

TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Executive Minutes – July 20, 2009

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Alternates</u>	<u>Present Member/Alternate</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Allen Ishida	Walter Stammer, Jr.	_____	Tulare County-Dist. 1
Pete Vander Poel	William Cushing	_____M_____	Tulare County-Dist. 2
Phil Cox	Bill Whitlatch	_____M_____	Tulare County-Dist. 3
Steve Worthley	Ray Millard	_____M_____	Tulare County-Dist. 4
Mike Ennis	Judi Gibbons	_____M_____	Tulare County-Dist. 5
Terry McKittrick	Mark Wallace	_____A_____	City of Dinuba
Jack Allwardt	Ted Macaulay	_____M_____	City of Exeter
Paul Boyer	Mike Santana	_____A_____	City of Farmersville
Pamela Kimball	Steve Velasquez	_____M_____	City of Lindsay
Felipe Martinez	Pete Martinez	_____M_____	City of Porterville
Richard Ortega	Phil Vandegrift	_____M_____	City of Tulare
Bob Link	Jesus Gamboa	_____A_____	City of Visalia
Rudy Mendoza	Raul Gonzalez, Jr.	_____M_____	City of Woodlake
Bob Zimmerman	Bob Stocker	_____M_____	Member-at-Large
Tom Sparks	Gil Jaramillo	_____M_____	Member-at-Large
Malcolm Dougherty	Jim Perrault	_____A_____	Caltrans

STAFF

Ted Smalley	Executive Director	_____P_____	TCAG
Elizabeth Wright	Senior Regional Planner	_____	TCAG
Eddie Wendt	Associate Regional Planner	_____	TCAG
Marvin Demmers	Associate Regional Planner	_____P_____	TCAG
Ben Giuliani	Senior Regional Planner	_____	TCAG
Mark Hays	Associate Regional Planner	_____	TCAG
Ramon Lara	Associate Regional Planner	_____P_____	TCAG
Christine Chavez	Regional Planner	_____P_____	TCAG
Jason Waters	Regional Planner	_____P_____	TCAG
Roberto Brady	Associate Regional Planner	_____P_____	TCAG
Su-Mi Kim	Accountant	_____P_____	TCAG
Colleen Potts	Secretary III	_____	TCAG

I. Call to Order & Welcome

The Transportation Policy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Ennis at 1:00 p.m. on July 20, 2009

Ted Smalley introduced two new TCAG staff members; Su-Mi Kim, Accountant and Roberto Brady, Associate Regional Planner working on traffic modeling and Blueprint.

II. Public Comments

None

III. Transportation Consent Calendar

Request Approval of the Transportation Consent Calendar (Items III-A through III-C)

A. Action: Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies (RPAs) and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (Air District)

B. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Selection of Preferred Option for Implementation of the 511 Travelers Information System in the San Joaquin Valley

C. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approval of 2009 FTA Section 5310 projects as being consistent with the 2007 RTP and for amendment into the 2009 FTIP upon selection by Caltrans, and designate the Executive Director as the official signatory for the FTA 5310 Certifications and Assurances

D. Information: The City of Dinuba 2009 Transit Development Plan

E. Information: Federal Transportation Bill Authorization Update

F. Information: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Project Update

G. Information: Status of State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Allocations and 2008 STIP Update

Upon motion by Member Ortega and seconded by Member Martinez, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the Transportation Consent Calendar Items III-A through III-C.

IV. Transportation Action/Discussion Items

A. Presentation: City of Tulare Measure R Projects

Mike Miller, with the City of Tulare, provided a presentation of two Measure R projects in the City of Tulare. Two major projects in the City of Tulare are Cartmill and Bardsley.

B. Presentation: 2035 Caltrans California Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Sorensen, Caltrans, provided a presentation regarding the 2035 Caltrans California Transportation Plan Update. Federal and state regulations require that this document be updated every five years. The goal is to guide transportation decisions and have a collective vision for the California transportation system. There will be six workshops scheduled in California. The local workshop is scheduled for October 5th in Fresno. Local agencies are invited to participate and provide feedback. There is also an interactive website which contains details on the plan, progress, calendar of events and a place to provide feedback.

