

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 8, 2010

### MINUTES

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 1:35 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
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	Present
Don Dey	City of Gilroy	Present
Heba El-Guendy, Alternate	City of Sunnyvale	Present
Sylvia Fung, Alt. Ex-Officio	Dept. of Transportation (Caltrans)	Absent
Glenn Goepfert	City of Cupertino	Absent
Robert Kass	City of Campbell	Present
Helen Kim, Alternate	City of Mountain View	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
Shahla Yazdy, Alternate	City of Palo Alto	Present

**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**

Members Kass and Armendariz took their seats at 1:37 p.m.  
Alternate Ex-Officio Member Connolly took his seat at 1:40 p.m.

John Ristow, Staff Liaison and Chief CMA Officer, provided a report, highlighting: 1) Thanked City of Mountain View for allowing the Regional Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs) Bay Area nine counties to host a meeting in the city; 2) California High Speed Rail Authority Board held its meeting on Thursday, April 8, 2010, in the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors' Chambers; 3) Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Commissioners scheduled a meeting with all of the CMA Board Chairs on April 9, 2010; and 4) Issue raised at today's TAC Subcommittee meeting regarding local assistance procedures and new invoicing process. Informed TAC Members to contact VTA staff if experiencing any delays of invoice payments/approvals or additional bureaucratic problems.

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

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

Chairperson Batra provided a report, highlighting: 1) Status of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Phase 2 Stimulus funding; 2) Discussed Senate Bill (SB) 83 - Vehicle Registration Surcharge funding at today's TAC Subcommittee meeting; and 3) TAC Working Group that was established to assist VTA staff on the development of an expenditure plan is reviewing the types of projects that would be developed through the potential vehicle registration fee; and 4) VTA staff anticipates forwarding a draft expenditure plan and polling results to the Board of Directors in mid 2010 to decide whether or not to place the vehicle registration fee on the November 2010 ballot.

Alternate Member Yazdy took her seat at 1:43 p.m.

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

- **Capital Improvement Program (CIP)**

Celeste Fiore, Transportation Planner II, reported on the March 23, 2010, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Working Group meeting, highlighting: 1) Received an update on the Noise Screening Program; 2) Discussed a Project Readiness Initiative; and 3) Next meeting is scheduled on April 27, 2010.

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

Eugene Maeda, Senior Transportation Planner, reported on the March 24, 2010, Systems Operations and Management (SOM) Working Group meeting, highlighting: 1) Received a presentation from the County of Santa Clara on Innovative Bicycle Signal Timing; 2) Reviewed VTA's current Deficiency Plan action item list; and 3) Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 28, 2010.

**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**

Alternate Member El-Guendy took her seat at 1:50 p.m.

Steven Fisher, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a verbal report on the High Speed Rail/Caltrain Project, highlighting: 1) Report on Program Level Environmental Impact Report (EIR), noting it was available for comments and comments should be submitted to California High Speed Rail (HSR) Authority by April 26, 2010; 2) Noted VTA's comments submitted on the Program Level Environmental Impact Report EIR; 3) Overview of discussions held at the Thursday, April 8, 2010, California HSR Authority meeting; 4) Status of Alternative Analysis Report, noting available on HSR Website and subject to comment over a 45-60 day period; 5) Report on meeting held regarding upgrading the Altamont Pass service, which involves cities of Milpitas, San Jose, and Santa Clara; and 6) Issues pertaining to Caltrain;

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

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

8. **Minutes of March 11, 2010**

M/S/C (Tripousis/Capurso) to approve the Minutes of March 11, 2010.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

9. **Light Rail Transit Systems Analysis – Final Plan Adoption**

Kevin Connolly, Transportation Planning Manager, provided a presentation on the Light Rail System Analysis, highlighting: 1) Project Background; 2) Light Rail System Analysis Outreach; 3) Peer Comparison – Boardings and Route Miles; 4) Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Population & Jobs Growth Drives Light Rail Transit (LRT) Growth; 5) Light Rail 2009 and 2035 Ridership; 6) Market Analysis – Transit Competitiveness; 7) LRT vs Auto – Peak Travel Times; 8) How do we improve the LRT system; 9) Phase 1 Proposal: Guadalupe Express; 10) Phase 1 – south San Jose Ridership Gains; 11) Phase I – Vasona; 12) Phase II Proposal: Tasman Line (Long T Service Package); 13) Phase II – Eastside Gains; 14) Phase II – Mountain View Express; 15) Service Package Comparison – 2018; 16) Independent System Improvements; and 17) Next Steps.

