

# **TRANSIT PLANNING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, March 20, 2008

## **MINUTES**

### **1. CALLED TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Transit Planning and Operations (TP&O) Committee was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Chairperson Sandoval in Conference Room B-104, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present**

Nancy Pyle  
Dolly Sandoval, Chairperson  
Greg Sellers, Vice Chairperson

##### **Members Absent**

Dominic Caserta

##### **Alternates Present**

Christopher Moylan

##### **Alternates Absent**

David Cortese  
Bob Livengood  
Kathleen King

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

**A quorum was present.**

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

**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 21, 2008**

M/S/F (Sellers/Moylan) on a vote of 2 Ayes to 0 Noes and 1 Abstention to approve the Minutes of February 21, 2008. Alternate Member Moylan abstained.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

7. **Report from March 12, 2008 Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) Meeting**

Aaron Morrow, CTA Chairperson, provided a report highlighting: 1) The introduction of VTA Executive Staff Members; 2) CTA concerns with the Mobility Options program and the costs of retaining competent instructors for training individuals interested in travel training and using fixed route systems; and 3) The deferral of the National Transit Database report due to concerns with Outreach.

Member Pyle took her seat at 4:40 p.m.

Mr. Morrow expressed concern with paratransit service to the North County and why it was cut and then restored. He asked that staff respond to the issue.

Mr. Morrow expressed concern with CTA not receiving the Governance Structure report when he previously requested that all Hay Group items be presented to CTA. Mr. Morrow indicated that he would like to be reassured that information is being shared with CTA.

Mr. Morrow expressed discontent with CTA's relationship with VTA Staff and stated that he would like to meet with Mr. Michael T. Burns, General Manager, to discuss solutions. Mr. Morrow also announced that he was working with Staff to develop a workshop for CTA to get an overview of their role and responsibilities.

Chairperson Sandoval thanked Mr. Morrow for his report and comments and indicated that a workshop was an excellent idea, especially for the new members.

Vice Chairperson Sellers, who serves as the Chairperson of the Governance Sub Committee, provided information on the status of the Governance issues and commented that he would be happy to provide any relevant information to the CTA.

**On order of Chairperson Sandoval**, there being no objection, the Committee received a report regarding the March 12, 2008 Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) Meeting.

**8. Freight Railroad Relocation Project**

M/S/C (Moylan/Sellers) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt Resolutions of Necessity determining that the public interest and necessity require the acquisition of property interests from five parcels for the Freight Railroad Relocation Project.

**OTHER ITEMS**

**9. Zero Emissions Bus Program Update**

Alternate Member Moylan commented that Electric Buses and Fuel Cell Buses should be considered, and noted that it would be helpful to have information about both alternatives.

Vice Chairperson Sellers commented he was encouraged to hear about Hybrid Buses and hoped that option was being considered as well.

Chairperson Sandoval suggested that Staff draft a letter to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) stating that the benefits of the program were not obvious and that other forms of transportation should be certified that are more economically sound.

**On order of Chairperson Sandoval**, there being no objection, the Committee received the Zero Emissions Bus Program Update.

**10. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Strategic Plan: State-of-the-Industry**

Alternate Member Moylan suggested the use of Electric Buses for the BRT program, noting that they would be a permanent structure and would provide an alternate means of reducing emissions as well.

**On order of Chairperson Sandoval**, there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the report on the Bus Rapid Transit Strategic Plan: State-of-the-Industry Review.

**11. February 2008 Monthly Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance**

**On order of Chairperson Sandoval**, there being no objection, the Committee received a report regarding the February 2008 Monthly Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance.

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

There were no Items of Concern and Referral to Administration.

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

**13. Committee Work Plan**

**On order of Chairperson Sandoval**, there being no objection, the Committee Work Plan was received.

**14. Committee Staff Report**

Dan Smith, Chief Operating Officer and Staff Liaison, provided a report highlighting: 1) The Earth Day Celebration in Morgan Hill, where VTA will be offering free service on Routes 15 and 16; 2) The South Line Retrofit Project update, noting that the vendor is ahead of schedule and projects the current stations may be completed the first week of April; 3) Light Rail vehicle training with the Milpitas Fire Department and First Responders; 4) Shuttle Services from Great America, DASH, ACE and the Weekend Express for Highway 17; and 5) The National Transportation Institute training which was attended by Aaron Morrow, CTA Chairperson; Anthony Drummond, staff aide representing Board Member and CTA Ex-Officio Member Forrest Williams, and several VTA Staff.

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

**15. Chairperson's Report**

Chairperson Sandoval noted that the Committee had a full Agenda and would be busy this year.

**16. Consent Agenda for the April 3, 2008 Board Meeting**

**CONSENT: None**

**REGULAR: Item # 8.,** Adopt Resolutions of Necessity determining that the public interest and necessity require the acquisition of property interests from five parcels for the Freight Railroad Relocation Project.

**17. Announcements**

There were no Announcements.

Member Sellers left his seat at 5:40 p.m.

**2. ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION at 5:40 PM**

Threat to Public Services or Facilities  
[Government Code Section 54957]

Consultation with: Captain Luther Pugh, Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department  
Transit Patrol Commander  
Donald A. Smith, Jr., Chief Operating Officer

**RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION at 6:14 PM**

**3. CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

Threat to Public Services or Facilities  
[Government Code Section 54957]

Consultation with: Captain Luther Pugh, Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department  
Transit Patrol Commander  
Donald A. Smith, Jr., Chief Operating Officer

Chairperson Sandoval noted that there was no reportable action taken during Closed Session.

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

**On Order of Chairperson Sandoval**, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Menominee L. McCarter  
VTA Board of Directors