

TRANSIT PLANNING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

MINUTES

1. CALLED TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Transit Planning and Operations (TP&O) Committee was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Chairperson Sandoval in Conference Room B-104, Valley Transportation Authority, 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Nancy Pyle, Member
Dolly Sandoval, Chairperson
Greg Sellers, Vice Chairperson

Members Absent

Dominic Caserta

Alternates Present

Chris Moylan, Alternate Member

Alternates Absent

David Cortese
Kathleen King
Bob Livengood

*Alternates do not serve unless participating as a Member.

A quorum was present.

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)

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

3. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

There was no Closed Session Report.

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 December 20, 2007

M/S/C (Sellers/Pyle) to approve the Minutes of December 20, 2007.

REGULAR AGENDA

7. Election Process for Vice Chairperson for 2008

M/S/C (Moylan/Pyle) to close the nominations and elect Greg Sellers as Transit Planning and Operations Committee Vice Chairperson for the calendar year 2008 to complete the election process.

8. Report from January 9, 2008 Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) Meeting.

There was no Committee for Transit Accessibility Meeting Report.

9. The 2008 Transit Planning and Operations (TP&O) Committee Meeting Schedule

Chairperson Sandoval requested that the February TP&O Committee meeting date be rescheduled.

M/S/C (Pyle/Sellers) to approve the 2008 TP&O Committee Meeting schedule.

10. Utility Relocation Agreements with MCI Communications Services, Inc. (MCI) and Santa Fe Pacific Pipeline, L.P. (SFPP)

Michael Burns, VTA General Manager, provided background information on the Right-of-Way (ROW) purchased from Union Pacific Rail Road (UPRR) for the BART Project, agreements with MCI Communication Services, Inc. (MCI) to relocate utilities, and Santa Fe Pacific Pipeline (SFPP) to relocate major petroleum pipelines.

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

Mark Robinson, Acting Chief Engineering and Construction Officer provided information regarding the construction of the project corridor.

Alternate Member Moylan inquired about the need for the General Manager to get authorization for the work when it has to be done as part of a contractual agreement. Alternate Member Moylan requested that this item be put on the Board Consent Agenda.

M/S/C (Pyle/Sellers) to authorize the General Manager to execute Utility Relocation Agreements with MCI Communications Services, Inc. (MCI) in an amount not to exceed \$22,300,000 and Santa Fe Pacific Pipeline, L.P. (SFPP) in an amount not to exceed \$9,000,000. These Agreements are required in order to clear communication and petroleum facilities from VTA's freight rail corridor, formerly known as the WP Milpitas Line, thereby enabling the use of that corridor for future transportation-related improvements.

11. Resolutions of Necessity for the Freight Railroad Relocation Project

John Ristow, Deputy Director Programming & Project Development, provided information on the properties that VTA needs to acquire in order to begin work on the Freight Railroad Relocation Project.

M/SC (Sellers/Pyle) to Adopt Resolutions of Necessity determining that the public interest and necessity require the acquisition of property interests from three parcels for the Freight Railroad Relocation Project.

12. 1996 Measure B Transportation Improvement Program for December 2007

John Ristow, Deputy Director of Programming & Project Development, provided a report on the Measure B Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Ristow noted that the program is substantially complete, but VTA is still working on several projects and closing out others. Mr. Ristow noted that staff will continue to provide a semi-annual report to the Board until all of the projects are complete.

M/S/C (Sellers/Pyle) to approve the Progress Report for the 1996 Measure B Transportation Improvement Program for December 2007.

OTHER ITEMS

13. VTA Sustainability Program

Christina Jaworski, Environmental Planner, provided information on VTA's Sustainability Program noting strategies that will be taken to attain set goals in order to reduce pollution and conserve natural resources in an effort to strengthen VTA's commitment to the environment. Ms. Jaworski noted VTA will establish benchmarks to measure progress and will report back to the Board annually.

Michael Burns, VTA General Manager, commented that VTA has implemented sustainability practices. Mr. Burns noted that with the Board's approval of \$3 Million, VTA has the resources to identify the types of improvements available and explore the best investments.

