

Technical Advisory Committee

Thursday, November 13, 2008

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 1:35 p.m. by Chairperson Tripousis in Conference Room B-104, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Todd Capurso	Town of Los Gatos	Present	
Richard Chen, Alternate	Town of Los Altos Hills	Absent	
John Cherbone	City of Saratoga	Present	
Dan Collen, Alternate	County of Santa Clara	Present	
Kevin Connolly, Alt. Ex-Officio	VTA	Present	
Don Dey	City of Gilroy	Present	
Sylvia Fung, Alternate Ex-Officio	Dept. of Transportation (Caltrans)	Present	
Jim Gustafson, Alternate	City of Los Altos	Absent	
Joan Jenkins	City of Mountain View	Present	
Robert Kass	City of Campbell	Present	
Gayle Likens	City of Palo Alto	Absent	
Kevin Riley, Alternate	City of Santa Clara	Present	
Jaime Rodriguez, Alternate	City of Milpitas	Present	1:49 p.m.
Jim Rowe, Alternate	City of Morgan Hill	Present	
Ed Slintak	City of Monte Sereno	Absent	
David Stillman, Alternate	City of Cupertino	Present	

Ben Tripousis, Chairperson	City of San Jose	Present	
Jack Witthaus, Vice Chairperson	City of Sunnyvale	Present	

A quorum was present.

2. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no Public Presentations.

3. ORDERS OF THE DAY

Chairperson Tripousis noted the request of staff to defer the following Agenda Item: **Item #14**, Consider reaffirming approval of the draft TAC Mission Statement, as shown, previously adopted by the Committee in March 2007.

4. Committee Staff Report

John Ristow, Chief CMA Officer and Staff Liaison, reported on the following: 1) VTA Measures C and D approved by the voters on November 4, 2008; 2) status of election count for Measure B; 3) Proposition 1A-High Speed Rail approved by the voters on November 4, 2008; and 4) discussion held on whether VTA should play a coordinating role for those cities impacted by Proposition 1A.

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, the Committee Staff Report was received.

5. Chairperson’s Report

There was no Chairperson’s Report.

6. Reports from TAC Working Groups

- **Capital Improvement Program (CIP)**

Marcella Rensi, Transportation Planning Manager, provided the following highlights from the November 2008 CIP meeting: Guest speaker from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) provided a report on the pavement funds distribution process.

- **Systems Operations & Management (SOM) Working Group**

Eugene Maeda, Senior Transportation Planner, provided the following highlights from the October 22, 2008 meeting: 1) Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) Guidelines update near completion; 2) Working on 2009 Work Plans; and 3) Elected Sam Peiris, City of Palo Alto, as the Chairperson for 2009; and Don Dey, City of Gilroy, as the Vice Chairperson for 2009.

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, the Reports from the TAC Working Groups were received.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

7. Minutes of September 11, 2008

M/S/C (Dey/Collen) to approve the Minutes of September 11, 2008.

8. Minutes of October 9, 2008

M/S/C (Dey/Collen) to approve the Minutes of October 9, 2008.

9. City of Cupertino's Local Transportation Needs, Issues and Priorities

M/S/C (Dey/Collen) to receive a report by the City of Cupertino on its local transportation needs, issues and priorities.

10. Programmed Projects Quarterly Monitoring Report for July – September 2008

M/S/C (Dey/Collen) to receive the Programmed Projects Quarterly Monitoring Report for July to September 2008.

REGULAR AGENDA

11. Nominating Subcommittee Report

Member Dey reported the Nominating Subcommittee nominated the following slate of candidates for the 2009 elections: 1) Vice Chairperson Jack Witthaus for Chairperson; and 2) Member Gayle Likens for Vice Chairperson.

Stephen Flynn, Senior Management Analyst, reported the elections for the 2009 Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will be held at the December 11, 2008 TAC meeting. He noted nominations will be accepted from the floor up until the time of the elections and all members are eligible to serve as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Upon query of Chairperson Tripousis, Mr. Flynn noted the newly elected Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will serve for a one-year term effective January 2009.

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, the Nominating Subcommittee Report was received.

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

12. Advisory Committee Enhancement Update: November

Jennie Loft, Public Information Officer, provided a brief update on the Advisory Committee Enhancement process, highlighting the status and progress of other Advisory Committee mission statements.

