

TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Executive Minutes – November 23, 2009

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

STAFF

Ted Smalley	Executive Director	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Elizabeth Wright	Senior Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Eddie Wendt	Associate Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Marvin Demmers	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Ben Giuliani	Senior Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Mark Hays	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Ramon Lara	Associate Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Christine Chavez	Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Jason Waters	Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Roberto Brady	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Colleen Potts	Secretary III	<u>P</u>	TCAG

I. Call to Order & Welcome

The Transportation Policy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Ennis at 1:00 p.m. on November 23, 2009.

Chair Ennis introduced Brian Everson, Acting Caltrans Director, and welcomed him to the meeting.

II. Public Comments

None.

III. Transportation Consent Calendar

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

A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve Revised Final Local Transportation Funds (LTF) and State Transit Assistance Fund Apportionments

B Action: Adoption of Resolutions: Approve the Transportation Development Act (TDA) claims for the City of Woodlake, City of Visalia, City of Tulare and the City of Dinuba for Fiscal Year 2009-10

C. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Reaffirm 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No. 15

D. Information: Update on the 511 Travelers Information System in the San Joaquin Valley

Upon a motion by Member McKinley 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: High Speed Rail Authority: Potential Regional Station in the Kings/Tulare Region

Carrie Bowen, Regional Director, High Speed Rail Authority, provided an update. A letter of support was sent to the Federal Government for ARRA funding to be used for HSR. A response is expected to be received in January. Deadline for applications for maintenance facilities is January 15th. More information can be found on the HSR website. There is potential for a station in Hanford at SR 198 and SR 43. Tulare County and Kings County are forming work groups in support of a regional station.

Member Vander Poel inquired about maintenance facilities.

Ms. Bowen responded that there are plans for only one heavy maintenance facility in the state, somewhere between Merced and Bakersfield and two light maintenance facilities, one in the Los Angeles area and one in the Bay area.

Ms. Bowen added that the HSR Authority hopes that the cities and county can support HSR with plans for bus lines and other types of connections to the HSR system.

B. Action: Adoption of Resolution: 2009/10 Overall Work Program (OWP) Amendment No. 3

Mr. Lara discussed the adoption of a resolution for the 2009/10 Overall Work Program (OWP) Amendment No. 3. This amendment includes two increases, Work Element 601.10 (Transit Coordination) and Work Element 700.01 (Measure R), resulting in an overall increase of \$55,000. Mr. Lara explained the necessity for the increases.

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member McKittrick, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the resolution for the 2009/10 Overall Work Program (OWP) Amendment No. 3.

C. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Affirm Conceptual Approval of the Updated Highway 99 Business Plan.

Mr. Waters provided information on an action item to adopt a resolution providing conceptual approval of the updated Highway 99 Business Plan. The purpose of the plan is to guide policies and help set priorities on Highway 99 projects. Mr. Waters detailed four "Priority Categories" and the local projects in each category.

Upon motion by Member Vander Poel and seconded by Member Ortega, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the resolution to provide conceptual approval of the updated Highway 99 Business Plan.

D. Action: Provide Direction on the One Voice Trip to D.C. and Legislative Update

Ms. Wright provided a legislative update. Assembly Bill 672 passed in October. It establishes a process for agencies to be reimbursed for using its own funds for bond-funded projects. Senate Bill 716, also passed in October, requires cities with a population over 100,000 to use LTF funds on only transit once the county population reaches 500,000. This may affect Visalia after the next census. Senate Bill 406 was vetoed by the Governor.

Ms. Wright provided an update on the topics for discussion at One Voice trip to Washington D.C. scheduled in February 2010.

Member Martinez suggested the topic of "run-off water" be reviewed by the Water Commission for possible addition to the list of topics.

Member Ishida stated that the issue with "run-off water" is its cleanliness as there is potential for contamination. He added that the Water Commission can look at flood control as part of the water program.

Member Link requested that an update on stimulus funded projects be added to the list of topics for discussion.

Mr. Smalley suggested an exhibit be created showing stimulus ready projects. He also suggested that staff work with the CAO and Water Commission to develop a handout on the topic of water. Staff will bring back this item for discussion in January.

Member Ishida added that the topic of water may not be ready at that time and stated that the cities and county may need to come together.

Upon motion by Member McKittrick and seconded by Member Link, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the list of topics for discussion on the

One Voice trip to D.C. with the addition of an exhibit displaying “stimulus funded projects” and, time permitting, the topic of water.

E. Information: Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update

Mr. Smalley provided details on the goals and policies of the RTP update. He encouraged member agencies and staff to provide comments. The internal draft will be completed by mid December. After its completion, it will go to the EIR consultant for environmental review. It will then go to the cities for a “per phase cost analysis and operations budget.” An email was sent out to member agencies on November 18th requesting a final project list.

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

Mr. Smalley provided details on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects. He stressed the importance of meeting the December 15th E76 deadline. Caltrans assured him that the environmental sign-offs will be completed very soon. There has been no loss of ARRA money to date and requests for additional ARRA funds have been made.