C. Presentation: Tulare County Intersection Monitoring Program (Omni-Means)

Dennis Mills, Omni-Means, provided a report on traffic counts conducted at agencies request throughout the region. Omni-Means typically monitors 50 intersections during peak traffic times. The reports include intersections that fail and need the most help. A count was completed at Road 416 and 56 and State Route 198 and Spruce. State Route 65 at Tulare Road failed; however, this should be corrected with the widening of State Route 65. Counts were also completed at: Lindmore at State Route 65; Olive and Cottage in Porterville; Tulare Avenue at State Route 99 both ramps; and Bardsley at both ramps.

D. Information: Update on the Proposed San Joaquin Valley Railroad (SJVR) Rail Abandonment

Member Sparks provided an update on rail abandonment. Notice was received from Tulare Valley Rail regarding their desire to abandon the rail from Ducor to Ultra. Per counsel in Washington, if a protest is not filed, they will be allowed to move forward with the abandonment after a 60 day holding period. The Rail Committee has meet with two possible shippers at Ultra that would use the rail. At this time, it is recommended that TCAG do nothing. Further discuss with Tulare Valley Railroad and the shippers are needed.

Member Sparks urged the cities to enact an ordinance that requires the rail companies to improve any grade crossing where they remove rail. An ordinance has already been enacted in Tulare County.

The Rail Abandonment presentation has been very successful. Member Sparks expressed appreciation for everyone's support.

Several members expressed appreciation for the presentation on rail abandonment and the important education it provided on planning for the future.

E. Information: Legislative Update

Mr. Smalley provided a legislative update. The state has not come to a resolution regarding the budget. At this time, highway user tax will most likely be suspended for two years and Prop 42 has not changed. Due to the money programmed into projects on Road 80, Plaza Drive and Betty Drive, this year is not a good time to suspend.

Mr. Smalley acknowledged, Jason Waters, TCAG staff for his efforts on the acquisition request for State Route 99 and Betty Drive interchange. The senate announced that no funding would be considered at this time, however, we wouldn't have wanted to miss the opportunity to request funding.

Regarding Senate Bill 1716, Mr. Smalley has been providing the city managers and county board with up-to-date information. Our lobbyist made helpful changes to the language and turned it into something feasible. SB1716 authorizes more LTF expenditures on transit. Designated by the census, a county with 500 thousand or more population is subject to the rules. Tulare County is close to that number. Our current status is satisfactory but could become problematic as we grow. More updates to follow.

F. Information: Regional Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Giuliani provided an update on the Regional Transportation Plan. Work has begun on the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan and 2011 Federal Transportation Improvement Program along with the corresponding air quality analysis. A request for projects has gone out to the cities and county for traffic modeling. The initial draft is scheduled to be ready by mid December this year. There will be a meeting next summer to go over the projects and other issues. Final adoption is scheduled for July 2010.

G. Caltrans Monthly Report

Joan Strubeck, Caltrans District 6, provided an update. Regarding status of bond projects; State Route 198 widening to four lanes is going to bid and is expected to be awarded in September, construction is scheduled to begin in November and is scheduled to be completed in 24-30 months; State Route 99 Goshen to Kingsburg six lane widening is on schedule and construction will begin in July or August 2010. Status on the regional priority projects; Mooney Boulevard six lane widening stage 2B is nearly completed and stage 2C will begin in August. Some incomplete sections of stage 1A will be done concurrently with 2C; anticipating completion of Mooney Boulevard in late 2009; Cycle 8 Safe Route to Schools list is being reviewed by the Director and will be released early next week. Randell Iwasaki will become the Director of Caltrans August 1st. Due to furloughs, Caltrans will be closed the first, second and third Friday of every month through 2010.

