

# Paratransit Services

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*Since 1980, the mission of Paratransit Services has been to provide quality coordinated transportation and community services that meet the needs of the people we are entrusted to serve.*

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September 6, 2018

Lisa Davey-Bates, Executive Director  
Lake Transit Authority  
367 N. State Street, Suite 204  
Ukiah, CA 95482

### **RE: Clearlake Transit Hub Location**

Dear Ms. Davey-Bates:

Paratransit Services has operated Lake Transit under contract with Lake Transit Authority (LTA) since July 2007. This letter is written in support of Lake Transit Authority's (LTA) proposal to construct a new transit hub at a location on Dam Road Extension in the City of Clearlake.

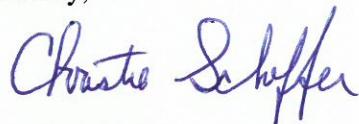
As the operator of Lake Transit, we have seen a need for a new transit hub location within Clearlake for the past several years. The existing transfer site located adjacent to the new Big 5 and Tractor Supply businesses (formerly Ray's Food Place) does not provide for adequate circulation, safety or security for the buses or riders relying on the service for their transportation needs.

A Transit Hub Location Plan was adopted by the Lake Area Planning Council (APC)/Lake Transit Authority Board last year recommending that a new hub be located at the Dam Road Extension site. This location will provide better circulation and access through the City and the region, especially given the new construction of a connecting road between Dam Road Extension and Phillips/18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, which would provide a connection between the residential "Avenues" to the north and the commercial (Walmart, Big 5 Tractor Supply, etc.) and civic (courthouse, schools) areas surrounding the hub. Logistically, the Dam Road Extension is a great location for the new transit hub.

In addition, Paratransit Services has been concerned for some time about security issues at the current transfer site due to the transient population loitering there. We support efforts within the community to address the needs of people who are the homeless, but at the same time, the primary responsibility of Paratransit Services as the contractor for Lake Transit is to operate a public transit system that is safe, clean, and on-time, and the transfer center is not designed to be a homeless shelter. We are encouraged that security concerns were addressed in the Location Plan, with full-time transit staff as well as other features (possible security cameras, etc.)

I support the efforts of LTA to move ahead on this important project.

Sincerely,



Christie Scheffer  
Acting President, Paratransit Services