



## NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY **COVER MEMO**

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### **SUBJECT**

Accessible Transportation Needs Assessment (ATNA) Plan Adoption

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA) Board of Directors adopt the Accessible Transportation Needs Assessment.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Accessible Transportation Needs Assessment (ATNA) study identifies barriers to mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities across Napa County and proposes strategies to enhance equitable and accessible transportation options.

The draft ATNA was released in March with no additional comments received by the deadline of April 11. Staff is requesting adoption of the plan by the NVTA Board.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None



## NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY Board Agenda Memo

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**SUBJECT:** Accessible Transportation Needs Assessment (ATNA) Plan Adoption

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA) Board of Directors adopt the Accessible Transportation Needs Assessment.

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

The Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC) recommended that the NVTA Board of Directors adopt the Accessible Transportation Needs Assessment at their May 1, 2025 meeting.

### **BACKGROUND**

In late 2019, County of Napa elected officials, Napa County and NVTA staff, and representatives from multiple senior and disabled community organizations met to discuss gaps in transportation options throughout the county and potential solutions to improve mobility for these populations. NVTA agreed to work with the County to identify these gaps through a comprehensive countywide transportation needs assessment specific to seniors and disabled community members.

In March 2022, the County of Napa Commission on Aging held a Transportation Needs Summit in Yountville and invited representatives from multiple organizations to resume discussions in preparation for a countywide transportation needs assessment. The summit attendees noted that adequate transportation presents a major challenge for seniors and disabled community members and that it is a collective problem, that needs to be addressed by multiple entities. NVTA agreed to take the lead role in the countywide Accessible Transportation Needs Assessment (ATNA).

NVTA entered a contract with a consultant in late 2022 for a set of deliverables, but the contract was terminated and the project was put on hold. NVTA released a new Request

for Proposals (RFP) in October 2023. A single proposal from Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates Inc. was received. The selection committee deemed Nelson/Nygaard's proposal responsive to the RFP. The NVTB Board approved the contract with Nelson/Nygaard in January 2024 and work resumed in early March.

During NVTB's initial effort, some common themes emerged during the review of existing plans and studies. These themes helped shape strategies for improving transportation services across multiple service providers countywide:

1. Access to healthcare is a challenge, especially specialized care
2. Target populations perceive that most existing services only serve medical trips
3. Rural populations and those lacking access to technology are most disadvantaged
4. Senior and disabled populations are strongly dependent on private auto use
5. Need for development of countywide performance metrics to measure access to all types of transportation services

The NVTB and Nelson/Nygaard team coordinated this effort with the County of Napa, as they completed an Older Adults Needs Assessment (NOAA). The NOAA focused on all services and needs for seniors countywide, particularly services that were highly impacted by the Covid-19 Pandemic. The ATNA is intended to address the recommendations in the NOAA report, which found that the two most significant transportation concerns focus on service accessibility and NVTB transportation services. The ATNA reviews the transportation needs highlighted by stakeholders in Napa County and the NOAA report and provides strategies to address them.

As part of the ATNA study, Nelson/Nygaard:

- Reviewed relevant regional plans and conducted a peer review of accessible transportation models in other counties.
- Engaged stakeholders through meetings, public workshops, and data analysis to assess mobility service gaps.
- Developed targeted strategies to improve transportation for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

### **Key Implementation Strategies**

The following six priority strategies were identified for phased implementation as funding becomes available:

- **Partner with healthcare providers** to enhance transportation access.
- **Expand non-NVTB transportation options** to increase service availability.
- **Improve access to medical facilities in neighboring counties.**
- **Establish a dedicated mobility manager** and formalize an ongoing implementation committee.
- **Enhance public awareness and outreach** to seniors and individuals with disabilities.

- **Expand Vine Go service** to improve mobility options.

NVTA staff is assembling a working group made up of key decision makers from multiple organizations to work towards implementation of strategies in the plan. Staff will bring periodic reports back to the board on implementation progress.

All plan documents are available on the ATNA Website:

[Accessible Transportation Needs Assessment \(ATNA\) - NVTA](#)

### **ALTERNATIVES**

None

### **STRATEGIC GOALS MET BY THIS PROPOSAL**

**Goal 1:** Serve the transportation needs of the entire community regardless of age, income or ability

This Countywide planning effort evaluated existing conditions and transportation service gaps and proposes solutions that will improve transportation options to serve the needs of senior and disabled populations throughout Napa County.

### **ATTACHMENT**

None