Members of the Committee expressed concern regarding the additional operating cost impacts to both Phases I and II of the Plan.

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

Members of the Committee recommended that a follow-up study be conducted on the traffic and signal improvements, noting that modifications to traffic control signal systems would be challenging.

Members of the Committee referenced the gain in ridership numbers listed for Phase II. Members of the Committee expressed concern regarding the amount of the capital cost to double track the single track section of the Mountain View line and questioned if other alternatives have been reviewed.

Members of the Committee recommended VTA staff identify ways to implement Phase I – Guadalupe Express with minimal operating costs or no additional operating costs.

**M/S/C (Dey/Tripousis)** to recommend the Board of Directors adopt the Light Rail System Analysis Improvement Plan. Further, TAC recommended VTA staff identify ways to implement Phase I – Guadalupe Express with minimal operating costs or no additional operating costs.

**10. Project Readiness Initiative: Program Guidance**

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

Members of the Committee expressed concern regarding not being able to use the grant funds for trails.

Members of the Committee commented the issue could be revisited in a year.

**M/S/C (Collen/Capurso)** to approve program structure for VTA Project Readiness Initiative (PRI).

**11. Three-Year (FY2010/11, 11/12, 12/13) Project Initiation Document (PID) Work Plan for Santa Clara County**

Eugene Maeda, Senior Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the staff report. He noted that the “Charcot Avenue Extension over I-880 in San Jose” Project was excluded from the Three-Year Project Initiation Document (PID) Work Program list and would be added to the list.

Members of the Committee requested that the “I-880/Montague Expressway in San Jose” Project be added to the Three-Year PID Work Program list.

Members of the Committee questioned the flexibility of adding projects. Mr. Maeda responded that there was some flexibility of adding projects, noting it may require swapping out of other projects on the list.

**On order of Chairperson Batra** and there being no objection, the Committee received status on 3-Yr (FY11-13) Project Initiation Document (PID) Work Plan for Santa Clara County.

**12. FY 2011 Congestion Management Program (CMP) Work Program**

John Ristow, Chief CMA Officer and Staff Liaison, provided an overview of the staff report. He noted the item would be brought back to TAC in May 2010, as an action item.

Members of the Committee recommended the monitoring of the CMP Work Program be conducted every two years.

Upon query of Members of the Committee, Mr. Ristow noted he would provide a report back indicating whether or not there was a decrease in expenditures.

Members of the Committee expressed concern regarding the terminology used in the past, which was “deferring the Member Agency fee increase.” Members of the Committee recommended “freezing” Member Agency fees.

**On order of Chairperson Batra** and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Fiscal Year 2011 Congestion Management Work Program.

**OTHER**

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

John Ristow, Chief CMA Officer and Staff Liaison, reported the following: 1) Reiterated that he and VTA Board Chairperson Sam Liccardo would be attending a meeting at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) on April 9, 2010; and 2) Provided a status report on what was happening with MTC and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) regarding Senate Bill (SB) 375.

Chris Augenstein, Deputy Director, Planning, provided a status report on the Regional Model Working Group meetings held pertaining to SB 375 implementation.

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

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

Chairperson Batra noted that the TAC Subcommittee Report was heard under Agenda Item #5. Chairperson’s Report.

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

**15. Committee Work Plan**

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

**16. Announcements**

Chairperson Batra announced the American Public Works Association (APWA), Silicon Valley Chapter, will be holding an Educational Workshop on April 14, 2010, noting the topic of discussion would be “Sustainable Public Works.”

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

**On order of Chairperson Batra** and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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