Alternate Member Rodriguez took his seat at 1:49 p.m.

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, a brief update on the status and progress of the Advisory Committee Enhancement process to date was received.

13. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Subcommittee Report

Member Dey provided background information on the TAC discussions held regarding a mission statement. He directed attention to the document entitled, "VTA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Mission Statement - Revised: March 8, 2007," and noted the mission statement was approved by TAC in 2007.

Stephen Flynn, Senior Management Analyst, noted even though the TAC approved the mission statement, the TAC Subcommittee, at their last meeting, reviewed the mission statement in detail and felt no changes were warranted.

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, an update from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Subcommittee was received.

14. (Deferred to the December 11, 2008 TAC meeting.)

Consider reaffirming approval of the draft TAC Mission Statement, as shown, previously adopted by the Committee in March 2007.

15. Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2035 – Update – Draft Plan

John Sighamony, Senior Transportation Planner, provided an administrative draft of the Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2035 for TAC's review and comment.

Mr. Sighamony noted the VTP 2035 document contains the following: 1) Plan setting, vision, goals and objectives; 2) Fund projections and a description of the VTP capital investments, services, and planning activities; 3) Land-use, Partnership, and Climate protection programs to continue and expand VTA's involvement in livability initiatives and better link transportation and land use decision-making; 4) Near-term implementation tasks and transportation studies to be undertaken; and 5) Strategic Plan element.

Upon query of Alternate Member Rodriguez, Mr. Sighamony noted staff is in the process of placing the VTP 2035 document online.

Chris Augenstein, Deputy Director, Planning, requested TAC Members provide their comments within the next two weeks.

Chairperson Tripousis noted the importance of TAC's comments. He indicated the VTP 2035 document would be incorporated into the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed and commented on the draft Valley Transportation Plan 2035 (VTP 2035) as Santa Clara County's long-range countywide transportation plan.

16. High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Project – Final Recommendations/Implementation Plan

Murali Ramanujam, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a presentation on the Silicon Valley Express Lanes Program (Final Recommendations for Implementation Plan), highlighting: 1) Program Background; 2) Why Express Lanes; 3) What is an Express Lane; 4) How Does it Work; 5) Other Successful Express Lanes; 6) Regional Program; 7) Silicon Valley Express Lanes Program Implementation Plan; 8) Silicon Valley Express Lanes State Route (SR) 237 Express Connectors, SR 85 Express Lanes, and US 101 Express Lanes; 9) Silicon Valley Express Lanes Funding Options; and 10) Silicon Valley Express Lanes Program Recommendations.

Upon query of Alternate Member Rodriguez, Mr. Ramanujam provided an update on the discussions held at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) level regarding the revenues obtained and how they would be distributed back to the County of Santa Clara.

Vice Chairperson Witthaus referred to the implementation plan and queried if VTA will assess expanding Express Lanes on SR 237. Mr. Ramanujam noted MTC is conducting a HOT Lane regional study and SR 237 is one of the candidate corridors under review.

M/S/C (Dey/Rodriguez) on a vote of 11 ayes to 1 noes to recommend the Board of Directors take the following actions; (1) Approve the Silicon Valley Express Lanes Program as described in the memorandum and attachments, (2) Approve allocation of up to \$6,000,000 from the Local Program Reserve funds for implementation of SR 237 Express Connectors and for continuation of environmental documentation and engineering for the SR 85 Express Lanes, and (3) Direct staff to return within 90 days with an update on funding options for the completion of the Silicon Valley Express Lanes Program. Member Jenkins opposed.

17. Revised BEP Evaluation Criteria

Michelle DeRobertis, Senior Transportation Planner, distributed and provided an overview of the newly revised Attachment A illustrating the current and proposed weights for the current and proposed Bicycle Expenditure Plan (BEP) evaluation criteria, highlighting: Congestion Management Program and Planning (CMPP) Committee comments, and Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) suggestions provided at their November 12, 2008, meeting.

Alternate Member Collen noted his attendance at the November 12, 2008, BPAC meeting and endorsed BPAC's suggestions.

M/S/C (Collen/Dey) to approve the newly revised BEP Evaluation Criteria containing the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) suggestions.

