

## Transit Planning & Operations Committee

Thursday, February 19, 2009

### MINUTES

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Transit Planning and Operations (TP&O) Committee was called to order at 4:33 p.m. by Chairperson Sellers in Conference Room B-104, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

#### 1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Dominic Caserta, Vice Chairperson	Board Member	Present	
Ash Kalra	Board Member	Absent	
Dolly Sandoval	Board Member	Absent	
Greg Sellers, Chairperson	Board Member	Present	
Chris Moylan	Alternate Board Member	Absent	
Nora Campos	Alternate Board Member	Absent	
Chuck Page	Alternate Board Member	Absent	
Bob Livengood	Alternate Board Member	Absent	

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

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

#### 2. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no Public Presentations.

#### 3. ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no Orders of the Day.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

#### 4. Minutes of January 15, 2009

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole deferred the Minutes of January 15, 2009, pending the arrival of a quorum.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 5. Report from the Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) Meeting

There was no report from the February 11, 2009, Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA) meeting.

### 6. Freight Railroad Relocation – Cooperative Funding Agreement with the Alameda County Flood Control District for Design of Agua Caliente Creek

Mark S. Robinson, Chief Engineering and Construction Officer, referenced Attachment 6.a, Freight Railroad Relocation Creek Crossings Exhibit, which showed the proximity of Agua Caliente Creek in Alameda County. The creek culvert under the VTA right-of-way and adjacent Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) right-of-way is susceptible to flooding and lacks the capacity for passing the 100-year flood.

The Silicon Valley Rapid Transit (SVRT) guideway would be designed to be able to continue operations even during a 100 year flood. VTA has shared the design with the Alameda County Flood Control District (ACFCD), and ACFCD has shared its interest in improving the overall Agua Caliente Creek Flood control abilities. ACFCD has asked VTA to participate in an alternative design examination. He reported VTA is requesting the authority to execute a Cooperative Funding Agreement with ACFCD to look at an alternative design for the Agua Caliente Creek Culvert.

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole deferred the action to be taken on Agenda Item #6, pending the arrival of a quorum.

## OTHER ITEMS

### 7. Revised Joint Development Policy

Bijal Patel, Deputy Director for Joint Development and Real Estate, provided background information on the Joint Development Program. The proposed new policy framework would replace the existing Joint Development Policy consisting of the following: 1) Preamble; 2) Part I – Joint Development Policy; and 3) Part II – Joint Development Implementation Plan. The new policy framework in comparison to the existing Joint Development Policy is much more comprehensive. It contains the following three defined goals, which are prioritized in the policy: 1) to increase revenue; 2) further Transit-Oriented Development; and 3) enhance transit operations.

The new policy framework also includes tools to properly assess and manage VTA's joint development assets and to strengthen its organizational commitment to the Joint Development Program. The outreach process is also more clearly defined in the new policy. The goal is to create a development concept which has strong support from the community and a developer's perspective. Once the concept is created, VTA will present the concept to the Board of Directors prior to issuing a Requests For Proposal (RFP).

Chairperson Sellers queried about the timeline to receive adequate assurances regarding the plans for the California High Speed Rail Project. John Ristow, Chief CMA Officer, noted a presentation on the California High Speed Rail Project was held at the February 19, 2009, Congestion Management Program and Planning (CMPP) Committee meeting and will be presented at the March 5, 2009 Board of Directors meeting.

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole reviewed and discussed the revised Joint Development Program policy framework.

**8. 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program Semi-Annual Report – December 2008**

Mark S. Robinson, Chief Engineering and Construction Officer, referenced the 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program Semi-Annual Report-December 2008, and provided a brief progress report highlighting: 1) Completed 65 percent level of design for the Silicon Valley Rapid Transit (SVRT) Project; 2) Progress made on the Freight Railroad Relocation construction activities in the Fremont-Milpitas Corridor; 3) Status of individual projects comprising the Caltrain Service Upgrades Project; 4) Caltrain South County Improvements; and 5) Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in the Santa Clara and Alum Rock corridor advanced with the December 2008 certification by the Board of Directors of the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Semi-Annual Report also contained information on the Budget process for advancing all the projects in Measure A.

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received the 2000 Measure A Semi-Annual Report.

**9. Transit Operations Performance Report: 2009 Second Quarter (July 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008)**

Joonie Tolosa, Operations Analysis and Reporting Manager, provided the following report on ridership performance: 1) Bus ridership through the second quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 totaled 17.86 million, an 8.4 percent increase compared to prior fiscal year; 2) Average weekday ridership was 114,895, an 8.9% increase; 3) Light rail recorded 5.68 million boardings, an increase of 6.7 percent compared to last year; and 4) Average weekday ridership was 35,943, an 8.1 percent increase.

Mr. Tolosa provided a report on Key Performance Indicators. He noted absenteeism in all categories continues to meet established goals. The Daily service reliability performance was 99.71 percent, which is higher than last year. Mr. Tolosa noted the performance percentage was also the highest fiscal year-to-date recording in VTA history. He indicated bus miles between major mechanical schedule losses improved 7.2 percent, and light rail miles between major mechanical schedule losses increased 38.9 percent. Light rail on-time performance was stable at 88.9 percent and bus on-time performance decreased due to increased ridership.

