

Policy Advisory Committee

Thursday, September 10, 2009

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) was called to order at 4:04 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	P
David Whittum (Alternate)	City of Sunnyvale	NA
Chuck Page	City of Saratoga	P
Kathleen King (Alt)	City of Saratoga	NA
Dave Cortese	SCC Board of Supervisors	A
Michael F. Kotowski	City of Campbell	P
Jason Baker (Alt)	City of Campbell	NA
Kris Wang	City of Cupertino	NA
Gilbert Wong (Alt)	City of Cupertino	P
Perry Woodward	City of Gilroy	NA
Cat Tucker (Alt)	City of Gilroy	P
Megan Satterlee	City of Los Altos	P
Val Carpenter (Alt)	City of Los Altos	NA
Joe Pirzynski	Town of Los Gatos	P
Diane McNutt (Alt)	Town of Los Gatos	NA
Pete McHugh	City of Milpitas	P
Vacant (Alt)	City of Milpitas	NA
Marshall Anstandig	City of Monte Sereno	P
Curtis Wright (Alt)	City of Monte Sereno	NA
Marby Lee	City of Morgan Hill	P
Steve Tate (Alt)	City of Morgan Hill	NA
Margaret Abe-Koga	City of Mountain View	P
Laura Macias (Alt)	City of Mountain View	NA
Pat Burt	City of Palo Alto	A
Larry Klein (Alt)	City of Palo Alto	A
Kansen Chu	City of San Jose	P
Jamie Matthews	City of Santa Clara	P
Jamie McLeod (Alt)	City of Santa Clara	NA
Rich Larsen	Town of Los Altos Hills	A

A quorum was present.

2. ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no Orders of the Day.

3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

There was no Public Presentations.

Member McHugh arrived at the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

4. Committee Staff Report

Jim Lawson, Senior Policy Advisor, introduced Jim Unites, Deputy Director, Operations Service & Operations, provided an update on the Service Reduction Plan and Environmental Document.

Mr. Unites reviewed the proposed transit service reductions by city. He reported the River Oaks Shuttle scheduled for service deletion will continue to operate through the remainder of 2009. Line 34 will continue to operate in Mountain View, but VTA and the City of Mountain View will conduct periodic reviews in an effort to improve route performance and ridership.

Mr. Lawson reported; 1) ridership continues to decline; and 2) sales tax decline for 2009 was projected at 9 percent is currently at 13 percent.

Mr. Lawson reported the Board of Directors actions at the September 3, 2009 meeting included: 1) approval of resolution to secure 10 percent of Federal Stimulus American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for operations; 2) approval of resolution to apply for TIGER funds for the BART Hayward Yard Expansion (jointly with BART); 3) awarded Siemens Building Technology, Inc., \$1 million for Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) at the Guadalupe Yard and Light Rail Stations; 4) approved project design for Final Environmental Impact Statement(FEIS) for the BART project; and 5) adopted an addendum to the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Contract for a two-year extension.

5. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Abe-Koga provided a brief overview of the August 13, 2009 PAC meeting to the Board of Directors.

Chairperson Abe-Koga further noted PAC's recommendations concerning the Implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC's Proposed Policies). She thanked staff for their diligence and hard work with the service changes.

6. City Grouping Report

Chairperson Abe-Koga reported the North County City Grouping discussed Governance of the city groups and selection of representatives for 2010.

Member Moylan commented on alternative Governance recommendations previously discussed at the ACE Task Force and at the North County City Grouping meetings.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

7. Minutes of August 13, 2009

M/S/C (Page/Wong) to approve the Minutes of August 13, 2009. Members Lee and Satterlee abstained.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. Freight Rail Relocation (FRR) Project Update

Mark Robinson, Chief Engineering and Construction Officer, provided a Power Point presentation regarding the Freight Rail Relocation (FRR) Project update highlighting: 1) location of the Freight Corridor indicating VTA purchase area, sale area to BART, and Retained SVRT Right of Way (ROW); 2) FRR Corridor Limits; 3) activities regarding property, utilities, bridges, culverts, roadbed, track, and 4) individual Agency Objectivities.

On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Freight Rail Relocation (FRR) Project Update.

9. Caltrain/High Speed Rail Update

Steven Fisher, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a brief overview and update regarding Caltrain/High Speed Rail (HSR).

Mr. Fisher commented California voters approved the high speed train bond in November 2008. He stated construction is likely to begin as early as 2011 on a statewide system of high-speed trains.

Mr. Fisher reported HSR will reduce traffic on freeways by creating high speed options for long-distance travelers, separated freight movement, and enhanced local commuter transit. He noted high speed trains will not share tracks with freight services, but will be immediately adjacent to existing tracks. High speed tracks will be separated from all auto and crossing pedestrian traffic.

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

Mr. Fisher reported the financing strategy for planning, design and construction of the \$40 billion, 800 mile HSR train system from Southern California to the Bay Area relies on three sources: State and local funding, federal financing, and public - private partnerships.

On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Caltrain/High Speed Rail Update.

10. VTA Governance

Jim Lawson, Senior Policy Advisor, provided an update regarding the governance issue. He reported at the August 20, 2009, Administration and Finance (A&F) meeting the Committee received an update on activities related to the governance issue.

Mr. Lawson reported the Board, through the A&F Committee is attempting to address the concerns raised regarding Board turnover. The Milpitas, Morgan Hill and Gilroy Group (MGM) have concerns and challenges with a geographically separated city grouping. Mr. Lawson noted a number of options and alternatives have been discussed.

Mr. Lawson reported the governance issue will return to the A&F Committee in October 2009, with the intention a recommendation will be forwarded to the Board of Directors at their November 2009 meeting.

Member Moylan stated alternate methods of potential modifications to resolve the governance issue have been discussed by PAC and submitted to the Board.

Member McHugh stated it is the official position of the City of Milpitas the current MGM city grouping is not working well. He further commented the City of Milpitas must receive reassurance they will receive a seat and voice on the VTA Board of Directors.

Member Matthews commented the governance issue is long standing. He stated the City of Santa Clara City Council voted in April 2008 to unanimously endorse the MGM city regrouping.

Vice Chairperson Page noted the Board of Directors think and act with a regional perspective whereas the PAC is a more appropriate venue for local advocacy.

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

OTHER

11. Committee Work Plan

The Committee reviewed the Work Plan.

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

12. Announcements

There were no Announcements

13. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Golzio, Board Assistant
Office of the Board Secretary