H. Action: Adoption of Resolution: High Speed Rail Committee

Mr. Waters provided information on a letter authorizing preference for California High Speed Rail Alternative Alignment D-2. Mr. Waters outlined the reason why the Tulare County High Speed Rail Committee determined that alignment D-2 best serves the region and explained that a letter is necessary to express a unified interest from the Tulare County High Speed Rail Committee and member agencies.

Upon motion by Member Cox and seconded by Member Worthley, the Board unanimously approved a letter authorizing preference for the California High Speed Rail alternative alignment D-2.

V. REQUEST TO REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Upon motion by Member Kimball and seconded by Member Gamboa, the Board unanimously reaffirmed all actions taken while sitting as the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee.

VI. Association Consent Calendar

Request Approval of the Association Consent Calendar (Items VI-A through VI-B)

- A. Action: Minutes of June 15, 2009 Board Meeting
- B. Action: Summary of June 11, 2009 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- C. Local Clearing House Review, L.R. 2009-03: Self Help Enterprises: Preservation of Housing Grant application.
- D. Local Clearing House Review, L.R. 2009-04: Self Help Enterprises: Multifamily housing, Goshen.
- E. Local Clearing House Review, L.R. 2009-05: Gar-Mar Associates Farm Labor Housing, Tulare.

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Ortega, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the Association Consent Calendar.

VII. Association Action/Discussion Items

- A. Presentation: Tulare County Film Commission.

Ms. Feldstein provided a presentation regarding the Tulare County Film Commission detailing a year-in-review from its goals to its accomplishments.

- B. Information: Blueprint Update

Mr. Waters provided an update on the Blueprint. Nominations for the 1st Annual Valley Blueprint Awards are due by August 12th. The Valley Fall Policy Conference is scheduled October 2nd. TCAG would like to encourage agencies to submit planning documents, policies or projects that exemplify the Blueprint to recognize Tulare County. Submit nominations by email to Jason Waters or Elizabeth Wright, TCAG Staff.

- C. **Closed Session**

Nothing at this time

- D. Action: Provide direction for implementing the combination of the Tulare County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG)

Mr. Smalley clarified the intention of this is to combine staff services between TCAG and LAFCO. He further clarified that the agencies would remain separate with separate Boards.

Member Cox stated that a financial analysis for this same issue was done in August 2005 and suggested cost savings. Further discussion may be needed regarding staff duties. It is recommended that this be forwarded to the Tulare County Board of Supervisors and LAFCO for further review.

Mr. Finney added that at the last LAFCO Board meeting it was decided to form a “working group” to evaluate the opportunity.

Upon motion by Member Cox and seconded by Member Ortega, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved to forward this to LAFCO and the Tulare County Board of Supervisors.

VIII. Correspondence

Mr. Smalley spoke regarding Mr. Mike Lanes resignation as an alternate for member-at-large and was reassured that Mr. Lane is doing this for positive reasons.

At this time, TCAG has no nominations to fill this vacancy. To nominate someone, simply provide a letter of recommendation to go before this Board for approval.

IX. Other Business

A. Information: Items from Staff

Mr. Smalley reported on staff’s recommendation to cancel the August Board meeting due to there being no agenda items to report on.

B. Information: Items from Board Members

Member Gamboa provided information on a High Speed Rail documentary that TBS will be broadcasting on September 15th. TBS met with Visalia staff to talk about their efforts and attended the last Authority meeting in Sacramento.

1. Information: Tulare County Water Commission.

Member Ennis reported on the Water Commission. Efforts continue for the disadvantaged communities to improve water conditions and the water situation of Tulare County as a whole.

C. Request from Board Members for future agenda items

None

Member Mendoza requested feedback on the Rail presentation and suggested discussing ways to analyze the benefits of the Rail presentation.

Member Stocker requested that cities hold outreach meetings for the public and analyze what the Rail presentation has accomplished.

