

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 11, 2010

### MINUTES

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Chairperson Batra in Conference Room B-104, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

#### 1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Representing	Status
Greg Armendariz	City of Milpitas	Present
Rajeev Batra, Chairperson	City of Santa Clara	Present
Julie Caporgno	City of Palo Alto	Present
Todd Capurso, Vice Chairperson	Town of Los Gatos	Present
John Cherbone	City of Saratoga	Present
Richard Chiu	Town of Los Altos Hills	Absent
Dan Collen, Alternate	County of Santa Clara	Present
Kevin Connolly, Alt. Ex-Officio	VTA	Absent
Don Dey	City of Gilroy	Present
Sylvia Fung, Alt. Ex-Officio	Dept. of Transportation (Caltrans)	Absent
Glenn Goepfert	City of Cupertino	Absent
Joan Jenkins	City of Mountain View	Present
Robert Kass	City of Campbell	Present
Larry Lind	City of Los Altos	Present
Jim Rowe, Alternate	City of Morgan Hill	Present
Mo Sharma	City of Monte Sereno	Absent
Ben Tripousis	City of San Jose	Present
Jack Witthaus	City of Sunnyvale	Absent

**A quorum was present.**

#### 2. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no Public Presentations.

#### 3. ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no Orders of the Day.

#### 4. **Committee Staff Report**

Member Jenkins took her seat at 1:35 p.m.

Ying Smith, Transportation Planning Manager, provided information on VTA's proposal to establish a VTA Land Use/Transportation Integration Working Group.

Members of the Committee requested the item be placed on the March 11, 2010 TAC Agenda, so that TAC could receive additional details on the Working Group and to formally approve the formation of the Working Group.

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

#### 5. **Chairperson's Report**

Chairperson Batra reported the VTA Board of Directors recognized the outgoing and incoming Advisory Committee Chairpersons at their February 7, 2010 Board Meeting.

Chairperson Batra requested that VTA staff provide an update on the Governor's proposed budget at the March 11, 2010 TAC meeting.

#### 6. **Reports from TAC Working Groups**

- **Capital Improvement Program (CIP)**

Celeste Fiore, Transportation Planner II, reported on the January 26, 2010, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Working Group meeting, highlighting: 1) Discussed New Cycle Surface Transportation Program Block Grant; and 2) Elected Chairperson for 2010. The next meeting is scheduled on February 23, 2010.

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

Eugene Maeda, Senior Transportation Planner, reported on the January 27, 2010, Systems Operations and Management (SOM) Working Group meeting, highlighting: 1) Elected Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2010; 2) Received status update from Caltrans staff on ramp metering projects; and 3) Worked on updating VTA's Deficiency Plan Guidelines.

**On order of Chairperson Batra** and there being no objection, the reports from the TAC Working Groups were received.

#### 7. **High Speed Rail/Caltrain Project**

Steven Fisher, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a verbal report on the High Speed Rail/Caltrain Project, highlighting: 1) Status of Alternative Analysis Report for both north and south Diridon segments in Santa Clara County; 2) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding awards to State of California; and 3) Met with the

Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), noting potential projects identified to receive funding along the Peninsula.

Members of the Committee provided a report, highlighting: 1) City of Santa Clara received a presentation from High Speed Rail staff on February 11, 2010; 2) Informed Alternative Analysis Report will be finalized on March 4, 2010; 3) Community meeting to be held in City of Santa Clara to discuss alternatives on March 24, 2010; and 4) Issues pertaining to Caltrain.

Members of the Committee requested a map showing all stations in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties being reviewed by High Speed Rail.

**On order of Chairperson Batra** and there being no objection, a verbal report on the High Speed Rail/Caltrain Project was received.

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

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**8. Minutes of January 14, 2010**

M/S/C (Dey/Rowe) to approve the Minutes of January 14, 2010.

**9. Programmed Project Monitoring – Quarterly Report**

M/S/C (Dey/Rowe) to receive the Programmed Projects Quarterly Monitoring Report for October-December 2009.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

**10. Proactive CMP Quarterly Report for October-December 2009**

Robert Swierk, Senior Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the staff report.

Members of the Committee provided a status report on the 49ers Santa Clara Stadium project environmental process, ballot measure, and planning approvals.

Member Caporgno took her seat at 1:59 p.m.

**On order of Chairperson Batra** and there being no objection, the Committee received a presentation on the Proactive CMP Quarterly Report for October through December 2009.

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

## 11. New Cycle STP/CMAQ “Block” Program Structure

Marcella Renzi, Transportation Planning Manager, provided an overview of the staff report.

Members of the Committee commented the County of Santa Clara had previously expressed concern that the Local Streets and Roads formula for distribution of funds undervalued the expressways. The County of Santa Clara had also recommended several corrected options to better reflect urban traffic on the expressways. Members of the Committee commented the County of Santa Clara and VTA have reached a resolution on the use of the Local Streets and Roads formula in this cycle. Members of the Committee noted VTA has also agreed to provide assistance in finding a fund source for the San Tomas Culvert Prepare Project.

Members of the Committee referenced Attachment A: Proposed Program and Local Streets & Roads Shares, and expressed concern about the City of Los Altos not being considered for the maximum \$250,000 grant as previously reported.

Members of the Committee referenced Attachment C: Local Streets and County Roads (LS&CR) Project List, and expressed concern about two City of Gilroy projects not being listed. Ms. Renzi noted staff would review the list.