Member Sellers inquired if part of the scope of work was the possible financial benefits for VTA. He noted the use of VTA's facilities, sites, and land which could be developed to generate a positive cash flow.

Chairperson Sandoval commented that installation of solar panels at River Oaks, Cerone and other VTA sites should be considered.

On order of Chairperson Sandoval, there being no objection, the VTA Sustainability Program Report was received.

14. Monthly Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance Report

Joonie Tolosa, Operations Senior Management Analyst, provided a report on VTA's Ridership and Fare Revenue for the month of December 2007. Mr. Tolosa indicated that system ridership was up for the month with an increase in bus ridership and decrease in Light Rail ridership. He noted that month-to-month fare revenues have exceeded the budgeted goal but there was a decrease in the average fare per boarding, which correlates to the lowering of fares.

Member Sellers inquired about the interruption of Light Rail services during the Southline Retrofit Project and asked if a loss of ridership is anticipated. He commented that it would be helpful to see if ridership was affected and asked if there was a way to capture that information.

On order of Chairperson Sandoval, there being no objection, the Monthly Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance Report was received.

15. Monthly Legislative History Matrix

Kurt Evans, Government Affairs Manager, provided a report on the State Legislative meetings and the policy issues that are being discussed. He noted that this legislative year will be dominated by budget discussions due to the shortfalls of the current year budget, and the Fiscal Year 2009 Budget, which is expected to have an \$11 million deficit. Mr. Evans commented that Transportation was not impacted by the Governor's proposal for the current year. At this point in time, however, it is impacted in the Fiscal Year 2009 proposal.

On order of Chairperson Sandoval, there being no objection, the Monthly Legislative History Matrix was received.

16. Items of Concern and Referral to Administration

There were no Items of Concern or Referral to the Administration.

17. **Committee Work Plan**

On order of Chairperson Sandoval, there being no objection, the Committee Workplan was received.

18. **Committee Staff Report**

Dan Smith, Chief Operating Officer, provided information about the implementation of the New Bus Service Plan. He noted that there were some minor glitches but the major service changes were a success.

Michael Burns, VTA General Manager, expanded on the New Bus Service Plan implementation, noting that VTA employee ambassadors and administrative staff had done a great job communicating with the public and working to assist riders. Mr. Burns commented that he was pleased with the results and appreciated the efforts of everyone involved.

Mr. Burns announced that VTA has hired a new Chief Financial Officer, Joe Smith. Mr. Smith's start date is January 22, 2008.

Mr. Burns provided information regarding the State Audit which is expected to last six months. He informed the Committee that due to confidentiality requirements, VTA will not convey information to the Board until there is a draft report, which is expected to be available at the end of May.

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

19. **Chairperson's Report**

TP&O Chairperson, Dolly Sandoval, announced the retirement of Nancy Coss-Fitzwater, Policy and Administrative Manager, and thanked her for her service and support of the Committee.

20. **Consent Agenda for the February 7, 2008 Board Meeting**

CONSENT: Item #10., Authorize the General Manager to execute Utility Relocation Agreements with MCI Communications Services, Inc. (MCI) in an amount not to exceed \$22,300,000 and Santa Fe Pacific Pipeline, L.P. (SFPP) in an amount not to exceed \$9,000,000. These Agreements are required in order to clear communication and petroleum facilities from VTA's freight rail corridor, formerly known as the WP Milpitas Line, thereby enabling the use of that corridor for future transportation-related improvements; **Item #12.**, Approve the Progress Report for the 1996 Measure B Transportation Improvement Program for December 2007.

REGULAR: Item #11 Adopt Resolutions of Necessity determining that the public interest and necessity require the acquisition of property interests from three parcels for the Freight Railroad Relocation Project.

21. Announcements

There were no Announcements.

22. ADJOURN

On Order of Chairperson Sandoval, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Menominee L. McCarter, Board Assistant
VTA Board of Directors