**ADJOURN AS THE TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS AND
CONVENE AS THE TULARE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY.**

TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Tulare County Complete Count Committee

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Minutes – July 20, 2009

<u>Committee Members</u>	<u>Alternates</u>	<u>Present</u> <u>Member/Alternate</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Allen Ishida	Walter Stammer, Jr.	_____	Tulare County-Dist. 1
Pete Vander Poel	William Cushing	M	Tulare County-Dist. 2
Phil Cox	Bill Whitlatch	M	Tulare County-Dist. 3
Steve Worthley	Ray Millard	M	Tulare County-Dist. 4
Mike Ennis	Judi Gibbons	M	Tulare County-Dist. 5
Terry McKittrick	Mark Wallace	A	City of Dinuba
Jack Allwardt	Ted Macaulay	M	City of Exeter
Paul Boyer	Mike Santana	A	City of Farmersville
Pamela Kimball	Steve Velasquez	M	City of Lindsay
Felipe Martinez	Pete Martinez	M	City of Porterville
Richard Ortega	Phil Vandegrift	M	City of Tulare
Bob Link	Jesus Gamboa	A	City of Visalia
Rudy Mendoza	Raul Gonzalez, Jr.	M	City of Woodlake
Bob Zimmerman	Bob Stocker	M	Member-at-Large
Tom Sparks	Gil Jaramillo	M	Member-at-Large

STAFF

Ted Smalley	Executive Director	P	TCAG
Elizabeth Wright	Senior Regional Planner	_____	TCAG
Eddie Wendt	Associate Regional Planner	_____	TCAG
Marvin Demmers	Associate Regional Planner	P	TCAG
Ben Giuliani	Senior Regional Planner	_____	TCAG
Mark Hays	Associate Regional Planner	P	TCAG
Ramon Lara	Associate Regional Planner	P	TCAG
Christine Chavez	Regional Planner	P	TCAG
Jason Waters	Regional Planner	P	TCAG
Roberto Brady	Regional Planner	P	TCAG
Su-Mi Kim	Accountant	P	TCAG
Colleen Potts	Secretary III	_____	TCAG
Barbara Pilegard	Associate Regional Planner	P	TCAG

Call to Order & Welcome

Chair Ennis welcomed members to the first Tulare County Complete Count Committee meeting on July 20, 2009.

Information: First Meeting of the 2010 Census Tulare County Complete Count Committee (CCC)

Ms. Pilegard, Census Liaison, provided information at the first Complete Count Committee meeting. The goal of the committee is to encourage everyone in Tulare County to be counted in the 2010 census. The CCC's message consists of five basic points. First, a complete response is very important as it will affect our ability to have funding for critical community services over the next ten years. Second, it is important for people to know that it is safe. Responses are confidential and protected by law. The Census Bureau cannot share information with anyone or any other organization. Third, it's for everyone, regardless of immigration status. Fourth, it's easy. There are only ten questions on the form which will make it quick to fill out. Lastly, the CCC needs to let people know that it is coming. The Census Bureau will be mailing out forms in March 2010 and Census Day is April 1, 2010.

Ms. Pilegard provided a list of things she has been working on in preparation for the 2010 census:

- Scheduled a presentation at the Tulare County Office of Education Instructional Network on August 28th. She will be discussing the free materials the Census Bureau provides to all schools. Kids were the most under-counted group in the 2000 census which makes it extremely important to get the message to the kids.
- Scheduled a meeting with Tulare Works to discuss the possibility of using their phone message system to send out a message urging people to complete census forms.
- Discussed with RMA staff the possibility of including census information with their water and sewer billing mail out.
- Creating bookmarks and coloring materials to distribute to the libraries within Tulare County.
- Discussed with Paul Boyer and Michael Lane strategies on how to reach their clients at Self- Help Enterprises.
- Creating inserts for the CSET summer youth program.
- Met with staff from the County's Redevelopment Department to gain information on community contacts and potential outreach methods.
- Working with Gill Jaramillo, Small Business Development Center, regarding outreach to businesses and other community organizations. Gil was instrumental in the County's successful outreach for the 2000 Census.

