

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 20, 2003

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Congestion Management Program & Planning Committee (CMPP) was called to order at 10:38 a.m. by Chairperson Chavez in Room 106, San Jose City Hall, 801 North First Street, San Jose, California.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Cindy Chavez, Chairperson
Patricia Dixon
John McLemore
Thomas Springer

Members Absent

Blanca Alvarado

A quorum was present.

2. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no Public Presentations.

3. ORDERS OF THE DAY

Michael P. Evanhoe, Chief Development Officer, requested that Regular Agenda Item #5.X., Approve distribution of the Draft FY 03-04 Congestion Management Program (CMP) Work Program, Budget and Member Agency Fees to Member Agencies for review and comment follow Agenda Item #6., Adopt Project Selection and Programming Procedures for the Valley Transportation Plan 2020 (VTP 2020), Local Streets and County Roads Program. (Item Referred from March 6, 2003 Board of Directors' Meeting.)

On order of Chairperson Chavez, there being no objection, the Orders of the Day were accepted.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Minutes of March 20, 2003

M/S/C (Springer/McLemore) to approve the Minutes of March 20, 2003.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. 2002 Monitoring and Conformance Report and Conformance Findings

Carolyn Gonot, Deputy Director, Congestion Management Program, provided an overview of the 2002 Monitoring and Conformance Report findings including: 1) intersections, 2) freeways, 3) rural highways, and 4) land use submittals.

Ms. Gonot reported that a total of 15 Congestion Management Program (CMP) intersections were found to be operating at Level of Service (LOS) F this year. Ten were exempt that were grand fathered in 1991. The five remaining intersections on the CMP network were found to be deficient and were also not in conformance in 2001.

Ms. Gonot noted that VTA is a proponent of direct carpool lane connectors between freeways or a direct carpool lane to off-ramp connector.

Ms. Gonot reported that the rural highways operating at LOS F are: 1) Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road north of Big Basin Road; 2) SR 152 west of Holsclaw Road and 3) SR 25 south of Bloomfield Road.

Ms. Gonot reported that VTA compiled the submitted data for residential units and jobs approved in the monitoring period. This year 5,500 residential units and 23,700 jobs were approved countywide. In 2001, residential unit and job approvals totaled 7,900 and 55,200 respectively.

M/S/C (Springer/McLemore) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the 2002 Monitoring and Conformance Report Findings.

The Agenda was taken out of order.

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

6. VTP 2020 Local Streets and County Roads Program

Ms. Gonot distributed a table specifying categories and status of the Roadway, Bicycle and Pedestrian programs. The categories included: 1) freeways, 2) expressways, 3) local streets and County Roads, 4) transportation systems operations and management, 5) soundwalls/sound barriers, 6) bicycle projects, 7) livable community and pedestrian program, and 8) landscape restoration and graffiti removal program.

Ms. Gonot noted that the goal is to have all project lists developed by fall 2003.

Member McLemore queried when funding allocations would be identified. Ms. Gonot responded that funding allocations would be identified in the fall. Michael P. Evanhoe, Chief Development Officer, stated that the reason identification of funding allocations would be later this year is that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) has postponed the fund estimate that would normally be available in the April/May timeframe to August.

John Ristow, Deputy Director, Programming and Highway Administration, provided an overview of Local Streets and County Roads project selection and programming procedures and identified the two-step process intended to establish a 10-year list of projects designed to achieve the goals of the program and the programming phase whereby funds are allocated to projects. Step I is the planning phase to develop a 10-year list of projects that would go into the Valley Transportation Plan 2020 and ultimately into the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Regional Transportation Program (RTP). Step II is the programming phase whereby the project is allocated funds.

Chairperson Chavez noted regarding "Transportation/Land Use Connection Interface" that the availability of up to 20 points seemed low considering the emphasis cities are placing in this area and further noted that this issue is equally as important as Street Connectivity which has the availability of up to 30 points.

Member McLemore suggested that Transportation/Land Use Connection Interface be increased by five points to a maximum of 25 and Street Connectivity be reduced by five points to a maximum of 25. This reallocation would result in the four-project selection criteria (Street Connectivity, Congestion Relief, Safety, and Transportation/Land Use Connection Interface) each receiving an equal number of points (maximum of 25 each).

M/S/C (McLemore/Springer) to submit a recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt Project Selection and Programming Procedures for the Valley Transportation Plan 2020 (VTP 2020) Local Streets and County Roads Program with the amendment that all sections be up to 25 points, with 5 points taken away from the New Connection of an Existing Roadway and 5 points added to the Transportation/Land Use Connection.

Member Springer suggested that the wording “multi-modal projects at/near rail stations and bus transit centers (as defined in the VTA Short Range Transportation Plan) needs to be broad and expanded to add “or other multi-modal activities.”

5.X. Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Congestion Management Program (CMP) Draft Work Program, Budget and Member Agency Fees

Mr. Evanhoe noted that CMP proposes to forgive the proposed seven percent increase scheduled for Fiscal Year 2003/2004 and if approved, Members Agency Fees would remain at \$2.032 million. Mr. Evanhoe further noted that staff would recommend another 12 percent cut in Members Agency dues in the final version of the budget so that the overall reduction would be 19 percent.

