

## POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 13, 2011

### MINUTES

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) was called to order at 4:06 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Pirzynski in Conference Room B-104, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

#### 1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jeffrey Cristina	City of Campbell	Present
Michael Kotowski (Alternate)	City of Campbell	NA
Barry Chang	City of Cupertino	Absent
Orrin Mahoney (Alternate)	City of Cupertino	Absent
Cat Tucker	City of Gilroy	Present
Dion Bracco (Alternate)	City of Gilroy	NA
Megan Satterlee	City of Los Altos	Absent
Jarrett Fishpaw (Alternate)	City of Los Altos	Absent
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Town of Los Altos Hills</i>	<i>NA</i>
<i>Vacant (Alternate)</i>	<i>Town of Los Altos Hills</i>	<i>NA</i>
Joe Pirzynski	Town of Los Gatos	Present
Diane McNutt (Alternate)	Town of Los Gatos	NA
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>City of Milpitas</i>	<i>NA</i>
<i>Vacant (Alternate)</i>	<i>City of Milpitas</i>	<i>NA</i>
Lana Malloy	City of Monte Sereno	Present
Burton Craig (Alternate)	City of Monte Sereno	NA
Marby Lee	City of Morgan Hill	Absent
Steve Tate (Alternate)	City of Morgan Hill	Absent
John Inks	City of Mountain View	Present
Jac Siegel (Alternate)	City of Mountain View	NA
Gail Price	City of Palo Alto	Present
Larry Klein (Alternate)	City of Palo Alto	NA
Kansen Chu	City of San Jose	Present
Jamie Matthews	City of Santa Clara	Absent
Jamie McLeod (Alternate)	City of Santa Clara	Absent
Howard Miller	City of Saratoga	Present
Emily Lo (Alternate)	City of Saratoga	NA
Jim Griffith	City of Sunnyvale	Present
David Whittum (Alternate)	City of Sunnyvale	NA
Mike Wasserman	SCC Board of Supervisors	Present

**A quorum was not present and a Committee of the Whole was declared.**

**2. ORDERS OF THE DAY**

There were no Orders of the Day.

**3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

There were no Public Presentations.

Member Chu arrived at the meeting and took his seat at 4:07 p.m.,  
and a quorum was established.

**4. Committee Staff Report**

Jim Lawson, Senior Policy Advisor and Staff Liaison, provided brief overview on the Governor's Proposed Budget, noting the \$25 billion deficit with an intent to address the state's fiscal challenges by reducing spending and tax increases.

Mr. Lawson commented briefly on the following items: 1) Received 70 Gillig Hybrid buses; 2) New Airport Flyer bus wrap; 3) VTA's Clipper launch date scheduled for February 16, 2011; and 4) Caltrain Summit scheduled on January 21, 2011 at Stanford University.

Mr. Lawson provided a brief overview of the January 6, 2011 Board of Director's Regular Meeting, highlighting: 1) Elected 2011 VTA Board Chairperson Margaret Abe-Koga and Vice Chairperson Ken Yeager; 2) I-280/I-880/Stevens Creek Boulevard Interchange Project; 3) Blossom Hill Pedestrian Overcrossing Project; and 4) Procured sixty railcars for the SVRT Corridor Berryessa Extension Project.

Member Miller arrived at the meeting and took his seat at 4:11 p.m.

Members of the Committee requested an update on the I-680 Express Lanes Project.

**5. Chairperson's Report**

There was no Chairperson's Report.

Vice Chairperson Pirzynski reminded the Committee of tonight's Cities Association meeting. Vice Chairperson Pirzynski noted that Chairperson Matthews was unable to attend due to illness. He requested Committee Members introduce themselves.

Vice Chairperson Pirzynski expressed his appreciation and welcomed new PAC Member Mike Wasserman representing the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**6. Minutes of November 10, 2010**

M/S/C (**Griffith/Inks**) on a vote of 9 ayes to 1 abstention to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2010. Member Wasserman abstained.

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

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 7. Nomination Subcommittee Report

Member Miller reported that the Nomination Subcommittee has nominated the following slate of candidates for the 2011 elections: Vice Chairperson Pirzynski as Chairperson, Member Satterlee as Vice Chairperson, and Member Price as Alternate Vice Chairperson.

**On order of Vice Chairperson Pirzynski** and there being no objection, the Committee received the Nomination Subcommittee Report.

### 8. Conduct Elections for Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2011

**M/S/C (Wasserman/Price)** to close nominations and elect Member as the Chairperson for 2011.

**M/S/C (Price/Tucker)** to close nominations and elect Member as the Vice Chairperson for 2011.

Vice Chairperson Pirzynski relinquished his seat as Vice Chairperson and presided as the newly elected 2011 PAC Chairperson.

### 9. FY 2012 & FY 2013 Biennial Budget Assumptions

Joe Smith, Chief Financial Officer and Staff Liaison, reported that a high level overview on VTA's Budget process was provided at the January 6, 2011 Board of Directors Regular Meeting.

Mr. Smith stated the FY 2012 and FY 2013 Recommended Budget will be discussed at the April 22, 2011 Board Workshop, May Advisory Committees, and forwarded for consideration to the June 2, 2011 Board of Directors Regular Meeting. Mr. Smith continued that the final assumptions used in the FY 2012 and FY 2013 Recommended Budget are subject to change.

