

# CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 17, 2008

## MINUTES

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Congestion Management Program & Planning Committee (CMPP) was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss in Room 157, County Government Center, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose, California.

#### ROLL CALL

##### Members Present

Liz Kniss  
Yoriko Kishimoto

##### Members Absent

Nora Campos, Chairperson  
Sam Liccardo

##### Alternates Present

None

##### Alternates Absent

David Cortese  
Pete McHugh  
Chris Moylan

\* Alternates do not serve unless participating as a Member.

**A quorum was not present and a Committee of the Whole was declared.**

Member Kishimoto introduced herself to the Committee and to the audience.

### 2. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Labor Negotiators  
[Government Code Section 54957.6]

#### VTA Designated Representatives:

Jerry Mikolajczyk, Chief Financial Officer  
Bill Lopez, Chief Administrative Officer  
Robert Escobar, Manager, Office of Employee Relations

#### Employee Organization:

Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU)

There was no Closed Session.

### 3. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

There was no Closed Session Report.

**The Agenda was taken out of order.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**6. Minutes of August 16, 2007**

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole deferred the Minutes of August 16, 2007.

**7. Minutes of October 18, 2007**

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole deferred the Minutes of October 18, 2007.

**8. 2008 Congestion Management Program & Planning (CMPP) Committee Meeting Schedule**

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole deferred the Monthly Legislative History Matrix.

**9. Monthly Legislative History Matrix**

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole deferred the Monthly Legislative History Matrix.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**10. Elect a Vice Chairperson for 2008**

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole nominated Yoriko Kishimoto for CMPP Vice Chairperson for 2008.

**4. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

There were no Public Presentations.

**11. Application of Proposition 1B – Trade Corridors Improvement Fund Grant for New Alignment of State Route 152 and Dedication of Matching Funds**

Member Kishimoto expressed interest in reviewing the Conceptual Plans for SR 152 and suggested the following conditions: 1) proposed project should include “toll road” as an option; 2) limit the future roadway to four lanes to minimize vehicle emissions and sprawl. Staff responded that the grant application will review her suggestion. However, it is too early in the process to include them as a condition.

Member Kishimoto suggested that VTA develop a freight plan for Santa Clara County as part of the regional freight rail plan.

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole approved submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the submittal of an application for a \$5 million grant from the Proposition 1B-Trade Corridors Improvement Fund to fund environmental studies for a new alignment of State Route 152; and approve the programming of \$5 million in Local Program Reserve funds to serve as the required local match, pending approval of the grant by the California Transportation Commission; and authorize the General Manager to execute all necessary agreements with the State to accept and use the grant funds, if awarded.

**12. Grant Application for U.S. Department of Transportation – Congestion Relief Demonstration Initiative**

Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss suggested that staff look into the safety aspect of moving in and out of the High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes.

The Committee of the Whole expressed support for this item and commented that the proposal was well designed because it uses technology, promotes more usage of the HOV lanes, and explores potential congestion pricing..

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole approved submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to authorize staff to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Transportation under the Congestion Reduction Demonstration Initiative for the Route 237/I-880 HOV Direct Connector; and authorize the General Manager to enter into all necessary agreements with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Caltrans and MTC to accept and use these funds, if awarded.

**13. West San Carlos Joint Development – Extension of Exclusive Negotiating Period with Developer**

The Committee of the Whole supported extending the Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) considering the current market conditions and the many years of efforts VTA exerted for this project.

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole approved submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve a 180-day extension of the exclusive negotiating period with Green Republic, LLC, the selected developer on the West San Carlos Joint Development Project, up to June 30, 2008.

## **OTHER**

### **14. VTA Sustainability Program**

Tom Fitzwater, Environmental Planning Manager, reviewed the goals and strategies of the Sustainability Program, the efforts that VTA implemented to be more sustainable and green, and the future improvements that will be implemented.

Member Kishimoto suggested that VTA examine employee alternative commuting.

Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss suggested that VTA contact Santa Clara County Staff to obtain the County's implementation strategies on retrofitting the lighting and heating in the County building.

