

## Policy Advisory Committee

Thursday, December 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	Present
David Whittum (Alternate)	City of Sunnyvale	NA
Chuck Page	City of Saratoga	Absent
Kathleen King (Alt)	City of Saratoga	Absent
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	Absent
Gilbert Wong (Alt)	City of Cupertino	Absent
Perry Woodward	City of Gilroy	Absent
Cat Tucker (Alt)	City of Gilroy	Absent
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	Absent
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	Absent
Steve Tate (Alt)	City of Morgan Hill	Absent
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	Present

**A quorum was present.**

**2. ORDERS OF THE DAY**

There were no Orders of the Day.

**3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

There were no Public Presentations.

**4. General Manager's Report**

Michael T. Burns, General Manager, reported that at the December 10, 2009 Board of Director's meeting he provided an update on the FY2010 and FY2011 operating budgets. He noted actual sales tax revenues for the last two quarters of FY009 resulted in \$22 million below budget projections. He further stated due to continued sales tax declines, forecasts indicate VTA will face an additional combined \$70 million budget shortfall in FY210 and FY2011.

Mr. Burns commented that through the economic downturn, VTA has remained committed to the missions and principles that are guiding the budget planning reflect that commitment. He reported as evaluation strategies are sought to solve the deficit, VTA has looked for options consistent with the goals of maintaining jobs, preserving service, and investing in capital projects.

Mr. Burns reported a number of strategies have been identified to address the shortfall in the short term. He stated approximately \$40 million in savings could be achieved in the next two years through continued cost containment measures including hardening the hiring freeze, rescheduling the purchase of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) to 2012, and reducing contracted services.

Mr. Burns announced the Board approved formation of an ad-hoc committee of the Board to determine long-term strategies beyond FY2011. The appointments to the ad-hoc committee will be selected January 2010.

Mr. Burns stated the Supreme Court ruled that the State Transit Assistance funds were wrongfully diverted by the Governor and Legislature. He commented it is uncertain when VTA would receive some level of funding over the next two years. He further stated the amount of the funding share to VTA has not been determined.

The Committee members expressed concern with the budget shortfall predictions.

**5. Committee Staff Report**

Jim Lawson, Senior Policy Advisor, introduced the new Board Secretary, Sandra Weymouth.

Mr. Lawson provided an overview of the Board of Director's December 10, 2009 meeting.

Mr. Lawson announced VTA would again participate in the Annual Toys for Tots Drive, and partner with the United States Marine Corps and 94.5 KBAY radio.

The toy drive will be held at Christmas in the Park in Downtown San Jose on Sunday, December 12, 2009 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tom Fitzwater, Environmental Manager, provided an overview of VTA's Litter Control Program.

Members of the Committee recommended VTA pressure Caltrans to continue their efforts to clean up the litter on the highway.

The Committee expressed concern with the litter problem in Santa Clara County and recommended adding this item to the Agenda for a future meeting.

**6. Chairperson's Report**

Chairperson Abe-Koga welcomed Howard Miller from the City of Saratoga.

**7. City Grouping Report**

There was no City Grouping Report.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**8. Minutes of November 12, 2009**

M/S/C (Kotowski/Pirzynski) to approve the Minutes of November 12, 2009.

**9. 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.

**10. Fiscal Year to Date 2010 First Quarter Transit Operations Performance Report**

**On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga** and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Fiscal Year to Date 2010 First Quarter Transit Operations Performance Report.

**11. VTP Highway Program Semi-Annual Report – October 2009**

**On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga** and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the VTP Highway Program Semi-Annual Report – October 2009.

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

## REGULAR

### 12. Election Process for 2010 Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Chairperson Abe-Koga stated that she will serve on the nominating committee with Members Anstandig, and Satterlee

(**Kotowski/Matthews**) to appoint a nominating subcommittee to identify Committee members interested in serving as the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2010.

### 13. Senate Bill 83 – Implementation Actions

Scott Haywood, Policy and Communications Manager, provided an overview of the staff report.

Member Pirzynski expressed his support of the implementation actions.

Some members of the Committee inquired about the potential accuracy of the polling data. They expressed concern whether polls conducted during a down economy would provide accurate data. Other members stated that conducting the poll would help determine the likelihood of success on the ballot. Members commented that the 2010 ballot may be lengthy. They stated VTA must consider many issues when deciding the most opportune time to bring this item before the voters.

Members requested staff report back to PAC when the polling would be conducted and with the analysis data once it is completed.

**M/S/C (Matthews/Pirzynski)** to recommend that the VTA Board of Directors approve the following tasks relating to SB 83:

1. Authorize up to \$30,000 to contract with a polling firm to determine the feasibility of placing a \$10 vehicle registration fee on the ballot for residents of Santa Clara County.
2. Direct staff to develop an expenditure plan to detail the programs and projects that would be developed through the potential vehicle registration fee.
3. Return to the Board in mid 2010 with the draft expenditure plan and the polling results to determine whether or not to place the vehicle registration fee on the November 2010 ballot.

### 14. Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Project Update

Leyla Hedayat, Silicon Valley Rapid Transit (SVRT) Planning Manager, provided an overview of the staff report.

Member Pirzynski expressed his appreciation to staff for their diligence and hard work to move the SVRT project forward. He expressed his support of the

project's acceptance and re-entry into the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) New Starts Program.

**On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga** and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Project Update.

**15. Regional Land Use-Related Initiatives**

Ying Smith provided an overview of the staff report.

**On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga** and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Regional Land Use-Related Initiatives.

**16. Transportation System Monitoring Program Progress Report – December 2009**

Eugene Maeda, Senior Transportation Planner, and Joseph Guerre, P.E., PMP, Principal with Cambridge Systematics, Inc., provided an overview of the staff report.

Member Moylan expressed concern the Program did not contain more measuring rather than monitoring data.

**On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga** and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Transportation System Monitoring Program Progress Report – December 2009.

**OTHER**

**17. Committee Work Plan**

The Committee reviewed the Work Plan.

Member Moylan recommended the Committee continue the Local Transportation Needs and Priorities Presentations provided by each city in the coming year.

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

**18. Announcements**

Chairperson Abe-Koga thanked the Committee for their support and hard work during the past year.

Member Moylan stated he has enjoyed his four years on the PAC.

On behalf of VTA staff, Scott Haywood thanked all PAC members who may be leaving the Committee and wished them well in their future endeavors.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

**On order of Chairperson Abe-Koga** and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Golzio, Board Assistant  
Office of the Board Secretary