G. Information: Status of State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Allocations and 2008/2010 STIP Update.

Mr. Smalley provided a STIP update. There will be a presentation at the December workshop where the details of each project will be discussed including: expected delays, scenarios and funding options. Mr. Smalley encouraged attendance at the December 14th workshop.

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

Mr. Sparks provided a SJVR rail abandonment update. Bad news, the Surface Transportation Board has relieved the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) of their responsibility for historic preservation of the SJVR. There is nothing holding them back from removing rail ties at any time. This will be discussed further at the Rail Advisory Committee meeting. The Rail Committee is putting together an analysis on what actions other counties are taking. This information will be brought back to the board in January. More abandonment's are expected.

Member Ishida stated that a “Rail Day” is planned in Sacramento in March or April where agencies will share mistakes and triumphs.

Chair Ennis stated that a train can move goods five hundred miles on one gallon of gas and removes four trucks from the roads.

I. Information: High Speed Rail (HSR) Update –

Chair Ennis stated that this item had been covered during the HSR presentation.

J. Information: Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Call for Projects

Ms. Wright provided information on the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) call for projects. TCAG staff held a workshop on the CMAQ program with various agencies. Ms. Wright provided details on the list of project rankings. It is anticipated that the board will consider approval at the December meeting.

K. Caltrans Monthly Report

Ms. Bender-Ehlert provided a Caltrans update. Groundbreaking for Highway 198 took place on November 19th. Clearing has begun on the Highway 99 from Goshen to Kingsburg, however, this project is affected by the state's ability to sell bonds. Mooney Boulevard will not be completed by Thanksgiving; however, all lanes will be open and will be going into winter suspension.

Ted Smalley thanked Caltrans staff and Malcolm Dougherty for their efforts in Tulare County.

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

Upon motion by Member Boyer and seconded by Member Mendoza, 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-D)**

- A. Minutes of October 19, 2009 Board Meeting
- B. Summary of October 15, 2009 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- C. Local Clearing House Review, L.R. 2009-07: City of Farmersville Senior Citizen Apartment Complex
- D. Local Clearing House Review, L.R. 2009-08: Tulare County Redevelopment Agency water and waste disposal and grant program

Member Zimmerman requested item VI-A be pulled from the Association Consent Calendar and that the name McKittrick be removed and McKinley be added to Item X-C of the October 19th minutes.

Upon motion by Member Ortega and seconded by Member McKittrick, items VI-B, C, and D of the Association Consent Calendar were unanimously approved.

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Vander Poel, Item VI-A of the Association Consent Calendar was unanimously approved with the requested change to the October 19th minutes.

VII. Association Action/Discussion Items

- A. Action: Provide Direction for Implementing the Combination of Staff from the Tulare County Local Agency Formation (LAFCO) and the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG)**

Mr. Smalley provided information and a timeline for the implementation of combining of staff from LAFCO and TCAG. The LAFCO Commissioners approved the timeline at their November meeting. The transition period will begin February 28th and the implementation date will be July 1, 2010. Legal agreements will be brought back for approval.

Upon motion by Member Cox and seconded by Member Martinez, the Tulare County Association of Governments unanimously approved that staff move forward.

B. Presentation: Bill McKinley - Southeast County Needs

Member McKinley provided a presentation on Southeast Tulare County.

VIII. Tulare County Complete Count Committee (CCC) Action/Discussion Items

Nothing new to report at this time.

IX. Correspondence

Letter from the City of Dinuba: Interim Alternate Funding to Advance Construction of the Road 80/Alta Avenue Phase 2 Project.

Mr. Smalley stated that the correspondence from the City of Dinuba will be discussed further at the December workshop.

X. Other Business

A. Information: Items from Staff

1. TCAG Public Comment Card

Ms. Potts provided information on a newly created TCAG Public Comment Card. Through Brown Act training of TCAG staff, County Counsel suggested that a public comment card be created as another avenue for the public to make comments in an organized manner.

2. Memo-update agenda mailing interest

B. Information: Items from Board Members

Member Ishida provided details on the next Water Commission meeting scheduled today, November 23rd at 4:00 p.m. at the BOS. Items for discussion: Tule drainage, the water bill passed in Sacramento, discussing water issues with Supervisors from other counties including a “water day” in Sacramento, how to include cities, and how to gather information and create reports as water has no boundaries.

Member Boyer suggested that the cities consider adding water to their General Plans.

Member Worthley stated that water is part of Tulare County’s General Plan.

Member Link stated that he has a conflict with the meeting dates for the Water Commission and asked that another representative be chosen.

C. Request from Board Members for future agenda items

Appointment of a city representative for the Water Commission

Upon motion by Member McKittrick and seconded by Member Link, the Tulare County Association of Governments unanimously approved that an item be added to the December agenda for the appointment of a city representative for the Water Commission.