**M/S/C (Tripousis/Jenkins)** to adopt the “Block Grant” program structure for programming future Federal flexible funds through the Congestion Management Agency as presented in this memorandum.

## 12. Project Readiness Initiative

Marcella Renzi, Transportation Planning Manager, provided an overview of the staff report.

Members of the Committee provided the following comments/options:

- Queried if the proposed grant funds to develop project concepts and prepare grant applications could be used to fund the Cities/County internal staff instead of consultant staff. Commented the funds could be spent more efficiently in-house.
- Commented one option would be for VTA to hire staff, noting VTA is in a better position to determine project qualification.
- Recommended VTA keep the program flexible as it goes through the process of developing the mechanics of the program.
- Commented wants to be able to retain the flexibility to hire as a local agency and recommended there be limitations on the number of grants per agency.

Casey Emoto, Acting Staff Liaison and Deputy Director, Project Development, noted that VTA staff would provide a detailed program proposal to TAC for review and approval.

**M/S/C (Kass/Dey)** to approve the use of up to \$1,000,000 in Local Program Reserve funding for the Project Readiness Initiative as described in the memorandum; and authorize the General Manager to execute funding agreements with Member Agencies, as necessary to implement the program.

**13. Statewide Local Streets and Needs Assessment Survey**

Ying Smith, Transportation Planning Manager, provided a brief overview of the staff report.

**M/S/C (Tripousis/Collen)** to accept the findings of the California Statewide Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment; and authorize the General Manager to provide advocacy support to the efforts of the sponsors of the Study, as appropriate, in increasing funding for local streets and roads.

**14. Transportation System Monitoring Program Final Report**

Eugene Maeda, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a presentation on the Transportation System Monitoring Program (TSMP) for Santa Clara County, highlighting: 1) TSMP Purpose; 2) Examples of Santa Clara County's Transportation System Components; and 3) Benefits of TSMP.

Joe Guerre, Consultant with Cambridge Systematics, Inc., continued the presentation on the TSMP, highlighting: 1) Key Findings; 2) Recommendations (Near Term & Potential Future Enhancements); 3) Recommended System Components and Measures; 4) Transportation System Measures and Conditions; and 5) Overview of TSMP Brochure, containing a summary of the conditions and performance of the transportation network in Santa Clara County.

Members of the Committee provided the following comments:

- Expressed concern regarding the limited local staff resources to complete the Roadside Asset Self Assessment Survey and recommended the Report be prepared every three years.
- Referenced Attachment B - Recommended System Components and Measures, Potential Future Measures column, and commented not in favor of adding future measures.
- Expressed concern regarding the approach to response times as referenced in the TSMP Report, Page 5-3, Develop an Approach for Tracking Response Times, noting the language used was unnecessary. Encouraged VTA to examine the existing systems and recommended VTA add an electronic link to its Webpage that directs the public to appropriate local systems.
- Inquired about the link between the needs that have been evaluated in the assessment; how the service is being delivered by Caltrans; how these efforts are being funded at the region; and how Santa Clara County compares to the rest of the region. Noted critical data is needed in order to present a reasonable

comparative analysis related to what the Bay Area is receiving, what Santa Clara County is receiving, what level of service Caltrans is delivering to the other eight counties, and what level of service they deliver to Santa Clara County. How does one ensure that Santa Clara County is being served meaningfully by a region that is really unserviceable at best.

- Referenced Attachment C – Transportation System Measures and Conditions, and expressed concern regarding the data indicating that pavement conditions are good. Commented has to be very careful about how the information gets disseminated. Data listed could affect the efforts to compete for funding.

**M/S/C (Tripousis/Dey)** to receive the Transportation System Monitoring Program (TSMP) Final Report. Further, requested that TAC's comments be incorporated in the TSMP Final Report.

**15. ABAG Socioeconomic Projections and Historical Data**

Robert Swierk, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a presentation on the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Socioeconomic Projections and Historical Data.

**On order of Chairperson Batra** and there being no objection, the Committee received a presentation on ABAG Socioeconomic Projections and Historical Data.

**OTHER**

**16. Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Activities and Initiatives**

Casey Emoto, Acting Staff Liaison and Deputy Director, Project Development, provided a report, highlighting: 1) Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to begin work on its T2040; and 2) VTA to begin work on its VTP 2040 sometime in 2010.

**On order of Chairperson Batra** and there being no objection, the Committee received an update on MTC Activities and Initiatives.

**17. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Subcommittee Report**

Chairperson Batra reported the TAC Subcommittee discussed items agenda'd at today's TAC meeting.

**On order of Chairperson Batra** and there being no objection, the Committee received the TAC Subcommittee Report.

**18. Committee Work Plan**

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

**19. Announcements**

Alternate Member Collen announced the County of Santa Clara held a Call for Projects for the Expressway Pedestrian Program, noting the results would be sent out on Friday, February 12, 2010.

Casey Emoto, Acting Staff Liaison and Deputy Director, Project Development, announced the University of California Berkeley Technology Transfer Program is providing courses on Federal Aid. He noted staff would provide TAC with the Website link.

Chairperson Batra thanked the TAC Members for attending today's meeting.

**20. ADJOURNMENT**

**On order of Chairperson Batra** and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracene Y. Crenshaw, Board Assistant  
VTA Office of the Board Secretary