Meeting – Cycle 12 Funding - Coleen Clementson, Brian Lane, Arun
6/14/2022	Meeting – ITOC – Cycle 12
6/14/2022	Meeting – CAM Updates – Budd, Meagan, Arun
6/14/2022	Meeting – Spare Labs Inc. – RFP Interview – Meagan, Arun
6/14/2022	Meeting – Travis Knowles, Chief of Staff – Office of Council Member Vivian Moreno Dist.
6/15/2022	Meeting – Meeting – Discussion with Hon. Bill Sandke
6/16/2022	Meeting – Safety First - Mohamad Hajek
6/17/2022	Meeting – Transportation Committee
6/20/2022	Meeting – Finance Committee Budget Review – Phil, Susan, Arun
6/21/2022	Meeting – ED Review – Dave, LaVonna, Susan
6/23/2022	Meeting – FACT Board of Directors