

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 16, 2007

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Congestion Management Program & Planning Committee (CMPP) was called to order at 10:35 a.m. by Chairperson Kniss in Room 157, County Government Center, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose, California.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Nora Campos, Vice Chairperson
Liz Kniss, Chairperson
Sam Liccardo
Laura Macias

Members Absent

None

Alternates Present

None

Alternates Absent

Pete McHugh
Dominic Caserta
Judy Chirco

* Alternates do not serve unless participating as a Member.

A quorum was present.

Chairperson Kniss noted that she will leave at around 11:20 a.m. and requested Vice Chairperson Campos to preside over the remainder of the meeting.

Chairperson Kniss introduced John Ristow, Acting Chief Congestion Management Agency (CMA) Officer and new staff liaison for CMPP.

Mr. Ristow stated that he looks forward to serving the CMPP. He advised that there will be new planning initiatives and programs that will be forwarded to the CMPP for direction. He noted that his goal is to make the CMA invigorated and be a regional and statewide player in transportation.

Michael T. Burns, General Manager, explained that one of the purposes of VTA's reorganization is to re-establish the identity of the CMA. He noted that the CMPP's

future agendas will be more CMA focused as it will be the CMA Committee for Santa Clara County.

Chairperson Kniss requested that the following Agenda Items be moved to the end of the Agenda: Agenda Item #2., Closed Session and Agenda Item #3., Closed Session Report.

2. (Moved to the end of the Agenda.)

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Real Property Negotiator
[Government Code 54956.8]

Property: Block bounded by North First Street, North Market Street, Santa Clara Street and West St. John Street located in downtown San Jose.

Negotiator for VTA: Roberta Notrangelo, Manager of Real Estate

Negotiating parties: The Mitchell Family, Owners, acting through an exclusive listing by CB Richard Ellis.

Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment.

3. (Moved to the end of the Agenda.)

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

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The Agenda was taken out of order.

4. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no Public Presentations.

5. **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

There were no Orders of the Day.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. **Minutes of February 15, 2007**

M/S/C (Liccardo/Campos) to approve the Minutes of February 15, 2007.

7. **Minutes of April 19, 2007**

M/S/C (Liccardo/Campos) to approve the Minutes of April 19, 2007.

8. **Minutes of May 23, 2007**

M/S/C (Liccardo/Campos) to approve the Minutes of May 23, 2007.

9. **Monthly Legislative History Matrix**

Member Liccardo referred to SB 264 (Alquist) - VTA one-eight-cent sales tax authority and inquired when is the best time for Board Members to make calls to urge support.

Vice Chairperson Campos requested that staff also inform the Board of the appropriate persons to contact to urge support for SB 264 (Alquist).

Kurt Evans, Government Affairs Manager, provided a brief status of SB 264 (Alquist) and advised that the bill is expected to pass on the Assembly floor. He noted that it will be best to make calls when the bill is at the Governor Schwarzenegger's office for signature. He added that the Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG) took a "support" position for SB 264 (Alquist).

M/S/C (Liccardo/Campos) to review the Monthly Legislative History Matrix.

10. **Programmed Projects Quarterly Monitoring Report Summary for FY 06/07**

M/S/C (Liccardo/Campos) to review the Programmed Projects Quarterly Monitoring Report Summary for FY 06/07.

11. **Proactive CMP Reviewed and Approved Projects Quarterly Status Report April 2007 through June 2007**

M/S/C (Liccardo/Campos) to review the Proactive CMP Reviewed and Approved Projects Quarterly Status Report April 2007 through June 2007.

REGULAR AGENDA

12. VTA Discretionary Funding Programs: Composition of Project Scoring Committees

Chairperson Kniss noted that staff requests deferral of the VTA Discretionary Funding Programs: Composition of Project Scoring Committees.

John Ristow, Acting Chief CMA Officer, provided a brief overview noting that this item recommends formalizing and documenting the CMP project evaluation procedures. He advised that this item was forwarded to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) this month. However, the TAC did not have a quorum and requested that the item be deferred to provide TAC the opportunity to weigh in and provide comments to this item prior to forwarding recommendations to the CMPP.

M/S/C (Liccardo/Campos) to defer the review and recommendation of a process for selecting project review and scoring committees for VTA Congestion Management Program Discretionary Funding programs that specifies committee membership and participation.

13. FY 07/08 Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program Manager Fund

John Ristow, Acting Chief CMA Officer, provided a brief background noting that VTA must re-program unused funds from cancelled projects to other deserving projects.

Upon inquiry of Member Liccardo, Mr. Ristow noted that the project that was cancelled was from the City of San Jose that involves signal synchronization. Mr. Ristow stated that there were issues within the project but it is expected to come back for programming at a future funding cycle.

Chairperson Kniss stated that the public appreciates signal synchronization as it moves traffic, improves travel time, and the helps environment. She noted the importance of prioritizing synchronization and making the public aware of VTA's efforts to improve their travel.

M/S/C (Campos/ Liccardo) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the programming of \$48,101 in Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program Manager (TFCA 40%) funds to Segment 2 of Morgan Hill's Little Llagas Creek Trail.

14. Community Design & Transportation Program Capital Grants

John Ristow, Acting Chief CMA Officer, provided a brief background, noting that this is the second round of the Community Design & Transportation (CDT) Program Capital

Grants. Staff recommends funding to the top five projects listed in Attachment A. However, there is a shortfall amount of approximately \$530,000 in funding. To close that gap and be able to fund all five excellent projects, VTA staff recommends that the Board request the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to advance an additional \$530,612 in 2009/10 Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds. Mr. Ristow explained that advancing the TE funds is not a usual practice, but rather done on a case-by-case basis.

