

# **POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, April 10, 2008

## **MINUTES**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairperson Christopher Moylan in Conference Room B-104, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present**

Margaret Abe-Koga  
Lou Becker  
Sid Espinosa  
Steve Glickman  
Kathleen King  
Joe Kornder  
Marby Lee  
Evan Low  
Pete McHugh  
Christopher Moylan, Chairperson  
Pierluigi Oliverio  
Gilbert Wong (Alternate)  
Perry Woodward  
Wright, Curtis

##### **Representative Cities**

Mountain View  
Los Altos  
Palo Alto  
Los Gatos  
Saratoga  
Santa Clara  
Morgan Hill  
Campbell  
Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors  
Sunnyvale  
San Jose  
Cupertino  
Gilroy  
Monte Sereno

##### **Members Absent**

Armando Gomez  
Vacant

##### **Representative Cities**

Milpitas  
Los Altos Hills

**A quorum was present.**

Members Low and Espinosa arrived at the meeting and took their seats at 4:07 p.m.

## 2. **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**On order of Chairperson Moylan**, the following Agenda items were deferred to a future meeting: **Agenda Item # 9.**, Review and recommend approval of the programming of an additional \$195,000 for FY 2007/08 CMAQ projects; and **Agenda Item # 14.**, Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2035 – Initial Vision, Goals and Policy.

## 3. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

There were no Public Presentations.

Members Lee, King and McHugh arrived at the meeting and took their seats at 4:12 p.m.

## 4. **Committee Staff Report**

Jim Lawson, Senior Policy Advisor and Staff Liaison, welcomed Michael T. Burns, General Manager.

Mr. Burns introduced the new Assistant Board Secretary Yolanda Cruz. Mr. Burns announced the retirement of Suzanne Gifford, General Counsel. He noted that Kevin Allmand will serve as Acting General Counsel in the interim and that the Board of Directors has directed staff to initiate a search to fill Ms. Gifford's position.

Mr. Burns provided a report highlighting: 1) Federal Funding issues for transportation are in a critical mode; 2) Update of federal funding for transportation infrastructure; 3) State and Federal budget issues regarding transportation; 4) Rising gasoline prices with relation to public transportation; 5) Provided update regarding California Transit Association's (CTA) decision to sue the State due to the diversion of \$1.4 billion of transportation funds to non-transportation uses to cover other deficits in the General Fund; 6) Announced AB 1815 (Feuer) which calls for creating a 14 member California Transportation Infrastructure Task Force to develop a report for the Governor and Legislature on alternatives to the current system of funding transportation infrastructure in the state by taxing road users through per-gallon fuel taxes; 7) Indicated local sales tax revenues are down 5 percent; 8) Update and brief overview regarding VTA Governance and the agenda item being presented to the Committee today; 9) Update regarding VTA's current Vision/Mission Statements; 10) Ongoing work to implement the recommendations of the Hay Group. A status report of that process will be provided to the Administration and Finance (A&F) Committee with an attached scorecard to indicate progress. Mr. Burns noted that the information is available on [www.vta.org](http://www.vta.org); 11) Announced implementation of an automated system for the Board Office is scheduled to commence in approximately two months; 12) The New Bus Service Plan implemented January 2008 has received favorable response and the Plan continues to be monitored. A status report will be presented to the Board in six and twelve month intervals with evaluations of the Plan; 13) Ridership for February 2008 up 6 percent overall; and 14) Announced the plan to embark on the process to update the 2000 Measure A Expenditure Plan.

**5. Chairperson's Report**

Chairperson Moylan welcomed Member Espinosa representing the City of Palo Alto.

Chairperson Moylan commented that he provided a brief overview of the March 13, 2008 PAC meeting to the Board of Directors.

**6. City Grouping Report**

Chairperson Moylan stated that the North County City Grouping discussed the VTA Governance.

Member Wright stated that the West Valley City Grouping met and that a lively discussion ensued regarding VTA's Governance. Member Wright commented that the Group voted in opposition to the staff recommendation.

Member Oliverio arrived at the meeting at 4:24 p.m. and took his seat.

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

**CONSENT**

**7. Minutes of March 13, 2008**

M/S/C (McHugh/Abe-Koga) to approve the Minutes of March 13, 2008 as amended.