Mr. Smith introduced Carol Lawson, Fiscal Resources Manager, Budget, provided a brief overview, highlighting: 1) Wages and Benefits; 2) VTA Investment Portfolio interest rate; 3) Sales Tax Growth; 4) Measure A Operating Assistance; 5) Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel Price; 6) Fares; 7) Bus and Light Rail Ridership; 8) Total Miles and Hours for Bus and Light Rail Fleet Size; 9) State Transit Assistance (STA) Funding Level; 10) Federal Operating Grants Preventive Maintenance Funding Level; 11) Capital Program Funding Level; 12) Operating Reserves Funding Level; and 13) Harvey M. Rose, LLC Recommendations.

Ms. Lawson stated there are no plans to reduce service or increase fares at this time. VTA's overall ridership growth projections are estimated to be flat for FY 2012 with a one percent growth in FY 2013.

Ms. Lawson continued that VTA's projected sales tax growth rate assumptions are 3.49 percent in FY 2012 and 5.78 percent in FY 2013, which are based on Moody's Analytics' baseline trend forecast and are in the "Most Likely" category.

Ms. Lawson reported that over the last several years, VTA has used 100 percent of available Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 grant funds for preventive maintenance to offset the loss of Sales Tax Revenues and STA funding.

Ms. Lawson noted that beginning in FY 2012, VTA will gradually move toward the goal of reaching historical levels of 35 percent funding for Preventive Maintenance and 65 percent for Capital Replacement by FY 2018.

Budget assumptions do not reflect wage increases for American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Services Employees International Union (SEIU), and Transportation Authority Engineers and Architects (TAEA).

Ms. Lawson noted that Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), which is two-thirds of VTA's workforce, has a negotiated three percent wage increase effective June 11, 2012.

Ms. Lawson stated that staff has reviewed the Harvey M. Rose proposed recommendations, noting some of the proposals will play a role in VTA's budget assumptions.

**On order of Chairperson Pirzynski** and there being no objection, the Committee received the FY 2012 & FY 2013 Biennial Budget Assumptions.

#### **10. High Speed Rail Update**

John Ristow, Chief CMA Officer, provided a brief report, highlighting: 1) California High Speed Rail Central Valley Corridor Project received Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant funding; 2) High Speed Rail community meetings scheduled on January 25, 2011 in Gilroy and January 26, 2011 in Morgan Hill; and 3) VTA working collaboratively with Caltrans regarding State Route 152 Re-Alignment Project.

Members of the Committee expressed concern that the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CAHSRA) would utilize federal grant funding to construct the California High Speed Rail Central Valley Corridor Project, which is a middle section area and has a lower ridership level compared to the San Francisco Bay Area.

**On order of Chairperson Pirzynski** and there being no objection, the Committee received the High Speed Rail Update.

#### **11. Senate Bill (SB) 375 – Sustainable Communities Strategies Update**

John Sighamony, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a brief report, noting, VTA's efforts coordinating with the Regional Agencies in developing the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS).

Mr. Sighamony directed attention to the presentation entitled, "Discussion of the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)/Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)," highlighting: 1) What is in the "New" RTP; 2) Considerations for the RTP; 3) Why Should Santa Clara County Care?; 4) Challenges for our Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2040 Plan; 5) Approach for Santa Clara County; 6) Transportation Plan 2035 Assumptions; 7) SCS Process Simplified; 8) Use the Established Structure and Process; 9) Santa Clara County SCS Partnership; and 10) Project Solicitation for the RTP.

The VTP update will be different from previous plans and staff anticipates several unique challenges, which may have an effect on different program areas and counties in various ways.

Members of the Committee expressed concern and questioned how the information and design of the map was generated.

Mr. Sighamony asked the Committee for feedback and how they would like to address the development of the new RTP with the SCS and the emphasis on the Priority Development Areas (PDA).

Mr. Sighamony noted VTA's concern with the new RTP and the SCS element, which may make it very difficult for several cities to accommodate the new changes.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Land Use Transportation Integration (LUTI) working group agreed to work collaboratively in establishing a working group that will contact each city planning official and gather additional input on how to proceed with the development of the new RTP and the SCS element.

Mr. Sighamony stated that the purpose of the update was to bring forward specific items for the Member Agencies to comment on and provide direction to VTA in preparing the Santa Clara County's long range transportation plan. He continued that staff will continue to work with the regional agencies and Member Agencies to refine a schedule for the process.

Mr. Ristow stated that staff will come back to the Committee with an update on guidance issues.

**On order of Chairperson Pirzynski** and there being no objection, the Committee received the Senate Bill (SB) 375 – Sustainable Communities Strategies Update.

## **OTHER**

### **12. Committee Work Plan**

Mr. Lawson noted the Committee's request to add the following agenda items to the Committee Workplan: 1) Report on the Caltrain Summit; 2) Update on I-680 Express Lanes Project; and 3) Update on Vice Chairperson Satterlee new baby.

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

### **13. Announcements**

Chairperson Pirzynski reported a traffic backup due to an accident on US 101 and Highway 87 and suggested an alternate route to the Cities Association meeting.

### **14. ADJOURNMENT**

**On order of Chairperson Pirzynski** and there being no objection, the Committee Meeting was adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle M. Garza, Board Assistant  
VTA Office of the Board Secretary