

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
and
2000 MEASURE A CITIZENS WATCHDOG COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, April 7, 2010

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Chairperson Powers, Conference Room B-104, VTA River Oaks Campus, 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Stephen Blaylock	CAC Member	Present
Clinton Brownley	CAC Member	Present
Bena Chang	CAC Member	Present
Chris Elias	CAC Member	Present
Ray Hashimoto	CAC Member	Present
Roberta Hughan	CAC Member	Present
Robert Jacobvitz	CAC Vice Chairperson	Present
Bruce Liedstrand	CAC Member	Present
Gaye Morando	CAC Member	Present
Aaron Morrow	CAC Member	Present
Charlotte Powers	CAC Chairperson	Present
Sally Probst	CAC Member	Present
Connie Rogers	CAC Member	Present
Martin Schulter	CAC Member	Present
Noel Tebo	CAC Member	Present
Herman Wadler	CAC Member	Present

A quorum was present.

2. ORDERS OF THE DAY

Chairperson Powers moved the following Agenda Items to the end of the Agenda: **Agenda Item #5.** Committee Staff Report and **Agenda Item #6.** Chairperson's Report.

On order of Chairperson Powers and there being no objection, the Committee accepted the Orders of the Day.

The Agenda was taken out of order.

3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no Public Presentations.

Member Hashimoto arrived at the meeting and took his seat at 4:40 p.m.

Introduction of Committee Members

Clinton Brownley representing West Valley Cities; Sally Probst representing Senior Citizens; Connie Rogers representing South County Cities; Gaye Morando representing Santa Clara County Chamber of Commerce Coalition; Stephen Blaylock representing Mass Transit Users; Herman Wadler representing Bicyclists; Bruce Liedstrand representing North County Cities; Martin Schulter representing Disabled Persons; Noel Tebo representing San Jose City Group; Chris Elias representing Environmentalists; Aaron Morrow representing the Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA); Roberta Hughan representing Santa Clara County; Bena Chang representing Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG); Ray Hashimoto representing Building Industry Association; Robert Jacobvitz representing Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA); and Charlotte Powers representing San Jose City Group.

Member Elias arrived at the meeting and took his seat at 4:43 p.m.

4. Discussion with Mr. Roadshow, San Jose Mercury News columnist Gary Richards

Gary Richards, *Mr. Roadshow, San Jose Mercury News* Columnist, reported that he receives about 1000 emails a week regarding transportation issues and concerns, noting the best stories are generated by the readers.

Mr. Richards stated the number one transportation question received in 1991 pertained to when BART was coming to San Jose, noting the communities concern with the horrendous traffic conditions.

Mr. Richards commented on the following top priority transportation concerns received by the community are:

- why is my traffic light always red;
- pot hole concerns,
- driver transportation fees, such as toll, Express Lane, and vehicle registration fees;
- traffic violations and fines; and,
- High Speed Rail (HSR).

Vice Chairperson Jacobvitz noted the importance of the CAC Committee to determine a way to work with the community through a public forum to access incentives to maintain and increase VTA ridership.

Mr. Richards responded he would be pleased to have the opportunity to initiate a public forum to obtain the ridership information.

Chairperson Powers and the Committee expressed appreciation and thanked Mr. Richards for his presentation.

Chairperson Powers announced that Mr. Richards was awarded the California Transportation Commission (CTC) "Tranny" Award Person of the Year.

Mr. Richards stated that he enjoys his job, noting that it provides him the opportunity to connect to the community.

BUSINESS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS/ GENERAL MANAGER

COMBINED CAC AND 2000 MEASURE A CITIZENS WATCHDOG COMMITTEE CONSENT AGENDAS

7. Minutes of March 10, 2010

Member Brownley noted the following corrections under Roll Call: Member Brownley should be reflected as a CAC Member and present at the March 10, 2010 CAC/CWC Meeting and Member Larsen should be removed as a CAC Member from the Roll Call.

M/S/C (Probst/Wadler) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2010 as amended.

8. CAC Quarterly Attendance Report

On order of Chairperson Powers and there being no objection, the Committee received the CAC Quarterly Attendance Report.

9. Monthly Legislative History Matrix

On order of Chairperson Powers and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Monthly Legislative History Matrix.