Mr. Evanhoe noted that SB 45 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Monitoring Funds of \$561,000 which come from the California Transportation Commission (CTC) would probably not be available this year.

Ms. Gonot provided the Work Program which outlines the major tasks that staff will address during Fiscal Year 2003-2004 including the total estimated cost of VTA staff, consultant service and goods and services for each task.

M/S/C (McLemore/Springer) to submit a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve distribution of the Draft FY 2003-2004 Congestion Management Program (CMP) Work Program, Budget and Member Agency Fees to Member Agencies for review and comment.

OTHER ITEMS

7. Fare Modifications for Fiscal Year 2003-2004

Scott Buhner, Chief Financial Officer, noted that this item would be discussed in detail at tomorrow’s Workshop.

Mr. Buhner noted that originally fare increases were attempted every other year and were actually implemented every third year. Mr. Buhner noted that when the original budget assumptions were brought to the Administration and Finance Committee (A&F), it included an assumption that there would not be a fare increase this year. In light of mounting deficits, the A&F Committee recommended and the Board of Directors subsequently approved the budget assumption that there would be a fare increase this year to be effective in August 2003.

Mr. Buhner stated that public comment would be solicited from April 2, 2003 through April 10, 2003. The issue of fare increases will be brought before Advisory and Standing Committees through May 2003 and to the Board of Directors for approval in June 2003.

Mr. Buhner noted that the Business Review Team proposed that VTA needs to increase its fare box recovery ratio; reduce discounts in the multiples in the youth and senior and disabled categories to be more in line with the Bay Area and national peers and change pass pricing to be more in line with the national and Bay Area peers.

Peter M. Cipolla, General Manager, reported that the proposed fares are reflective of that which is required by law and noted that federal law requires that fares for senior and disabled riders be discounted by 50 percent.

Member Springer expressed concern regarding the increase from \$1.25 to \$2.25 on a day pass for senior and disabled riders who may be on a fixed income.

Mr. Buhner reported that Sales Tax results for the quarter ending December 31, 2002, were received and were roughly \$3 million less than anticipated. Mr. Buhner noted that the Employment Development Department has substantially revised all of 2002 labor numbers, which were overstated in terms of levels of employment.

On order of Chairperson Chavez, there being no objection, Proposed Transit and ADA Paratransit Fare Modifications for Implementation August 1, 2003, were received and filed.

8. Legislative Reports

Kurt M. Evans, Government Affairs Manager, stated that the President has submitted his Fiscal Year 2004 budget proposals to Congress.

Mr. Evans noted that for Fiscal Year 2004 the President is recommending a federal highway program of \$29.3 billion which is less than the \$31.6 billion program approved in the Fiscal Year 2004 omnibus appropriations bill.

Mr. Evans reported regarding transit that the President is proposing \$7.2 billion for Fiscal Year 2004. The President is proposing a major restructuring of federal transit programs and recommending that the Discretionary Bus Program be eliminated.

Mr. Evans noted that the President is proposing a bump in the New Starts Program to \$1.5 billion in Fiscal Year 2004 as compared to \$1.2 billion figure included in the current budget year. Mr. Evans further noted that the President is recommending that all monies come from the General Fund. The New Starts

Program is currently funded 80 percent from the Mass Transit Account and 20 percent from the General Fund. The President is suggesting that transit programs funded from the General Fund lie outside of the budgetary firewalls that guarantee spending for transit programs. This means that the New Starts Program would be in competition with other federal programs that are funded through the General Fund.

On order of Chairperson Chavez, there being no objection, the Legislative Reports were received and filed.

9. **Proactive Congestion Management Program (CMP) Reviewed and Approved Projects Monthly Status Report**

On order of Chairperson Chavez, there being no objection, the Proactive CMP Reviewed and Approved Projects Monthly Status Report was received and filed.

10. **Proactive Congestion Management Program (CMP) Reviewed and Approved Projects Monthly Status Report (Deferred from the February 2003 Meeting)**

On order of Chairperson Chavez, there being no objection, the Proactive CMP Reviewed and Approved Projects Monthly Status Report (deferred from the February 2003 Meeting) was received and filed.

11. **Committee Work Plan**

On order of Chairperson Chavez, there being no objection, the Committee Work Plan was accepted, as submitted.

12. **Committee Staff Report**

There was no Committee Staff Report.

13. **Chairperson's Report**

There was no Chairperson's Report.

14. **Determine Consent Agenda for April 3, 2003 Board of Directors' Meeting**

CONSENT: Agenda Item #5., Recommend the Board of Directors approve the 2002 Monitoring and Conformance Report Findings; **Agenda Item #5.X.**, Approve distribution of the Draft FY 03-04 Congestion Management Program (CMP) Work Program, Budget and Member Agency Fees to Member Agencies for review and comment and **Agenda Item #6.**, Adopt Project Selection and Programming Procedures for the Valley Transportation Plan 2020 (VTP 2020), Local Streets and

County Roads Program. (Item Referred from March 6, 2003 Board of Directors' Meeting.)

REGULAR: None

15. Announcements

There were no Announcements.

16. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Chavez, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Tinlin, Board Assistant
VTA Board of Directors