



**GO GREEN TEAM  
MINUTES  
YOUNTVILLE TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 6550 YOUNT STREET  
June 23, 2015 – 4:30 P.M.**

1. **ROLL CALL:** Present: Sherry Breitigam, Janet Gotch, Billie Hewitt, Davio Santos, Allyssa Wickstrom, Town Council Member Marita Dorenbecher, Vice Mayor Richard Hall
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

None
3. **APPROVAL OF MNUTES:** The minutes of May 26, 2015 were approved. M/S: Hewitt/Santos. Ayes: All.
4. **SCHEDULED MATTERS**
  - A. Discussion of potential local actions to take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Transportation sector. Danielle Schmitz and Tom Roberts from the Napa County Transportation and Planning Agency (NCTPA) provided an overview of the VINE system, including the Yountville Trolley. NCTPA has overhauled the transit system to better serve the needs of the community and transit riders. Ridership was at 590,000 rides per year and declining four years ago. In 2012, NCTPA introduced major service changes and ridership is now up to 950,000 rides per year, a 60% increase. One significant improvement was to split the route running up and down Highway 29 from south of Napa to Calistoga into two routes (Route 10 and 11), thus improving on-time performance. NCTPA continues to explore ways to improve service in Yountville, including earlier and later runs to serve commuters who work at local hotels and the Veterans Home.

NCTPA has replaced two-thirds of its fleet over the last 5 years. New busses use clean diesel for fuel. The agency has considered CNG (compressed natural gas) for fuel, but there is only one CNG facility in Napa. The State may eventually require electric busses.

NCTPA has made several improvements to busses to encourage ridership, including express busses, wi-fi, reclining seats, and tray tables. A “Where’s My Bus?” app enables riders to see exactly when a bus will arrive at any bus stop in the VINE system.

One-third of riders are high school and college students. Two-thirds ride to or from the BART station. Tourists use the VINE system as well. The bus fare covers only 15% of the cost of service.

Mr. Roberts suggested the Town consider contracting with a private operator, perhaps in coordination with the local chambers of commerce, to run a “luxury” bus service between Yountville, St. Helena and Calistoga for tourists. Due to regulations, NCTPA cannot provide a higher class of service for a segment of the population.

VINE busses have bike racks that carry 2 to 3 bikes. A fourth rack could be added if there is demand. Only 2% of riders currently utilize the bike racks. The agency is experimenting with inside bike racks.

NCTPA contracts with Solano Napa Commuter Info to provide transportation demand programs, including:

- Emergency Ride Home – provides a free ride home in an emergency to anyone who uses alternative transportation (carpool, vanpool, train, ferry, bus, walk or bicycle) to get to work.
- Bucks for Bikes – provides a financial incentive for the purchase of a commuter bicycle equal to 60% of the cost of a new bike, up to \$100.
- Vanpool Incentives – provides financial incentives to start a vanpool, including up to \$300 in free gas cards.
- Carpool and vanpool matching.
- Napa Commute Challenge –provides financial rewards for employers and employees that use alternative transportation to get to work for at least 30 days between April 1 and June 30.
- Commute assistance and trip planning.

Pursuant to SB 1339, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) have adopted a Bay Area Commuter Benefits Program that requires employers with 50 or more full-time employees in the Bay Area to offer their employees specific alternative commute incentives, including the option to pay for their transit or vanpooling with pre-tax dollars, a subsidy to reduce or cover the employee’s transit or vanpool costs, or free or low-cost bus, shuttle or vanpool service operated by or for the employer. All 50 employees do not need to be working at the same location for the regulation to apply to the employer.

Yountville Public Works Director Joe Tagliaboschi reviewed programs the Town is undertaking to reduce transportation emissions. The Town currently has two electric vehicles and upgrades to more fuel-efficient or electric vehicles whenever possible as the vehicles are replaced. The Town is installing dual-port electric vehicle charging stations, one at Town Hall and four at the Community Center. NCTPA is installing two dual-port stations at the Yountville park and ride lot at Solano Avenue and California Drive. There are existing EV charging stations at Bardessano (two single-port stations), Villagio (one dual-port station), and Napa Valley Lodge (two stations).

The Town is installing bicycle racks everywhere, including all parks and public facilities. The Town utilizes a BAAQMD grant to pay for bike racks, and will install additional racks as demand increases. The Town is also installing new sidewalks and bike paths.

The group discussed the feasibility of developing a bike share program and utilizing high-albedo pavement.

Based on the team’s discussion, the Town’s Consultant, Christine O’Rourke, will prepare a list of potential actions to include in the Transportation section of the Climate Action Plan and will distribute it prior to the next meeting for review. Team members are requested to provide comments in advance of the meeting. The group will discuss the list at the July meeting.

- B. Preliminary discussion of potential local actions for the Water and Wastewater sector. The group agreed to tour the Sewer Treatment Plant prior to the July 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, pending confirmation with Utility Operations Manager Don Moore.

**5. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS AND STAFF:** None

**6. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m. M/S: Gotch/Hewitt. Ayes: All.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine O’Rourke

Town Consultant