10. Bill Position: AB 1670 (Beall)

Public Presentation

Omar Chatty, Interested Citizen, urged the Committee to not endorse AB 1670 (Beall), noting his opposition to have the City of San Jose acquire responsibility of the road improvements.

Scott Haywood, Policy and Community Relations Manager, reported the City of San Jose is sponsoring AB 1670, noting VTA has an official commitment since the Santa Clara – Alum Rock Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project was designed to the City’s standards with the assumption that SR 130 would be relinquished.

Mr. Haywood stated the bill position consists of a three step process:

- State Legislation;
- If approved, the City will work collaboratively with Caltrans to determine what work needs to be completed to bring the roadways up to a state of good repair; and
- Approval by the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

M/S/C (Probst/Liedstrand) to recommend that the VTA Board of Directors adopt a support position for AB 1670 (Beall), which authorizes the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to relinquish the following to the city of San Jose: (a) the portion of State Route 82 from U.S. 101 to I-880; and (b) the portion of State Route 130 within the San Jose city limits.

NOTE: M/S/C MEANS MOTION SECONDED AND CARRIED AND, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2000 MEASURE A CITIZENS WATCHDOG COMMITTEE REGULAR AGENDA

11. Final Compliance Audit Report on Fiscal Year 2009 2000 Measure A Program Revenues and Expenditures

David Bullock, Certified Public Accountant (CPA), and Craig Boyer, CPA, reported that Macias, Gini & O'Connell, a Certified Public Accounting Firm, issued an unqualified opinion on the 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program's Financial Statements. The audit report states that the Program's Financial Statements were present fairly in all respects and the changes in financial position of the Program for the year ended in conformity with principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Mr. Boyer directed attention to VTA's 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance Examination and Budgetary Comparison Schedule for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2009, which provides information on the Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance Examination; Budgetary Comparison Schedule on a Budgetary Basis; Notes to Budgetary Comparison Schedule; and Program Summaries.

Mr. Boyer noted the 2000 Measure A Program Final Compliance Audit Report on FY 2009 includes a supplementary section with project description, project status, project activities, and project expenditures.

Chairperson Powers recommended the Committee receive the draft Compliance Audit Report with amendments requiring clarification then agendaize the final report for consideration at the May 12, 2010 Citizens Advisory Committee/2000 Measure A Citizens Watchdog Committee meeting.

Chairperson Powers requested the final Compliance Audit Report be provided to the Committee Members in hard copy.

Chairperson Powers and Committee expressed appreciation and thanked the auditors for including the 2000 Measure A Project Summaries in the report.

M/S/C (Jacobvitz/Rogers) on a vote of 15 ayes to 1 abstention to receive and review the audit report from Macias, Gini & O'Connell, the Citizens Watchdog Committee's independent compliance auditor, on the compliance audit of Fiscal Year 2009 (FY09) 2000 Measure A revenues and expenditures. Member Liedstrand abstained.

Chairperson Powers and Committee Members welcomed newly appointed Committee Members Bena Chang and Aaron Morrow.

12. Approve Date and Location of Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) Public Hearing

M/S/C (Brownley/Hashimoto) to satisfy the requirements of Measure A, approve the following: 1) Conduct the CWC annual public hearing on May 12, 2010, in combination with the monthly Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)/CWC meeting. 2) Hold the combined hearing and CAC/CWC meeting in Board Chambers at the County of Santa Clara Government Center (70 West Hedding Street). 3) The CAC/CWC general meeting will start at 5:30 p.m., and the CWC public hearing will commence at 6:00 p.m.

13. **Publication Strategy for Combined Public Hearing Notice and Compliance Audit Results**

Greta Helm, Chief External Affairs Officer and Staff Liaison, reported the publication strategy for combining the Public Hearing Notice and Compliance Audit Results is similar to what was conducted last year. The public hearing notice and Fiscal Year 2009 2000 Measure A Financial Statements would be published in one combined advertisement to significantly reduce advertising costs. The summary version of the advertisement is intended for publication in local newspapers, while a detailed version is intended for placement on VTA's website.

Chairperson Powers suggested utilization of Facebook and Twitter as two good additional sources.