**8. FY 08/09 Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program Manager Fund**

M/S/C (McHugh/Abe-Koga) to review and recommend that the VTA Board of Directors approve the programming of FY 2008/09 Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program Manager (TFCA 40%) funds to projects.

**9. (Deferred)**

Review and recommend approval of the programming of an additional \$195,000 for FY 2007/08 Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) Projects.

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

## REGULAR

### 10. VTA Governance

Chairperson Moylan gave a brief overview and update regarding the VTA Governance Proposal submitted by VTA Board of Director Greg Sellers. Chairperson Moylan noted that at the March 13, 2008 PAC meeting the Committee recommended that the cities be given the opportunity to discuss the governance issue with their councils and return with those recommendations at the April 10, 2008 PAC meeting.

Member McHugh commented that he supports the VTA Governance Proposal as does Supervisor Gage. He stated that the Board of Supervisors accepted the report and that there was no further discussion.

Member McHugh left the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

Member Glickman commented that the Governance Proposal has not been agendized in the Town of Los Gatos.

Member Lee commented that the City of Morgan Hill supports a more contiguous City Grouping and supports the recommendation.

Member Becker stated that the VTA Governance Proposal has not been agendized in Los Altos.

Member Wright commented that the Monte Sereno City Council does not support the VTA Governance Proposal.

Member Espinosa stated that the Governance Proposal has not been agendized in the City of Palo Alto.

Member Woodward commented that the City of Gilroy supports the recommendation.

Member Kornder stated that the City of Santa Clara supports the Governance Proposal.

Member Oliverio commented that the City of San Jose has an ambivalent opinion regarding the recommendation because San Jose does not have the representation per the population and housing.

Alternate Member Wong stated the Governance Proposal has been agendized by the City of Cupertino and is in support of the recommendation per the letter sent to VTA from Dolly Sandoval on behalf of the West Valley City Managers and Mayors. Alternate Member Wong noted that the City of Cupertino does not support realigning Los Altos Hills to the West Valley City Grouping.

Member Low commented that the City of Campbell conducted a study session and is in support of the Governance Proposal. He stated that Campbell does not support including Los Altos Hill in the West Valley City Group.

Vice Chairperson Abe-Koga commented that the City of Mountain View supports the Governance Proposal, but does not support the two-year term recommendation. She also stated that the issue of parochialism is an area of significant concern.

Chairperson Moylan referred to a document he distributed from Tony Spitaleri, Mayor of the City of Sunnyvale, expressing concern with the Governance Proposal and cannot support the recommendation. Chairperson Moylan commented that a countywide service should be governed by the county by people who are directly elected at the county level.

Chairperson Moylan commented that it has been acknowledged by VTA staff and City of San Jose staff that the adoption of a short-term change would delay the already difficult implementation of a long-term solution that would require modification to our enabling legislation.

Member King commented that the City of Saratoga supports the Governance Proposal. Member King requested clarification regarding Board of Directors term limits. Jim Lawson, Senior Policy Advisor, clarified that two-year terms are indicated in legislation and would need legislation to be modified. Further, Mr. Lawson stated that staff has not indicated that initiating these changes would delay a greater change in the future.

Member Becker requested clarification regarding the issues at hand. Chairperson Moylan provided a brief overview of the VTA Governance structure. Mr. Lawson commented that the Hay Group studied the Governance structure to determine if the structure was effective for the organization. Mr. Lawson further clarified that after consideration it was determined that it was not the Board's structure that was the problem but the problem was with the turnover of the Board of Directors and was compounded by parochial interests. The Hay Group suggested a good governance solution would be to pick the individuals who best represent your group and not to roll them out every 24 months.

Member King commented that she felt it was important for the Committee to hear from Director Sellers. Member King suggested that Director Sellers could share his impressions of feedback after visiting the cities. Member King thanked Director Sellers for his dedication and hard work regarding the VTA Governance Proposal.

Director Sellers commented that he feels very strongly that the VTA Governance Proposal will make the Board significantly stronger. He provided a brief overview regarding the Governance structure. Director Sellers stressed the importance in postponing the Governance Proposal to allow sufficient time for all cities to review and comment on the Proposal. He commented that he places high regard on the PAC and their recommendations to the Board.

