

ATTACHMENT C
UNMET NEEDS REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026 UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS REPORT

PUBLIC HEARING DATE

February 26, 2025

March 26, 2025

SSTAC MEETING DATES

April 9, 2025

May 14, 2025

Unmet Transit Needs Evaluation and Criteria

Per the Transportation Development Act (TDA) the definition of "Unmet Transit Need" is "at a minimum, exists where local residents do not have access to private vehicles or other forms of transportation, due to age, income, or handicap, for the purpose of traveling to medical care, shopping, social/recreational activities, educations/training and employment."

All comments received are reviewed and categorized into one of the following categories:

- Service Request – Extended Service
- Service Request – New Service
- New Amenities
- Operational Issues – Bus Passes and Fares
- Operational issues – Bus Infrastructure or Operations
- Route Connectivity Issues
- Bus Driver Issues
- Informational Issues
- Safety and Shelters

Only those comments categorized as "Service Request – New Service" or "Service Request – Extended Service" meet the definition of an unmet transit need. The comments are evaluated using the Kings County TDA Unmet Need Criteria for "Reasonable to Meet."

- Feasibility: new, expanded or revised transit service, if implemented or funded, would not cause the operator to incur expenditures in excess of the maximum amount of TDA funds available to Kings County.
- Duplication: proposed transit service does not duplicate transit services currently provided by either public or private operators.
- Community Support: proposed transit service has community support from the general public, community groups and community leaders
- Farebox: new, expanded or revised transit service, if implemented or funded, would allow the responsible operator to meet the TDA required farebox revenue ratio of 15% of the overall system.
- Potential Ridership: there is supporting data to indicate sufficient ridership potential for the new, expanded or revised service.
- TDP Goals: implementation of the new, expanded, or revised transit service should achieve or be moving toward the goals outlined in the Kings County Transit Development Plan for a comparable type of service.
- Funding: proposed transit service shall have a reasonable expectation of future demand and available funding on a long-term basis to maintain the service.
- Equity: proposed transit service is needed and would benefit either the public or the elderly and disabled population as a whole.

Based on the information above, staff has categorized and evaluated all of the comments received. The table below summarizes our determination.

FY 25-26 UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS HEARINGS PUBLIC TESTIMONY ANALYSIS KINGS AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT								
Public Testimony		# of Requests	Is This An Unmet Need?	Reasonable To Meet?	Reasonable to Meet Requirements			
					Feasibility	Community Support	Potential Ridership	Funding
					Duplication	Farebox	TDP Goals	Equity
KART Service Requests - New Service								
1	Add Sunday service in Hanford to fixed routes	1	Y	N	N	N	N	N
					N	N	N	N
SSTAC Recommendation / Operator Response The comment reflects a request to add new service which is an unmet transit need that is not reasonable to meet. This request cannot be met due to a lack of support and the projected ridership will not meet the farebox ratio.								
2	Add direct routes from Avenal to Visalia and Fresno for medical appointments	1	Y	N	N	N	N	N
					N	N	N	N
SSTAC Recommendation / Operator Response The comment reflects a request to add new service which is an unmet transit need that is not reasonable to meet. This request cannot be met due to a lack of support and the projected ridership will not meet the farebox ratio.								
KART Service Requests - Extended Service								
3	Allow buses to run at later evening hours, i.e. 10:00 p.m., for those who work at night	2	Y	N	N	N	N	N
					N	N	N	N
SSTAC Recommendation / Operator Response The comment reflects a request to extend service which is an unmet transit need that is not reasonable to meet. This request cannot be met due to a lack of support and the projected ridership will not meet the farebox ratio.								
4	Add an on-route bus stop at the Costco on Lacey Blvd.	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
					N	Y	Y	Y
SSTAC Recommendation / Operator Response The comment reflects a request to add new service to an area not currently serviced by fixed route, which is an unmet transit need. Grant funds are available to start the new route making it reasonable to meet.								
5	Avenal Shopping KART service to Hanford during the week. Two days a week.	1	N	N	N	N	N	N
					Y	N	N	N
SSTAC Recommendation / Operator Response The comment reflects a request to extend service, which is not reasonable to meet. This request cannot be met due to the duplication of Route 12 service.								