Member Kishimoto inquired if VTA will develop a countywide action plan that will reduce emissions. Mr. Ristow noted that the plan to reduce emissions is at a regional level and will be discussed later on the agenda.

Member Kishimoto suggested that VTA help Santa Clara County cities with their emission inventories. Mr. Fitzwater noted that there are on-going discussions with an environmental agency regarding that issue.

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole reviewed the VTA Sustainability Program.

### **16. Update Preliminary Engineering of High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Project**

Casey Emoto, Transportation Engineering Manager, reported on the US 101 and SR 85 High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes highlighting the following: 1) definition of HOT lane; 2) Santa Clara County HOV lane network; 3) Timeline for HOT lanes in Santa Clara County; 3) Concept for county HOT lanes; 4) HOT Lane project examples in the nation; 4) rationale for considering HOT lanes for the County; 5) stakeholder coordination; 6) US 101 and SR 85 Preliminary study process and technical considerations; 7) policy and implementation challenges; and 8) next steps towards VTA HOT Lane implementation.

Chairperson Pro Tempore Kniss relinquished her seat and left the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

Chairperson Pro Tempore Kishimoto presided over the remainder of the Meeting.

Chairperson Pro Tempore Kishimoto suggested that VTA also examine the smooth transition to Dumbarton. Mr. Ristow noted that San Mateo is part of the stakeholder group and there are current discussions about the issue.

Michael Ludwig, Interested Citizen, addressed the Committee and stated that he supports HOT Lanes. He suggested that VTA consider a 24-hour HOV lane implementation instead of peak hours only.

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kishimoto**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received an Update on the Preliminary Engineering of High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Project.

**15. Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2035 – Draft Project Lists**

Chris Augenstein, Deputy Director, reported on the changes of Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) process of MTC and its relationship to Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2035. The current RTP process is focused on HOT Lanes Pricing, Land Use Integration and Green House Gases/Emissions. He noted that staff will forward a more refined and constrained project list by next month.

Chairperson Pro Tempore Kishimoto commented that the reduction of green house gas emissions efforts be accelerated. She requested staff to provide updates on the criteria that will be used to score projects.

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kishimoto**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole reviewed the Valley Transportation Plan 2035 – Draft Project Lists.

**17. Items of Concern and Referral to Administration**

There were no Items of Concern and Referral to Administration.

**18. Committee Work Plan**

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kishimoto**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole reviewed the Committee Work Plan.

**19. Committee Staff Report**

Mr. Ristow reported that VTA was able to successfully implement the New Service Plan, which commenced on Monday, January 14, 2008.

Michael T. Burns, General Manager, reported that VTA did a good job in informing the public about the service changes. He also reported about the fire incidents in Downtown San Jose in the morning and the issues that staff is working on with Bus Routes 68 and 89.

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kishimoto**, there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received the Committee Staff Report.

**20. Chairperson's Report**

There was no Chairperson's Report

**21. Determine Consent Agenda for February 7, 2008 Board of Directors Meeting**

**CONSENT: Agenda Item #12.,** Authorize staff to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Transportation under the Congestion Reduction Demonstration Initiative for the Route 237/I-880 HOV Direct Connector; and authorize the General Manager to enter into all necessary agreements with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Caltrans and MTC to accept and use these funds, if awarded. **Agenda Item #13.,** Approve a 180-day extension of the exclusive negotiating period with Green Republic, LLC, the selected developer on the West San Carlos Joint Development Project, up to June 30, 2008.

**REGULAR: Agenda Item #11.,** Approve the submittal of an application for a \$5 million grant from the Proposition 1B- Trade Corridors Improvement Fund to fund environmental studies for a new alignment of State Route 152; and approve the programming of \$5 million in Local Program Reserve funds to serve as the required local match, pending approval of the grant by the California Transportation Commission; and authorize the General Manager to execute all necessary agreements with the State to accept and use the grant funds, if awarded.

**22. Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**23. ADJOURNMENT**

**On order of Chairperson Pro Tempore Kishimoto,** there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine F. Baltao, Board Assistant  
VTA Board of Directors