Member Glickman referenced the letter from the City of Sunnyvale and asked Director Sellers if a long-term goal should include a countywide elected structure. Director

Sellers replied that the Governance Proposal begins the journey leading to a better governance structure.

Member Kornder expressed his support of the Governance Proposal and recommended adding in the recommendation that the consideration of long-term implementation alternative options should be considered.

Member Abe-Koga left the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Member King left the meeting at 5:18 p.m. and Alternate Member Page took his seat.

**M/S/C (Becker/Wright)** to review and recommend that the Board of Directors adopt the recommended changes to the Board Governance with the exception of changing the city groupings. The Committee recommended that the short term rotation should be eliminated, multiple two-year terms should be encouraged, and the whole city groupings should decide the selection of the Board of Directors and the PAC supports the long term change to the Board that would include a countywide elected Board of Directors, but would still include a Policy Advisory Committee comprised of all jurisdictions.

#### **11. Updated VTA Vision/Mission Statements**

Greta Helm, External Affairs Chief, provided a brief overview regarding VTA's Vision/Mission Statements. Ms. Helm noted that VTA's current Mission and Vision statements were adopted in 1995. She commented that the statements provide a high level strategic direction for VTA and also establish a framework for making decisions.

Ms. Helm noted that the statements had not been updated since 1995 and do not reflect the many changes in county demographics, operations, and resources that influence organization priorities. She commented that it was noted in the Organizational and Financial Assessment that the Mission/Vision statements are overly broad and may no longer be appropriate given the current and projected financial challenges and constraints facing VTA.

Ms. Helm stated that at the VTA Leadership Workshop on February 1, 2008, the Board of Directors discussed shared goals, values and themes that should be considered in updating the Mission/Vision statements. In March 2008 this information was shared with VTA staff with a distribution of an employee survey entitled, "VTA Vision and Value Survey," to gauge staff's perception regarding the relative importance of the goals, values, and themes. Based upon response to the survey, staff in the Communications/Community Outreach unit attempted to incorporate the feedback into the proposed revisions to the statements.

The recommended VTA Vision and Mission statement modifications are the following:

"The Vision of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority is to deliver transportation solutions that meet the evolving mobility needs of Santa Clara County."

“The Mission of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority is to partner in providing sustainable, community-focused transportation options that are innovative, and environmentally responsible, while promoting the vitality of our region.”

Ms. Helm commented that the statements were developed to capture the Board and staff’s primary focus on providing services that are tailored to meet the needs of the community, reflect resource constraints, and emphasize the importance of designing solutions that protect the environment while improving the quality of life.

Chairperson Moylan recommended that the vision statement should reflect the ultimate goal or achievement of VTA. He commented that the mission statement should reflect the path to that ultimate goal or vision. He stated that a financial element should be included in either the mission or vision statement.

Member Lee recommended that economic viability should be included in the mission statement.

Member McHugh expressed his support of the proposed VTA Mission/Vision statement.

Alternate Member Page commented that he supports the Mission statement. He commented that the vision statement should be vibrant, dynamic, and with greater definition.

Member Wright commented that the vision statement should be proactive with indicated set priorities.

**On order of Chairperson Moylan**, there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Updated VTA Vision/Mission Statements.

Alternate Member Wong left the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

**12. VTA Technology Initiatives**

**On order of Chairperson Moylan**, there being no objection, the Committee deferred a presentation on the VTA Technology Initiatives to a future meeting.

**13. Measure A Revenue and Expenditure Plan Update Process and Policy Guidance**

**On order of Chairperson Moylan**, there being no objection, the Committee received the Measure A Revenue and Expenditure Plan Update Process and Policy Guidance.

**14. (Deferred)**

Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2035 – Initial Vision, Goals and Policy.

## **OTHER**

### **15. Committee Work Plan**

**On order of Chairperson Moylan**, there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Work Plan.

### **16. Announcements**

Alternate Member Whittum requested clarification from staff regarding PAC Alternate Members' role and level of participation during PAC Meetings while the Regular PAC Member is present. Staff indicated that they will research the request and report back to the Committee at the May 8, 2008 meeting.

### **17. ADJOURNMENT**

**On order of Chairperson Moylan**, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.