

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 14, 2011

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 1:37 p.m. by Chairperson Capurso 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, Vice Chairperson	City of Milpitas	Present
Rajeev Batra	City of Santa Clara	Present
Todd Capurso, Chairperson	Town of Los Gatos	Present
John Cherbone	City of Saratoga	Absent
Richard Chiu	Town of Los Altos Hills	Present
Dan Collen, Alternate	County of Santa Clara	Present
Don Dey	City of Gilroy	Present
Robert Kass	City of Campbell	Present
Helen Kim	City of Mountain View	Present
Larry Lind	City of Los Altos	Present
Shahla Yazdy, Alternate	City of Palo Alto	Present
Jim Rowe, Alternate	City of Morgan Hill	Present
Mo Sharma	City of Monte Sereno	Absent
David Stillman, Alternate	City of Cupertino	Present
Lee Taubeneck, Ex-Officio	Dept. of Transportation (Caltrans)	Absent
Ben Tripousis	City of San Jose	Present
Jack Witthaus	City of Sunnyvale	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

John Ristow, Chief CMA Officer and Staff Liaison, provided a report, highlighting: 1) April 14, 2011 VTA' Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and Cities Association Joint Meeting at 4:30 p.m. in Sunnyvale; 2) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) New Starts Program funding for the Berryessa Extension; 3) VTA released the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Berryessa Extension Project on March 25, 2011; and 4) "Save the Date" May 9, 2011 Advisory Committee Budget Workshop Meeting held at VTA's River Oaks Campus at 4:00 p.m.

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

5. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Capurso directed attention to the following revised attachments: **Agenda Item #9.a.** Preliminary Financially Unconstrained Project List and **Agenda Item #10.c.** Noise Reduction Screening Study Sites.

6. Reports from TAC Working Groups

- **Capital Improvement Program (CIP)**

Amin Surani, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that the CIP Working Group did not meet in March 2011; and the next CIP Working Group is scheduled for April 26, 2011.

Member Batra arrived at the meeting and took his seat at 1:42 p.m.

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

Eugene Maeda, Senior Transportation Planner, reported on the March 23, 2011, SOM Working Group meeting, highlighting: 1) Draft 2010 Safety Monitoring Performance Reports; 2) Draft Technical Memorandum; 3) Draft Best Practices guidance to coordinate and implement traffic signal projects in Santa Clara County; 4) Presentation on Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) projects; 5) VTA hosted webinar overview on 2010 Highway Capacity Manual; and 6) Draft Proposed list of Caltrans 2012 Workplan. The next SOM meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, April 27, 2011.

- **Land Use/Transportation Integration (LUTI)**

Ying Smith, Transportation Planner Manager, reported there was no LUTI Working Group meeting in April 2011. The next meeting is scheduled in May 2011.

On order of Chairperson Capurso 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 (HSR)/Caltrain Project, highlighting: 1) HSR and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant funding; and 2) efforts to define the HSR project in the Bay Area.

Members of the Committee noted the following: 1) the City of San Jose has six community working group meetings scheduled to look at the development of the aerial design in San Jose; 2) the City of Gilroy has scheduled a total of four community meetings and two council meetings to determine a recommended location and design for HSR Station; and 3) a "Save Caltrain" town meeting scheduled on Thursday, April 14, 2011 at the Morgan Hill Community Cultural Center.

On order of Chairperson Capurso 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 10, 2011

M/S/C (Batra/Tripousis) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2011.

REGULAR AGENDA

9. Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2040 Initial Project Lists

Ms. Smith provided a brief overview of the staff report and commented on the revised **Attachment Item #9.a.** - Preliminary Financially Unconstrained Project List with project costs and schedule.

Ms. Smith noted that six public meetings will be conducted from March – April 2011 throughout the Bay Area to discuss the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS) development and to receive feedback on the draft Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) project lists.

Members of the Committee commented on the following: 1) importance of considering all city interests not just the cities with Priority Development Areas (PDA's); 2) concurred with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) recommendation that projects comply with Complete Streets Policies and the Bicycle Technical Guidelines; and 3) importance of including language that projects comply with other adopted local design standards or guidelines.