Dino Guevarra, Sales and Promotion Supervisor, stated online advertising will allow more individuals to view the published information multiple times compared to the newspaper.

Chairperson Powers suggested the public hearing notice information be forwarded to Gary Richards to include in *Mr. Roadshow, San Jose Mercury News*.

Member Chang suggested that the attendees be asked how they found out about the public hearing and if Google could be utilized as part of the email campaigns. Mr. Guevarra responded that staff would prepare a survey and noted staff would look into using Google.

Member Rogers noted the individuals who would be interested in the public hearing tend to be older and conservative and would look for the information in the newspaper not online.

Member Blaylock queried about the publication budget and requested the public attendance from the previous years. Mr. Guevarra responded staff will provide the information to the Committee.

Member Wadler suggested staff utilize a sign in sheet to determine how the public was made aware of the public hearing.

Mr. Guevarra commented on other announcement methods for distributing information in addition to local newspapers include:

- Informational signs on VTA buses and vehicles, bus stops, shelters, light rail stations, Park & Rides, and other facilities;
- VTA's *Take One*;
- Informational fliers distributed to libraries and other public buildings throughout Santa Clara County;
- Public Service Announcements (PSA) on local radio or TV stations;
- Informational postings on CreaTV San Jose, a public access channel; and
- Sending email announcement to GovDelivery subscribers.

Member Blaylock queried if the Santa Clara County would allow the Committee to utilize their webcast to streamline the public hearing and if so, how much would it cost.

Ms. Helm noted the primary goal of the publications is to inform the community of the public hearing and indicate the detailed information is available on VTA's website and at

various public locations. Ms. Helm noted the importance for the Committee to notify their constituents about the public hearing and encourage community participation.

Member Morrow stated he informed the CTA about the May 12, 2010 CAC/CWC Public Hearing/Meeting, noting the importance for the Committee to inform their constituents as well.

The Committee directed staff to initiate the following:

- Balanced publication strategy to include both online as well as print advertising;
- Forward the information to Gary Richards to include in *Mr. Roadshow*, *San Jose Mercury News*;
- Create Facebook and Twitter accounts
- Summary advertising version produced in three languages;
- Detailed advertising version containing more comprehensive information available on VTA's website; and
- Expend up to \$5,000 in 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program funds to publish the public hearing notice and compliance audit results.

M/S/C (Wadler/Brownley) to satisfy the Measure A requirement that the Citizens Watchdog Committee publicly notice the public hearing it conducts and also that it publicize the results of the annual independent audit in local newspapers, approve the following: 1) The content and format of the combined summary notice for publication in local newspapers notifying the public of the Citizens Watchdog Committee's public hearing on May 12, 2010 and the results of the independent compliance audit of the FY 2009 Measure A financial schedule and records. 2) The content and format of the combined notice for placement on VTA's website notifying the public of the Citizens Watchdog Committee's public hearing on May 12, 2010 and the results of the independent compliance audit of the FY 2009 Measure A financial schedules and records. 3) A publication strategy for publishing the combined notice in local newspapers. 4) Employing alternate methods in addition to publication in local newspapers and posting on VTA's website to notifying the public on the public hearing and the results of the compliance audit.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR AGENDA

14. Light Rail Transit Systems Analysis – Final Plan Adoption

Andrew Ittigson, Transportation and Planning Consultant, distributed a handout entitled, "Light Rail System Analysis," highlighting: 1) Project Background; 2) Light Rail System Analysis Outreach; 3) Peer Comparison – Boardings and Route Miles; 4) ABAG Population and Job Growth Drives LRT Growth; 5) Light Rail 2009 and 2035 Ridership; 6) Market Analysis – Transit Competitiveness; 7) LRT vs. Auto – Peak Travel Times; 8) How do we improve the LRT System; 9) Phase I Proposal Guadalupe Express; 10) Phase I South San Jose Ridership Gains; 11) Phase I Vasona Ridership; 12) Phase II Proposal Tasman Line (Long T); 13) Phase II Eastridge Gains; 14) Phase II Mountain View Express; 15) Service Package Comparison 2018; 16) Independent System Improvements; and 17) Next Steps.

Mr. Ittigson stated the project began in September 2008, noting that Light Rail Transit (LRT) is Phase II of the Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA) and the intent is to focus on making the system effective and efficient.