Chairperson Kniss expressed support for staff recommendation.

Member Macias inquired about the impact of advancing funds now. Mr. Ristow explained that the funds from CDT come from the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ). Based on current estimates, VTA expects to obtain approximately \$5 million from STIP and approximately \$3-\$4 million from CMAQ. Advancing the funds now would mean that the total amount to be programmed in the future will be \$500,000 less, which represents less than 10 percent of the total expected CDT future funds.

Vice Chairperson Campos noted the importance of moving forward projects that are “ready to go”. Mr. Ristow stated that projects that are “ready to go” get a higher score.

M/S/C (Campos/ Liccardo) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the programming of \$3,430,612 in Community Design & Transportation Program Capital Grants to projects.

OTHER ITEMS

15. Items of Concern and Referral to Administration

Board Member Liccardo requested staff to provide a report regarding metering lights within Santa Clara County that includes metering light operations (operating and non-operating metering lights).

Chairperson Kniss inquired who has jurisdiction over the metering lights in Santa Clara County.

John Ristow, Acting Chief CMA Officer, responded that Caltrans is responsible for metering lights for state highways. Caltrans determines which ones to operate and the interval for metering lights. He added that the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Working Group of the TAC is working on that issue and staff will forward the status to the CMPP at a future meeting.

Vice Chairperson Campos requested that staff include in the report the inventory of the metering lights.

16. Committee Work Plan

Member Macias requested staff to provide the Committee with more background information on Local Streets and County Roads such as grade levels, traffic levels, and other monitoring results.

On order of Chairperson Kniss, there being no objection, the Committee Work Plan was reviewed.

17. Committee Staff Report

John Ristow, Acting Chief CMA Officer, reported that the U.S. Department of Transportation (US DOT) initiated the Urban Partnership Program as a national major initiative to relieve congestion in larger metropolitan areas through tolling, transit, technology, and telecommuting.

The San Francisco Bay Area was selected as one of the recipients. However, only San Francisco received funding of approximately \$158 million to focus on Doyle Drive and series transit projects that support the project. Mr. Ristow noted that VTA's charge is to be a bigger regional player and be able to secure grants such as this.

Michael T. Burns, General Manager, noted that the congestion pricing for Doyle Drive is only a "discussion" at this time.

Mr. Ristow stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is currently preparing a Regional Rail Plan that examines the long-range rail system for the Bay Area. VTA intends to attend the public information workshops to provide input regarding where rail investments should be made.

Mr. Ristow reported that the California High Speed Rail (HSR) released the Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). They will hold a series of public meetings and VTA will participate in those meetings. The document will describe and set-up the decision for the entrance of HSR into the Bay Area, whether it should come from the Pacheco or Altamont Pass.

Vice Chairperson Campos inquired how the public can provide their input regarding HSR.

Mr. Ristow responded that VTA is coordinating other stakeholders including the City of San Jose to ensure that there is participation from Santa Clara County in all of the public meetings.

Kurt Evans, Government Affairs Manager, added that VTA is a member of the Silicon Valley High Speed Rail Coalition and VTA's Chairperson Dean Chu is very active. VTA formed this coalition about two years ago to support HSR and advocate for the Pacheco Pass as the preferred alignment. Currently there is about 25 - 30 members in the coalition representing various groups that would provide advocacy through testimony and written comments for the Pacheco Pass alignment.

Upon inquiry of Member Macias, Mr. Evans responded that the HSR EIR/EIS addresses the program level and the alignment. The next level that the HSR Authority will embark on is the project level environmental analysis which will deal with issues such as station footprints.

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

18. Chairperson's Report

There was no Chairperson's Report.

Chairperson Kniss left the meeting at 11:22 a.m. and
Vice Chairperson Campos presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Jerry G. Mikolajczyk, Chief Financial Officer, reported that VTA is financially secure and a going concern. He provided an update on VTA's Financial Management, highlighting on the accomplishments and benefits to VTA, including: 1) Improved cash management with an increased cash balance by \$200 million over the last four months. This will yield interest earnings for VTA; 2) Accelerated grant billings with receipt of cash in less than 90 days that provided VTA with accelerated investment income of \$2.5 million; 3) Reduced 2000 Measure A outstanding debt by \$54.7 million that will yield interest savings of \$35 million over the life of the bond; 4) VTA's credit rating was upgraded to AAA (S&P) and AA- (Fitch) for VTA Operating Bonds; 5) Portion of the long-term debt refunded with savings of \$1.6 million; and 6) Refunding of bonds F&G could result in savings of \$1 million per year if the lower fixed rate be acquired.

19. Determine Consent Agenda for August 30, 2007 Board of Directors Meeting

CONSENT: Agenda Item #10., Review the Programmed Projects Quarterly Monitoring Report Summary for FY 06/07; **Agenda Item #11.**, Review the Proactive CMP Reviewed and Approved Projects Quarterly Status Report April 2007 through June 2007; **Agenda Item #13.**, Approve the programming of \$48,101 in Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program Manager (TFCA 40%) funds to Segment 2 of Morgan Hill's Little Llagas Creek Trail; and **Agenda Item #14.**, Approve the programming of \$3,430,612 in Community Design & Transportation Program Capital Grants to projects.

REGULAR: None

20. Announcements

There were no Announcements.

2. ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION at 11:26 a.m.

Conference with Real Property Negotiator

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Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment.

RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION at 11:36 a.m.

3. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

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[Government Code 54956.8]

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There was no reportable action taken during Closed Session.

21. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Vice Chairperson Campos, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine F. Baltao, Board Assistant
VTA Board of Directors