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

TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

TULARE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

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<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>	<u>PRESENT M/A</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>
Allen Ishida	Walter Stammer, Jr.	<u> M </u>	Tulare County-Dist. 1
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Phil Cox	Bill Whitlatch	<u> M </u>	Tulare County-Dist. 3
Steve Worthley	Ray Millard	<u> M </u>	Tulare County-Dist. 4
Mike Ennis	Judi Gibbons	<u> M </u>	Tulare County-Dist. 5
Terry McKittrick	Joey Morales	<u> M </u>	City of Dinuba
Jack Allwardt	Ted Macaulay	<u> M </u>	City of Exeter
Paul Boyer	Mike Santana	<u> M </u>	City of Farmersville
Pamela Kimball	Steve Velasquez	<u> M </u>	City of Lindsay
Felipe Martinez	Pete Martinez	<u> M </u>	City of Porterville
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Ramon Lara	Associate Regional Planner	<u> P </u>	TCAG
Roberto Brady	Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Christine Chavez	Regional Planner	<u> P </u>	TCAG
Jason Waters	Regional Planner	<u> P </u>	TCAG
Colleen Potts	Secretary	<u> P </u>	TCAG

XI. Transportation Authority Consent Calendar
Request approval of the Authority Consent Calendar (Item XI-A through XI-B)

- A. Action: Minutes of November 23, 2009 Authority Meeting
- B. Information: Santa Fe Trail Connection Update

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

XII. AUTHORITY ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: to submit the seconded Measure R Expenditure Plan Amendment No. 2 to member agencies for consideration and approval

Mr. Smalley provided information requesting that the Board adopt a resolution to Amendment No.2. This will go to member agencies for consideration and approval and then return to the TCTA Board for review and approval. Mr. Smalley provided details on the five requests received. All requests are revenue neutral and have been written to include language that allows flexibility for potential cost savings. Due to the TCAG Board meeting date change, the schedule to item number 10 was changed. Agencies have until January 15th to acquire approval from their respective councils.

Mr. Harrald, Chair, Citizens Oversight Committee, stated the committee supports the changes with reservations. The issue of rail seems to be viewed controversial by the voters and is taking time and energy away from the committee. Mr. Harrald stated that the committee has received comments from voters to the effect that Measure R is for roads not rail. The committee requests that guideline "15" read "shall" instead of "may" and that "economic" is added in front of viability.

Mr. Smalley clarified that the intention is for potential cost savings.

Members inquired of Mr. Harrald if the committee has seen the rail presentation?

Mr. Harrald stated that they have.

Members commented that perhaps it's an educational issue for voters regarding the benefits of rail use and roads and that this portion of Measure R funds is designated for rail.

Mr. Harrald stated that it would be helpful if the voters understood.

Member Link stated that he does not support Amendment No. 2 as it stands and requested that items 1-4 be separated from item 5.

Member Worthely reiterated the benefits for potential cost savings for this change as it would save money to purchase rail parts instead of the right-away.

Mr. Smalley stated that this will be addressed in Closed Session at the December meeting.

Upon motion by Member Link and seconded by Member Martinez the Tulare County Transportation Authority voted to separate items 1-4 and item 5 of the Measure R Expenditure Plan Amendment No. 2 to take back to agencies for review and approval.

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Martinez the Tulare County Transportation Authority voted to approve the Resolution to the Measure R Expenditure Plan Amendment No. 2 items 1-4.

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Ishida the Tulare County Transportation Authority voted to approve the Resolution to the Measure R Expenditure Plan Amendment No. 2 item 5.

B. Information: Measure R Update

Mr. Lara provided a Measure R Update. Allocation in the amount of \$1,514,500 was received for the month of October. Overall, \$7,044,681 has been received for Measure R revenues in FY 2009/10 compared to \$8,485,152 at this time last year. Measure R revenues continue to be down from last year, but continue to be consistent with the Measure R Expenditure Plan projection of \$21,800,000. TCAG staff continues to look at options to supplement the decrease of Measure R revenues and keep projects on track.

Mr. Lara reported that TCAG staff and Darryl Pyle (City of Tulare) met with the County of Tulare Treasury Oversight Committee to discuss the potential of a three year loan in the amount of \$20,000,000. The committee was very receptive to the idea. A final decision will be made by January 2010.

Mr. Lara reported that TCAG staff met with the Citizens Business Bank representatives to discuss the potential of short term and long term lending. Citizens will be submitting a loan proposal before the TCTA board meeting in December.

Mr. Lara reported that TCAG staff has also begun work on a Request for Proposal for the hiring of a Financial Consultant for the strategic planning of Measure R financing for short and long term needs of the Measure. The proposal went out November 4, 2009.

Member Worthley expressed support for the benefits reviewing funding options such as borrowing money. He also expressed thanks to Ramon Lara, TCAG staff for his efforts.

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

Adjourn

Adjourn as the Tulare County Transportation Authority at 2:55 p.m. The next TCAG/Transportation Authority Board meeting will be held December 14, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. directly following a 11:30 a.m. workshop, at the Tulare Ag Commissioner's Auditorium, 4437 S. Laspina St., Tulare, CA 93274