Ms. Pilegard passed out a form for CCC members to fill out to obtain contact information on persons who might be able to assist with spreading the word on census. She also encouraged CCC members to remind people that the census is coming.

TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

TULARE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

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Executive Minutes – July 20, 2009

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>	<u>PRESENT M/A</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>
Allen Ishida	Walter Stammer, Jr.	_____	Tulare County-Dist. 1
Pete Vander Poel	William Cushing	_____M_____	Tulare County-Dist. 2
Phil Cox	Bill Whitlatch	_____M_____	Tulare County-Dist. 3
Steve Worthley	Ray Millard	_____M_____	Tulare County-Dist. 4
Mike Ennis	Judi Gibbons	_____M_____	Tulare County-Dist. 5
Terry McKittrick	Joey Morales	_____A_____	City of Dinuba
Jack Allwardt	Ted Macaulay	_____M_____	City of Exeter
Paul Boyer	Mike Santana	_____A_____	City of Farmersville
Pamela Kimball	Steve Velasquez	_____M_____	City of Lindsay
Felipe Martinez	Pete Martinez	_____M_____	City of Porterville
Richard Ortega	Phil Vandegrift	_____M_____	City of Tulare
Bob Link	Jesus Gamboa	_____A_____	City of Visalia
Rudy Mendoza	Raul Gonzalez, Jr.	_____M_____	City of Woodlake

STAFF

Ted Smalley	Executive Director	_____P_____	TCAG
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Ben Giuliani	Senior Regional Planner	_____	TCAG
Eddie Wendt	Associate Regional Planner	_____	TCAG
Marvin Demmers	Associate Regional Planner	_____P_____	TCAG
Mark Hays	Associate Regional Planner	_____	TCAG
Ramon Lara	Associate Regional Planner	_____P_____	TCAG
Christine Chavez	Regional Planner	_____P_____	TCAG
Jason Waters	Regional Planner	_____P_____	TCAG
Roberto Brady	Regional Planner	_____P_____	TCAG
Su-Mi Kim	Accountant	_____P_____	TCAG
Colleen Potts	Secretary	_____	TCAG

**X. Transportation Authority Consent Calendar
Request approval of the Authority Consent Calendar (Item X-A through X-C)**

- A. Action: Minutes of June 15, 2009 Authority Meeting
- B. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Recommending nomination of Road 108 (widening to 4 lanes from Leland Ave. to Caldwell Ave.) for State-Local Partnership Program (SLPP) funding in FY 09/10
- C. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Measure R Citizens' Oversight Committee Appointment

Upon motion by Member Ortega and seconded by Alternate Member Morales, the Tulare County Transportation Authority unanimously approved the Authority Consent Calendar

X. *AUTHORITY ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS*

- A. Information: Measure R Update
- B. Information: Santa Fe Trail Connection Update
- C. **CLOSED SESSION**
None

XI. Authority Action/Discussion Items

A. Information: Measure R Update

Mr. Lara provided a Measure R update. Allocations in the amount of \$1,946,323.13 were received for the month of March. Overall, \$18,620,087.41 has been received for the current fiscal year compared to \$18,936,799.81 at this time last year. Measure R funds have now been significantly impacted by the economy. Staff is looking at ways to supplement the decrease and to keep projects on track.

C. Santa Fe Trail Connection Update

Mrs. Chavez provided a Santa Fe Trail Update. Landowners were invited to one-on-one meetings to discuss their concerns and ideas to make the project a success. A public workshop will be held August 13th at the Prosperity Baptist church. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

B. Closed Session

XII. Other Business

A. Information: Items from Staff

None

B. Information: Items from the Board

None

C. Information: Requests from Board Members for future agenda items

None

XIII. Adjourn

Adjourn as the Tulare County Transportation Authority at 3:05 p.m. The next TCAG/Transportation Authority Board meeting will be held July 16, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the City of Tulare/Claude Meitzenheimer Community Center, 830 South Blackstone St., Tulare, CA 93274