Mr. Tolosa noted since the implementation of VTA's new bus service plan, bus average weekday ridership increased 7.2 percent. He indicated Contracted and Inter-Agency Services also experienced increased ridership.

Vice Chairperson Caserta queried if VTA was seeing a significant increase in youth ridership. Mr. Tolosa indicated there has been an increase in youth ridership, referencing the continued increase in ridership in downtown San Jose near San Jose State University.

Chairperson Sellers queried about other factors contributed to low bus ridership numbers. Michael T. Burns, General Manager, indicated the history of VTA has been that ridership has a direct correlation to employment. Job loss in the Valley impacts ridership.

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received the Transit Operations Performance Report: 2009 Second Quarter (July 1, 2008-December 31, 2008).

#### **10. TP&O Quarterly Marketing Report**

Bernice Alaniz, Deputy Director for Marketing & Public Affairs, provided a report on the three Marketing campaigns implemented by VTA, highlighting: 1) Stevens Creek Corridor Campaign; 2) Light Rail Promotional Campaign; and 3) Fare Media Promotion. In reference to the Fare Media Promotion, Ms. Alaniz noted there was a three percent increase of passes and ECO Pass membership increased seven percent.

Ms. Alaniz also provided a report on VTA's collaboration in seven promotional partnerships, highlighting: 1) Fantasy of Lights; 2) Downtown Ice-San Jose Downtown Association; 3) Toys for Tots "Stuff the Bus" Toy Drive; 4) 2009 Vietnamese Spring Festival & Parade; 5) American Heart Association Partnership; 6) 2010 Census Partnership; and 7) Regional Promotional Partnership. In reference to the Regional Promotional Partnership, VTA is partnering with other Bay Area Transit Agencies on a campaign to launch in April 2009 to coincide with "Earth Day." The campaign will promote VTA's "Healthier Planet, Healthier You" theme. VTA will be integrating the "green" aspect of public transportation throughout the year.

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received the Quarterly Marketing Report, Quarter 2, FY09.

#### **11. January 2009 Monthly Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance Report**

Joonie Tolosa, Manager, Operations Analysis and Reporting, provided a report on the January 2009 Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance as follows:

- System Ridership – Average weekday ridership increased by 9.4 percent and Fiscal Year-To-date (FYTD) ridership increased by 8.9 percent.
- Bus Ridership – Average weekday ridership increased by 10.5 percent and FYTD ridership increased by 9.2 percent.

- Light Rail Ridership – Average weekday ridership increased by 5.9 percent. Mr. Tolosa referenced the figure, 31,368, and noted it was the highest January average weekday ridership in VTA history.
- Fare Revenues – Totals for the month increased by 12.7 percent and FYTD totals increased by 4.8 percent.
- Average Fare per Boarding – Average for the month increased by 4.7 percent.

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received the January 2009 Monthly Ridership and Fare Revenue Performance Report.

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

There were no Items of Concern and Referral to Administration.

**13. Committee Work Plan**

Dan Smith, Chief Operating Officer and Staff Liaison, reported on the items to be agendaized at the March 19, 2009, TP&O Committee meeting, highlighting: 1) Sustainability Program Update; 2) April 2009 Service Changes; 3) Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Strategic Plan-Final Recommendations; 4) Annual Service Plan; and 5) Light Rail Track Intrusion/Intersection Safety Project.

Chairperson Sellers noted the importance of having full membership attendance at the March 19, 2009, TP&O Committee meeting.

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole reviewed the Committee Work Plan.

**14. Committee Staff Report**

Dan Smith, Chief Operating Officer and Staff Liaison, provided a memorandum entitled, “Chief Operating Officer’s Report,” to Committee Members.

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received the Committee Staff Report.

**15. Chairperson’s Report**

There was no Chairperson’s Report.

**CONSENT AGENDA (continued)**

**5. Minutes of January 15, 2009**

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole deferred the Minutes of January 15, 2009, to the March 19, 2009, TP&O Committee meeting.

**REGULAR AGENDA** (continued)

**6. Freight Railroad Relocation – Cooperative Funding Agreement with the Alameda County Flood Control District for Design of Agua Caliente Creek**

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole forwarded without a recommendation to the Board of Directors to authorize the General Manager to execute a Cooperative Funding Agreement with the Alameda County Flood Control District for engineering design services related to the Agua Caliente Creek Culvert. The proposed agreement will be for \$300,000, of which VTA's share is not to exceed \$150,000.

**OTHER ITEMS** (continued)

**16. Consent Agenda for the March 5, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting**

**CONSENT:**

**Agenda Item #6.** Authorize the General Manager to execute a Cooperative Funding Agreement with the Alameda County Flood Control District for engineering design services related to the Agua Caliente Creek Culvert. The proposed agreement will be for \$300,000, of which VTA's share is not to exceed \$150,000.

**Agenda Item #8.** Receive the 2000 Measure A Semi-Annual Report.

**REGULAR:** None

**17. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Michael T. Burns, General Manager, announced the Friday, February 27, 2009, Board of Directors Workshop Meeting at 9:00 a.m. and noted the items for discussion.

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

**On Order of Chairperson Sellers** and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracene Y. Crenshaw, Board Assistant  
VTA Board of Directors