

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 8, 2008

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) was called to order at 4:05 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
Chuck Page (Alternate)
Joe Kornder
Marby Lee
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
Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors
Sunnyvale
San Jose
Cupertino
Gilroy
Monte Sereno

Members Absent

Armando Gomez
Evan Low
Vacant

Representative Cities

Milpitas
Campbell
Los Altos Hills

A quorum was present.

2. **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

There were no Orders of the Day.

3. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

There were no Public Presentations.

Members McHugh, Lee and Alternate Member Page arrived at the meeting and took their seats at 4:11 p.m.

4. **Committee Staff Report**

Jim Lawson, Senior Policy Advisor and Staff Liaison, provided a report highlighting: 1) Overview of the Board of Directors Workshop meeting regarding the cost of the Measure A projects, policy guidance and scenario proposals; 2) Overview of the May 1, 2008 Board of Directors meeting including the sale of the West San Carlos property site to Green Republic; 3) Announced the establishment of the Audit Committee; 4) The Governance issue was approved with the exception of reconfiguring the City Groupings. This item will return to the full Board in August 2008; and 5) Discussion regarding the 1976 ballot initiative.

Member Glickman commented that correspondence from the Los Gatos City Council has been sent to the Board reflecting the consideration of the Board concerning the opposition of restructuring the City Groupings.

5. **Chairperson's Report**

Chairperson Moylan commented that he provided a brief overview of the April 10, 2008 PAC meeting to the Board of Directors.

Chairperson Moylan asked for guidance from the PAC in regard to the question posed by Alternate Member Whittum from the City of Sunnyvale regarding Alternate Committee Members who wish to sit at the table and participate when the primary committee member is present

M/S/C (Kornder/Wright) to support the recommendation that when primary Committee members are present the Alternate Committee member must sit in the audience and speak as a member of the public.

Member Oliverio arrived at the meeting and took his seat at 4:18 p.m.

6. **City Grouping Report**

Chairperson Moylan stated that the North County City Grouping received a presentation from the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) regarding housing in the Bay Area.

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

Member Wright commented that the Bicycle Lane between the Town of Los Gatos and the City of Saratoga through the City of Monte Sereno has opened to the public.

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

CONSENT

7. Minutes of April 10, 2008

M/S/C (Wong/Kornder) to approve the Minutes of April 10, 2008.

8. FY 2008/09 Transportation Development Act Article 3 Project Priorities

M/S/C (Wong/Kornder) to review and recommend approval of project priorities for the FY2008/09 Countywide Transportation Development Act Article 3 Program.

9. Transportation System Monitoring Program

M/S/C (Wong/Kornder) to review and recommend approval of the work Plan and budget for VTA staff to proceed with the development of a Transportation System Monitoring Program (TSMP) for Santa Clara County; approve the use of existing funds from the Congestion Management Program (CMP) budget to support the development of the proposed TSMP.

10. Draft 2007 Monitoring and Conformance Findings

M/S/C (Wong/Kornder) to review and recommend approval of the Draft 2007 Monitoring and Conformance findings. The findings are summarized in this memorandum and the draft report.

11. Programmed Projects Quarterly Monitoring Report for January – March 2008

On order of Chairperson Moylan, there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Programmed Projects Quarterly Monitoring Report for January – March 2008.

REGULAR

12. VTA Technology Update to PAC Review VTA Technology Projects

Gary Miskell, Chief Information Officer, provided a brief overview of the VTA Technology Update to PAC Review of VTA Technology Projects as contained in the Agenda packet highlighting: 1) Overview of Technology; 2) CCTV Program; 3) Upgrade of the Ticket Vending Machines; 4) Dynamic Passenger Information Program; 5) Board and Committee Automation Program; 6) Document Accessibility; and 7) Business Application SAP Redeployment.

Member Glickman requested clarification regarding camera resolution. Mr. Miskell replied that the resolution is good and has been used in court cases.

Member Oliverio inquired if it is advertised on the vehicles that there are surveillance devices onboard. Mr. Miskell replied that it is posted on the vehicles that surveillance devices are onboard.

Member Oliverio inquired regarding the dynamic passenger information and when the real time map will be available to riders. Mr. Miskell answered that the service should be available in approximately 9 months.

On order of Chairperson Moylan, there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the VTA Technology Update to PAC Review VTA Technology Projects.

13. Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2035 – Program Area Review: Highways

John Sighamony, Senior Planner Congestion Management Agency (CMA), provided a brief overview of the Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2035 – Program Review: Highways highlighting: 1) Program Review; 2) The Basics; 3) Santa Clara County Freeway Network; 4) Highway Program projects; 5) Completed Highway Projects; 6) Completed VTP 2030 Corridor and Gateway Studies; 7) Freeway Level of Service (LOS) in Santa Clara County; 8) Santa Clara Valley 2035 Forecasts; 9) Needs in Santa Clara County; 10) Highway Funding Future; 11) Funding for Highway Projects that include examples of fund sources for highway projects that include State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Regional Improvement Program (RIP), Interregional Improvement Program (IIP), Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA), State Highways Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP), Other Local Fees, Other State Funding Programs (STP, CMAQ), and HOT Lanes Revenue; 11) HOT Lanes including MTC strategy to achieve the Transportation 2035 goals and objectives calls for use of “Pricing” to reach targets namely conversion of all existing HOV lanes to HOT lanes; 12) HOT Lane Network including current HOT Lanes Project and proposed elements; 13) I-880 Corridor Study; 14) South County Circulation Study; 15) Route 152 Projects; 16) US 101 Improvements; 17) I-880 Improvements – SR 237 to US 101; 18) US 101 Auxiliary Lanes – Route 85 to Embarcadero Road; 19) MTC Freeway Performance Initiative; 20) VTP 2035 Highway Project list; and 21) Next Steps.

Member McHugh asked how the constrained and unconstrained project lists were compiled and if the lists could be modified. Mr. Sighamony replied that criteria for the Highway Program were adopted by the Board in 2005. He stated that the projects were scored according to the criterion and went before the Board in March 2008 prior to their submittal to MTC.

On order of Chairperson Moylan, there being no objection, the Committee received the Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2035 – Program Area Review: Highways.

14. High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Project – Preliminary Alternative

Murali Ramanujam, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a brief overview regarding the High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Project – Preliminary Alternative highlighting: 1) Preliminary development and engineering of HOT Lane Projects; 2) Update of the initial phase of the projects and refining the project parameters of the HOT lane operations, locations of ingress/egress points, and lane geometrics; 3) Update regarding later phasing of the projects that involves obtaining environmental clearance, Project Study Report, and preliminary engineering design; and 4) Update regarding the May 2008 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) where preliminary alternatives will be discussed.

Member Wright asked if there will be physical changes to the lanes. Mr. Ramanujam responded that the changes would be similar to the Southern California model and would be “painted buffers.”

Member Lee requested clarification regarding the goals of the HOT Lanes Projects. Member Lee asked if the goals are to increase revenue or reduce traffic. Mr. Ramanujam replied that the goals of the HOT Lanes include: 1) Utilize demand management tool to management traffic more effectively 2) Provide drivers with an option to have trip reliability and travel time savings; and 3) Provide potential for revenue generation.

Member Oliverio left the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

Member McHugh inquired regarding funding sources for the HOT Lanes. John Ristow, Chief CMA Officer, commented that funding sources include the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), public and private partnerships, Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), and bonding.

Member Glickman expressed his opposition to the HOT Lanes concept.

Member Kornder inquired if the California Highway Patrol (CHP) is involved with HOT Lane planning. Mr. Ramanujam stated that discussion with the CHP is ongoing.

Member Espinosa commented that he supports the HOT Lanes project.

On order of Chairperson Moylan, there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Project – Preliminary Alternative.

15. Measure A Revenue & Expenditure Plan Policy Guidance

Carolyn Gonot Chief SVRT Program Officer, provided a brief update and overview of the Measure A Revenue and Expenditure Plan Policy Guidance that highlights: 1) Purpose of the Plan; 2) Development of Policy Guidance will be consistent with the VTA Transit Sustainability Policy; 3) The Proposed Policy Guidance; 4) The Financial Feasibility Test; and the 5) Measure A Sales Tax Projections.

Ms. Gonot stated that the Proposed Policy Guidance principles include: 1) Maintain the Financial Integrity of the Organization which becomes the foundation policy for the Measure A Program; 2) Increase Transit Usage; 3) Achieve Environmental Improvements; 4) Support Transit-Oriented Land Use; 5) Strengthen Complimentary Partnerships; 6) Take Advantage of Leveraged and New Fund Sources; 7) Model Various Financial Conditions that would investigate a “Portfolio of Plans” including No New Revenue, VTP 2035 Revenues, 1/8-Cent Sales Tax, and ¼-Cent Sales Tax; 8) Achieve a Balanced Transportation Plan; and 9) Implement the Intent of Measure A.

Ms. Gonot commented that the Policy Guidance will be consistent with the VTA Transit Sustainability Policy, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s (MTC) Regional Transportation Plan Policy that includes the (“3 E’s”) which are economy, environment, and equity, and the VTA Vision Statement that is currently being modified.

Member Glickman left the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Chairperson Moylan and Member McHugh recommended implementing a process to quantify, weigh, and prioritize the list of projects.

On order of Chairperson Moylan, there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Measure A Revenue & Expenditure Plan Policy Guidance.

OTHER

16. Committee Work Plan

Chairperson Moylan recommended adding items to the work plan including: 1) Consideration of alternative city groupings; 2) Staff provide language to amend bylaws regarding the seating of alternate committee members at the table when the primary member is present; 3) Status of the Eco Pass Program; and 4) Information regarding current technology uses in transit.

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

17. Announcements

There were no Announcements.

18. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Moylan, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline F. Golzio, Board Assistant
VTA Board of Directors