

Policy Advisory Committee

Thursday, May 14, 2009

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chairperson Abe-Koga in Conference Room B-104 Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Chris Moylan	City of Sunnyvale	Present
David Whittum (Alternate)	City of Sunnyvale	NA
Chuck Page	City of Saratoga	Present
Kathleen King (Alt)	City of Saratoga	NA
Dave Cortese	SCC Board of Supervisors	Absent
Michael F. Kotowski	City of Campbell	Present
Jason Baker (Alt)	City of Campbell	NA
Kris Wang	City of Cupertino	NA
Gilbert Wong (Alt)	City of Cupertino	Present
Perry Woodward	City of Gilroy	Present
Cat Tucker (Alt)	City of Gilroy	NA
Megan Satterlee	City of Los Altos	Present
Val Carpenter (Alt)	City of Los Altos	NA
Joe Pirzynski	Town of Los Gatos	Present
Diane McNutt (Alt)	Town of Los Gatos	NA
Pete McHugh	City of Milpitas	Present
Vacant (Alt)	City of Milpitas	NA
Marshall Anstandig	City of Monte Sereno	Present
Curtis Wright (Alt)	City of Monte Sereno	NA
Marby Lee	City of Morgan Hill	Present
Steve Tate (Alt)	City of Morgan Hill	NA
Margaret Abe-Koga	City of Mountain View	Present
Laura Macias (Alt)	City of Mountain View	NA
Pat Burt	City of Palo Alto	Absent
Larry Klein (Alt)	City of Palo Alto	Absent
Kansen Chu	City of San Jose	Absent
Jamie Matthews	City of Santa Clara	Present
Jamie McLeod (Alt)	City of Santa Clara	NA
Rich Larsen	Town of Los Altos Hills	Absent

A quorum was present.

2. ORDERS OF THE DAY

Jim Lawson, Senior Policy Advisor and Staff Liaison, requested **Agenda Item # 17**, Approve the Fiscal Year 2010 Congestion Management Work Program, be heard after Agenda Item # 10, and **Agenda Item # 11**, Receive Information on the Silicon Valley Express Lanes, be removed from the Regular Agenda and placed on the Consent Agenda.

3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Noel Tebo, Interested Citizen, expressed his concern with road improvement policies and transit operations policies.

4. Committee Staff Report

Jim Lawson, Senior Policy Advisor, reported 1) Groundbreaking ceremonies for the Freight Railroad Relocation Project were held Friday, May 8, 2009, in Milpitas; 2) VTA staff participated in Bike to Work Day; 3) Caltrain is holding public hearings on fare increases and service reductions to cope with a projected \$10 million operating shortfall; and 4) Announced ribbon cutting for the High Gain Solar Pilot Project at Cerone Division.

5. Chairperson's Report

There was no Chairperson's Report.

6. City Grouping Report

Alternate Member Wong expressed his appreciation to VTA for their support with the Mary Avenue Bridge project.

Chairperson Abe-Koga stated the North County City Grouping met and discussed the governance issue and High Speed Rail.

Chairperson Abe-Koga announced Mountain View is scheduled to open 2 new segments of the Stevens Creek Trail.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

7. Minutes of April 9, 2009

M/S/C (McHugh/Pirzynski) to approve the Minutes of April 9, 2009.

8. Programmed Project Monitoring – Quarterly Report

On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Programmed Project Monitoring – Quarterly Report.

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

9. Proactive Development Review Program Enhancement and Quarterly Report

On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Proactive Development Review Program Enhancement and Quarterly Report.

The Agenda was taken Out of Order.

11. Silicon Valley Express Lanes Program Update

On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Silicon Valley Express Lanes Program Update.

REGULAR AGENDA

10. Draft Recommended Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011 Biennial Budget Review

Joseph Smith, Chief Financial Officer provided a report regarding the Draft Recommended Biennial Budget Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011 highlighting: 1) Background; 2) Budget Objectives for FY2010 & FY2011; 3) Recommended Budget Summary; 4) Major Assumptions including fares, ECO Pass increases, State Transit Assistance (STA), Federal Grants, labor & non labor, and contracted services; 5) Operating Assumption Risks; 6) Proposed fares for fixed-route, Paratransit, Eco Pass; 7) Paratransit Service Modifications; 8) Update on VTA Transit Operating Budget revenues; 8) Transit Capital Program Activity for 2010 & 2011; 9) 2000 Measure A Budget Parameters including comparison of revenues and non-project expenses, Net FY 2010 & FY2011 Capital Appropriation by Program, Two Year Projected Capital Expenditures by Program, Transit Improvement Program with Program Activity; 10) Congestion Management Program – Work Program Elements with comparison of revenues and expenses; 11) Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) Project Appropriations; and 12) Outreach and Next Steps.

Jim Unites, Deputy Director of Operations, provided an update regarding the impact of budget proposals affecting the Paratransit Program. He reported the goal is to align Paratransit services to the fixed-route bus and rail service as required under Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Mr. Unites noted Paratransit Service fares will increase July 1, 2010, and Premium Services will increase January 1, 2010.

Member Moylan expressed concern with the practice of exceeding ADA requirements.

Member McHugh recommended implementing fixed-route fare increases as quickly as possible rather than waiting until January 1, 2010 in order to realize additional revenues.

Member Pirzynski expressed concern the Capital to Eastridge Light Rail extension funding was re-instated but the Vasona Light Rail extension was not. Member Pirzynski recommended the Board reconsider de-obligating the Vasona project.

Member Kotowski suggested moving the two projects on a parallel schedule could result in cost efficiencies.

Member Lee expressed concern the price of Eco-Pass Program appears to be a reduced fare and could be restructured to increase revenue.