M/S (Wadler/Schulter) to recommend the Board of Directors adopt the Light Rail System Analysis Improvement Plan.

Member Liedstrand noted the importance to determine if we are able to afford to pay the operating expenses, noting it would not be prudent to expand one service if we are unable to afford the existing service.

Chairperson Powers noted the importance to be visionary and move forward with the planning to ensure the organization is ready to precede with the transit projects when the economy improves.

Member Tebo expressed concern that the Transit Systems Analysis does not include the major destinations, such as San Jose City College, hospitals, and Eastridge Mall.

M/S (Wadler/Schulter) to amend the recommendation to request staff develop a visionary plan that includes high volume major destinations in Santa Clara County.

Chairperson Powers referenced the role and responsibility of the CAC Committee to the community, noting the importance to include public input in the Transit Systems Analysis to ensure the community has an opportunity to express what is important to them.

Public Presentation

Mr. Chatty noted his support for transit but stressed the importance to build it in the right places and ensure it is cost effective.

M/S/C (Wadler/Schulter) to recommend the Board of Directors adopt the Light Rail System Analysis Improvement Plan; and further, request staff develop a visionary plan that includes high volume major destinations in Santa Clara County.

15. Senate Bill 83 Overview

Scott Haywood, Policy and Community Relations Manager, reported SB 83 authorizes a countywide transportation agency to propose placing an annual fee of up to \$10 on motor vehicles registered within the county for transportation programs and projects.

Public Presentation

Omar Chatty, Interested Citizen, asked if SB 83 is not supported by the voters would there be a chance to place it on a future ballot. Chairperson Powers responded “yes.”

On order of Chairperson Powers, there being no objection, the Committee received the Senate Bill 83 Overview.

COMBINED CAC AND CITIZENS WATCHDOG COMMITTEE ITEMS

6. Chairperson’s Report

Financial Recovery Committee Member Report

Vice Chairperson Jacobvitz reported the Ad-Hoc Financial Recovery Committee Members and Stakeholders are currently reviewing the “Financial Stability Ideas for

Consideration,” noting the process is going to be excruciating but goes to the heart of VTA’s survival.

Vice Chairperson Jacobvitz requested that the CAC/CWC Members receive the material distributed at the April 7, 2010 Ad-Hoc Financial Recovery Committee Meeting.

Vice Chairperson Jacobvitz requested the CAC/CWC Members provide comments to him prior to the April 28, 2010 Ad-Hoc Financial Recovery Committee Meeting.

Member Morrow noted the challenging and difficult discussions that lay ahead and stressed the importance for everyone to keep a clear focus.

Vice Chairperson Jacobvitz stated the next Ad-Hoc Financial Recovery Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.

CAC Stakeholder Representation Subcommittee Report

There was no CAC Stakeholder Representation Subcommittee Report.

16. CAC and the 2000 Measure A Citizens Watchdog Work Plan

Member Brownley stressed the importance for the CAC Committee to discuss the perceived levels of quality and what we can do to improve them and requested the item for a future agenda.

On order of Chairperson Powers, there being no objection, the CAC and the 2000 Measure A Citizens Watchdog Work Plan was reviewed.

6. Chairperson’s Report (continued)

Chairperson Powers announced the California High Speed Rail Authority Board Meeting scheduled on Thursday, April 8, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. held at the County Government Center in the Board of Supervisors Chambers.

5. Committee Staff Report

Greta Helm, Chief External Affairs Officer and Staff Liaison, distributed “Transit to Trails” Bay Nature Magazine to the Committee Members.

Ms. Helm announced VTA’s Earth Day Event at VTA River Oaks Campus scheduled on Tuesday, April 13, 2010, noting National Earth Day is planned on Thursday, April 22, 2010.

Ms. Helm announced the May 10, 2010 Bike to Work Day, noting VTA’s selling custom designed first edition VTA Bike Jersey.

Ms. Helm reported that Michael T. Burns, General Manager, has been invited to speak at the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) on Thursday, May 6, 2010.

OTHER

17. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Announcements.

18. ADJOURN

On order of Chairperson Powers, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle M. Garza, Board Assistant
VTA Office of the Board Secretary