18. Federal Transportation Bill Reauthorization – VTA Highway Project Earmark Requests

Amin Surani, Principal Transportation Planner, reported VTA intends to seek Federal Earmarks for the following Highway Projects: 1) I-280/I-880/Stevens Creek Interchange (\$35 million); 2) US 101/SR-25 Interchange – Design/ROW (\$25 million); 3) 85/237/El Camino Interchange Reconfiguration – Environmental and Design (\$10 million); and 4) I-280/SR 85/Foothill Improvements (\$2 million).

Member Dey referenced the US 101/SR-25 Interchange Project and requested staff correct the name to include Santa Theresa. He noted Santa Theresa is part of the interchange and both the City of Gilroy and County of Santa Clara have expressed strong desires over the past two to three years to have the work completed. John Ristow, Chief CMA Officer and Staff Liaison, noted the Santa Theresa extension is part of the scope and in the environmental document, and staff will ensure the complete description of the interchange is included.

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Federal Transportation Bill Reauthorization - VTA Highway Project Earmark Requests.

19. CMP Work Program – Review Existing: Conformity and Land Use, TDM, CIP, Monitoring and Conformance

Marcella Rensi, Transportation Planning Manager, directed attention to the chart distributed and provided an overview of the following Congestion Management Agency (CMA) Programming Section Activities: 1) Federal Highway (FHWA) Discretionary Fund Program (STP/CMAQ); 2) State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP); 3) Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3; 4) Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program Manager Fund (TFCA 40%); 5) Community Design & Transportation Program (CDT); 6) Lifeline Transportation Program; 7) Local Streets and County Roads; 8) Pavement Management Program; 9) Soundwall Program; 10) CMA Local Program Reserve (LPR) Management; and 11) State & Regional Policy Development. The description of each activity, budget categories, mandate level, and grant funding for the staff activities were referenced.

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed existing CMP Work Program required activities: System Definition, Level of Service, Multi-Modal Performance Measures, Conformity and Land Use.

Alternate Member Collen left the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

20. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Strategic Plan – Branding Concept

Kevin Connolly, Transportation Planning Manager, provided a presentation on the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Strategic Plan – Branding and Identity, highlighting: 1) What is BRT; 2) Corridor Evaluation; 3) BRT Strategic Plan; 4) BRT Industry Review; 5) Branding; 6) VTA BRT Branding; 7) Target Markets (Young & Restless); 8) Young & Restless Segment Profile; and 9) Next Steps.

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, a verbal presentation on Bus Rapid Transit Strategic Plan - Branding Concept was received.

21. Routine Accommodations, Deputy Directive 64 and Complete Streets Update

Michelle DeRobertis, Senior Transportation Planner, provided an update on the Routine Accommodations, Deputy Directive 64 (DD-64) and Complete Streets.

Ms. DeRobertis reported in 2001, Caltrans adopted DD-64 (Accommodating Non-motorized Travel) and in 2006, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) adopted the Routine Accommodations policy. In September 2008, the State Legislature passed Assembly Bill (AB) 1358 – California Complete Streets Act of 2008. In 2008, Caltrans revised DD-64 and it is now referred to as DD-64-R1 (Complete Streets-Integrating the Transportation System).

Ms. DeRobertis provided a report on the following: 1) California Complete Streets Act of 2008, which takes effect on January 1, 2009; and 2) Significant differences between DD-64-R1 and DD-64.

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, the report on the update of Routine Accommodations, Deputy Directive 64 and Complete Streets was received.

OTHER

22. MTC Activities and Initiatives

Chairperson Tripousis reported the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is in the process of addressing how the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) should go forward. MTC will be conducting meetings in January/February 2009 and anticipates having a preferred strategy for the update of the RTP by March of 2009.

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, an update on MTC Activities and Initiatives was received.

23. Committee Work Plan

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

24. Announcements

Alternate Member Riley introduced himself and noted the reason for Member Batra's absence.

Member Dey announced the City of Gilroy's Camino Arroyo Bridge Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to be held on November 22, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

Member Kass announced the City of Campbell voters approved a quarter cent sales tax measure in November 2008.

Member Kass noted the continued efforts to fight against litter and referenced the Committee Work Plan, "Litter Control Pilot Program" item, to be presented at the February 2009 TAC meeting.

25. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Tripousis and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracene Y. Crenshaw, Board Assistant
VTA Board of Directors