Noel Tebo, Interested Citizen, expressed concern with projects listed in the Capital Budget.

M/S/C (McHugh/Wong), to review the Draft Recommended Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011 Biennial Budget. The Committee recommended implementing the fare increases as soon as possible, reevaluate Eco-Pass fares, consider reinstating the Vasona extension, move the Eastridge Light Rail extension and Vasona extension on a parallel schedule, and recommend the Board consider freezing employee pension contributions for this two-year budget period.

17. Draft Congestion Management (CMP) Work Program

John Ristow, Chief Congestion Management Agency Officer, provided a brief report highlighting: 1) Background; 2) Responsibilities of the Congestion Management Agencies (CMA) noting the Management Program must contain the following elements: Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Congestion Management Program (CMP) Conformance, and Land Use and Transportation Integration.

Mr. Ristow reported the purpose of the CMA is to meet the goals of increasing the efficiency of existing transit and roadway systems, planning the best capital improvements to these systems and improving the local land use decision-making process to support and compliment the transportation system investments.

On general consensus, the Committee requested staff defer the annual 3.5 percent fee increase.

The Committee asked for additional information on several areas of the CMP Work Program and Budget including: 1) Provide a description of annual accomplishments; 2) Define what elements of the Work Program are statutorily mandated; 3) Respond to questions on incentives versus disincentives and requirements of adherence of various work program elements by Member Agencies (i.e., carrots vs. sticks approach); 4) Provide information on proactive versus reactive program elements; and 5) Provide additional information on measurements of the benefits of congestion management activities.

The Committee requested staff provide additional information regarding the Work Program including information on the methodology for calculation of member fees, requests to further evaluate additional methods to measure effectiveness of program elements, to document and report on the progress of the work program, system effectiveness, and to investigate innovative programs in other jurisdictions such as the Denver Region.

M/S/C (Moylan/McHugh) to approve the Fiscal Year 2010 Congestion Management Work Program, cap the fees, suggest any economizing that must be done to keep the fees where they are at present be taken from the discretionary section of the Work Program, and to document and report on the progress of the Work Program.

11. (Moved from the Regular Agenda to the Consent Agenda.)

Receive information on the Silicon Valley Express Lanes.

12. Adopt 2009 Bicycle Expenditure Program Project List

Chris Augenstein, Deputy Director Congestion Management Agency, provided a brief overview of the 2009 Bicycle Expenditure Program Project List highlighting: 1) Update of Project List; 2) Announced last minute submitted project requests received from the Cities of Campbell, Los Altos, San Jose, Sunnyvale, Town of Los Altos Hills, and the County have been accommodated.

Member Satterlee requested clarification regarding prioritization of projects when funding is available, given the BEP project list is not prioritized.

Member Moylan expressed concern it was a burden to City of Sunnyvale staff to respond to the BEP call for projects because of the difference in process between BEP and the VTP. He commented the BEP scoring criteria resulted in selecting BEP projects in Sunnyvale that were not the highest priority. He suggested the process be reevaluated.

M/S/C (Moylan/McHugh) to adopt 2009 Bicycle Expenditure Program Project List.

13. Fiscal Year 2009/2010 Transportation Development Act Article 3 (TDA) Program

Bill Hough, Transportation Planner III, provided a report highlighting: 1) Overview of VTA's Development Review Program; 2) Program Purpose & Objectives; 3) Development Review Program Enhancements; 4) Summary of the Proactive CMP Report; 5) Proactive CMP Report Enhancements; and 6) Schedule.

Member Moylan requested in the future, to clarify eligibility for design work.

M/S/C (McHugh/Page) to adopt a resolution approving the Fiscal Year 2009/10 TDA3 Project Priorities and clarify eligibility for design work.

14. Light Rail Systems Analysis Project Update

Andrew Ittigson, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the Light Rail Systems Analysis Project Update highlighting: 1) Project Background, 2) Project Schedule; 3) Overview of the Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA); 4) Service Design Guideline Criteria; 5) Light Rail System Overview; 6) Market Analysis; 7) Potential Solutions; and 8) Next Steps.

Chairperson Abe-Koga expressed concern with the Draft Scenario in regards to proposals regarding Mountain View.

Member Moylan supported the Light Rail Systems Analysis Project Update.

On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Light Rail Systems Analysis Project Update.

Member Matthews left the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

15. Advisory Committee Enhancement Update: May

Jennie Loft, Public Information Officer, provided a report regarding the Advisory Committee Enhancement Update for May.

Ms. Loft reported the ACE Task Force held a meeting on April 29, 2009, to develop options and strategies for implementing the top 3 priorities and evaluate their feasibility and effectiveness in achieving the desired outcome. She stated a discussion ensued to review the workflow process diagram for items considered by the VTA Board and its committees. She further stated the Task Force discussed the feedback loop informing each committee on action by the Board on items the committee had input on and potential improvements to the process.

Member Moylan expressed concern all priorities identified by the Task Force have not been addressed.

On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga and there being no objection, the Committee received the Advisory Committee Enhancement Update: May.

16. Advisory Committee Enhancement (ACE) Subcommittee Report

On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Advisory Committee Enhancement (ACE) Subcommittee Report.

OTHER

18. Committee Work Plan

The Committee discussed cancelling the July PAC meeting.

Member Moylan volunteered to provide from the City of Sunnyvale a Transportation Priorities and Needs presentation at a future meeting.

On general consensus, the Committee requested the Governance issue be placed on the Work Plan for future discussion.

On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Work Plan.

19. Announcements

There were no Announcements

20. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline F. Golzio, Board Assistant
VTA Board of Directors