



**Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)
Authority Advisory Committee
MINUTES**

DATE

Wednesday, July 19, 2017

The regular meeting of the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) Authority Advisory Committee (AAC) held Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at the Merced County Association of Governments, Front Conference Room, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA and conducted by video/teleconference at the Sierra Center Mall, Board of Supervisors Conference Room, Third Floor, 452 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA, and Fresno Council of Governments, 2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201, Fresno, CA and was called to order by Danna Stroud at 10:14 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen Baker, California Welcome Center, Merced
Jim Donovan, Yosemite National Park
Sandy Hogan, Mono County LTC (via videoconference)
Lisa Mayo, Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
Jeff Simpson, Mono County Economic Development (via videoconference)
Moses Stites, Fresno Rural Transit (via videoconference)
Danna Stroud, Mono County Citizen (via teleconference)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tom Dumas, Caltrans, District 10
Layla Forstedt, Fresno/Clovis Conference and Visitors Bureau
Rich Green, TheBus, Merced
Michelle Miller, Yosemite/Madera County Visitors Bureau
Candy O'Donel-Browne, Mariposa County Economic Development Corp.
Terri Peresan, Mariposa County Department of Community Services
Terry Selk, Yosemite/Mariposa Tourism Bureau
Steve Smallcombe, Mariposans for the Environment and Responsible Government
Nanette Villegas, Merced Mall
Sean Williams, Holiday Inn Express

OTHERS PRESENT

Peggy Arnest, Fresno
Denise Demery, VIA Adventures
Cindy Kelly, YARTS Staff
Dick Whittington, YARTS Staff
Joy Young, MCAG staff

1. **Introductions**

Danna Stroud led the introductions and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

At this time, it was stated that the committee did not have a quorum and no formal action could be taken on agenda items.

2. **Public comment**

None.

3. **Minutes of the April 5, 2017 YARTS Authority Advisory Committee meeting**

At this time no quorum was present and no formal action was taken.

4. **Information/Discussion only**

- a. VIA Monthly Service Reports for January – February 2017
- b. YARTS Ridership History/Visitation
- c. YARTS Financial Report/Budget Update
- d. Minutes of the April 10, 2017 YARTS JPA meeting (to be approved at the JPA July 24, 2017 meeting)
- e. Authority Advisory Committee Meeting Dates for 2017-2018

So noted.

5. **Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Grant**

The committee agreed by consensus to support the recommendation to the YARTS Joint Powers Authority to authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute an agreement with and to accept funding from the Federal Highways Administration for the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) grant if awarded.

6. **Amtrak Services Contract**

The committee agreed by consensus to support the recommendation to the YARTS Joint Powers Authority to approve the Amendment of Services contract and authorize the Executive Director to execute the agreement.

7. **YARTS/Fresno Council of Governments Amendment No. 1 to Agreement for Services Contract**

The committee agreed by consensus to support the recommendation to the YARTS Joint Powers Authority to approve the agreement as submitted to YARTS and authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute the document.

8. **YARTS/National Park Service Cooperative Agreement Update**

Dick Whittington gave an update on the current status of the YARTS/National Park Service Cooperative Agreement.

9. **YARTS Quarterly Social Media Statistics**

Cindy Kelly gave an update on the YARTS Quarterly Social Media Statistics.

10. **YARTS Online Reservations Update**

Cindy Kelly gave an update on the YARTS Online Reservations.

11. **Oral Report – National Park Service Report**

Jim Donovan gave the National Park Service Report.

12. **Oral Report – Manager’s Report**

Dick Whittington gave the Manager’s Report and stated the need for a privacy policy for emergency type situations and how that would work in regards to law enforcement requests for information.

13. **Member Remarks**

Sandy Hogan stated her praise on the YARTS Brochure that was mailed out.

Karen Baker informed the committee that the fairgrounds are set up as a staging ground for evacuations.

Lisa Mayo stated that she has noticed a rise in visitation possibly due to the Detwiler fire and some visitors transferring reservations.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OF THE YARTS JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 11:30 A.M.