M/S/C (Collen/Tripousis) to recommend that the Board of Directors adopt the Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2040 initial project list for submittal to Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC); and further recommend, TAC supports the BPAC suggestion that projects comply with Complete Streets Policies and Bicycle Technical Guidelines with the understanding that other adopted local design standards or guidelines may also apply and suffice.

10. Noise Reduction Screening Study

Christina Jaworski, Senior Environmental Planner, provided an overview of the staff report and commented on the revised **Attachment Item #10.c.** – Noise Reduction Screening Study Sites. She commented on staff's proposed actions to improve the cost effectiveness of sound walls for highway project sites in Santa Clara County.

Members of the Committee noted the following: 1) importance for staff to keep track of the projects being developed by other agencies and counties to ensure that the criteria list is not being stretched; 2) importance of emphasizing that the local interest is to continue to have flexibility in noise mitigation; and 3) importance of including freeways in the proposed recommended actions.

Upon query from Members of the Committee, Ms. Jaworski responded that after three to five years, it is likely that the environmental documentation will need to be "revalidated" to confirm there have been no substantive changes in existing conditions or regulations.

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

The Noise Study Report (NSR) will be revised if there has been a planned project or major changes in traffic volumes in the vicinity. However, the cost effectiveness of the project will need to be revisited to reflect changes in the reasonableness allowance and/or construction costs.

M/S/C (Tripousis/Armendariz) to recommend that the Board of Directors receive the results of the Noise Reduction Screening Study and approve the changes in the process for evaluating the cost-effectiveness of sound walls in Santa Clara County.

11. Fiscal Year 2012 and Fiscal Year 2013 Congestion Management Program (CMP) Work Program

Mr. Ristow provided an overview of the staff report and distributed a handout entitled, "The CMP Work Program Mandates," noting the history of the requirements of the CMP Work Program.

Mr. Ristow commented on the items directed by the Congestion Management Program and Planning (CMPP) Committee, such as the comparison of Proposition 111 fund distribution and other CMA funds to member agency fees, and the overview of the two year CMP Work Program and budget.

Mr. Ristow clarified that the intersection counts will include County intersection counts for the FY13 Monitoring and Conformance Report. Member Agency Fees will remain at current levels for FY12 and FY13.

M/S/C (Batra/Tripousis) to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the Fiscal Year 2012 and Fiscal Year 2013 Congestion Management Work Program.

12. Valley Transportation Plan, Regional Transportation Plan, and Sustainable Communities Strategies Updates

Chris Augenstein, Congestion Management Program and Planning Deputy Director, provided a brief overview of the staff report. The Initial Vision Scenario is available online at the following: www.onebayarea.org/pdf/initial_vision_scenario_report.pdf.

Mr. Augenstein commented that six public workshops will be conducted throughout the Bay Area to discuss the VTP, RTP, SCS, and the Initial Vision Scenario, noting VTA's Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)/Cities Association Joint Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 14, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at Sunnyvale City Hall.

On order of Chairperson Capurso and there being no objection, the Committee received an update on the Valley Transportation Plan, Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy activities.

13. Local Program Reserve Program Update

Mr. Surani reported provided an overview of the staff report.

On order of Chairperson Capurso and there being no objection, the Committee received the Local Program Reserve Program Update.

OTHER

14. Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Activities and Initiatives

Mr. Ristow reported that the MTC focus is currently on the RTP, SCS, and Regional Express Lanes.

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

15. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Subcommittee Report

Chairperson Capurso provided a report on the discussions held at the TAC Subcommittee meeting regarding: 1) VTP 2040 Project Lists update; and 2) VTP and RTP.

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

16. Committee Work Plan

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

17. Announcements

Members of the Committee expressed appreciation and thanked Member Kass for his dedicated work and service on the TAC and presented him with a token of appreciation for his diligent work and role in addressing litter control.

Member Kass introduced Michelle Quinney, City Engineer, who will represent the City of Campbell on the TAC Committee.

18. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Capurso and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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