

TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCY
 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Executive Minutes – March 15, 2010

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Alternates</u>	<u>Present</u> <u>Member/Alternate</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Allen Ishida	Walter Stammer, Jr.	<u>M/A</u>	Tulare County-Dist. 1
Pete Vander Poel	William Cushing	<u>M</u>	Tulare County-Dist. 2
Phil Cox	Bill Whitlatch	<u> </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> </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> </u>	City of Lindsay
Felipe Martinez	Pete Martinez	<u> </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>A</u>	Member-at-Large
Tom Sparks	Gil Jaramillo	<u>M</u>	Member-at-Large
Brian Everson	Sharri Bender-Ehlert	<u>A</u>	Caltrans

STAFF

Ted Smalley	Executive Director	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Elizabeth Wright	Senior Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Eddie Wendt	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Marvin Demmers	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Ben Giuliani	Senior Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Mark Hays	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Ramon Lara	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Roberto Brady	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Christine Chavez	Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Jason Waters	Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Michal Mierzwinski	Accountant II	<u>P</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 March 15, 2010.

II. Public Comments

None

III. Transportation Consent Calendar

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

- A. Action: Adoption of Resolutions: Approve the Transportation Development Act (TDA) claims for the County of Tulare and City of Farmersville Claims for Fiscal Year 2009/10
- B. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Reaffirm 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No. 19
- C. Action: Adoption of Resolution: FY 2009/10 Overall Work Program (OWP) Amendment No. 5
- D. Action: Adoption of Correctory Resolution: Authorize the TCAG Executive Director to enter into contract with Caltrans for execution of a transportation planning grant if awarded and support the project in the form of a local match
- E. Information: Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update

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

IV. Transportation Action/Discussion Items

- A. Information: 2010 Transit Unmet Needs Process

Ms. Chavez provided a Power Point presentation on the 2010 Transit Unmet Needs process which included: actions taken by the transit providers to make improvements; the definition of “reasonable” and “unreasonable” to meet requests; the schedule and locations for the of Unmet Needs hearings (March 15, at the TCAG Board meeting; March 23rd at the Porterville City council Chambers; and March 25th) and outreach efforts.

- B. Action: Public Hearing: 2010 Transit Unmet Needs in Tulare County

Ms. Chavez opened the Public Hearing in English and in Spanish.

Mr. Ross Dille of 415 N. Acres #47, Visalia, 93291, requested that the handicapped hours be extended from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the 25 cent rate. Mr. Dille stated that the drivers and the Green Line phone operators are very helpful.

Patricia Gallimore, 1809 E. Four Creeks, Visalia 93292, stated that she rides the bus late and there are times when she must walk several blocks in the dark to get home due to the later route being different from the earlier route (her stop is at Buena Vista). She asked the driver to let her off at Buena Vista, however, they stated that they can not. She asked that drivers be given leeway to let people get off closer to home. Ms. Gallimore requested that there be a place to lock-up bicycles at all bus stops. Ms. Gallimore stated that the drivers are very helpful and courteous. Ms. Gallimore’s suggested that the drivers not tap on the breaks as it will be good for customers and mileage.

Ms. Jennifer Hernandez California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation (CRLA Foundation). Ms. Hernandez stated that this is the third year that CRLA has participated in the process with TCAG and they have seen dramatic improvements through this collaboration. CRLA is glad for new bus shelters and signage. CRLA still has a few concerns. While the CRLA is happy that Dial-A-Ride has been

implemented in Tule Ville there is an issue regarding a lack of information in the community. CRLA received comments that people were asked to go to HWY65 to wait for the Dial-A-Ride. The response received on why people must travel so far to get to the Dial-A-Ride indicated that the bus cannot turn around. CRLA asks that the Board consider that the garbage truck can turn around on that same street. CRLA requests more community outreach on how to utilize services and would like to work with TCAG on these efforts. CRLA has been made aware of a radio station in the Central Valley that will host public service announcements in Spanish. CRLA has received many great comments regarding the Green line. Lastly, CRLA requests that the comment card period be extended to 30 days from the 1st hearing which is April 15th.

At the request of the Chair, Ms. Chavez responded that the additional time would allow for sufficient time for SSTAC and Transit providers to review the comments and respond to the Board

Chair Ennis approved an extension on the deadline for comments to be received until April 15th.

Samantha Garcia, 255 S. Pepper St., Woodlake, student of COS, asked to consider allowing COS students to ride transit free of charge when enrolled in COS. Ms. Garcia stated that she feels the transit fees are a barrier to students and making it free it would benefit the future. She stated that she aware of students who can't get to school because they do not have the four dollars to use the busses. Ms. Garcia suggested that it could be taken out of the ASB fees.

Member Boyer commented on his experience when he was in college where they were able to show their college I.D. and travel for free around the county.

Member Vander Poel added that some of the college and high school students from the rural areas would benefit from something like this. Some high school students who live in the rural areas cannot get involved in after school activities because they have difficulty returning home.

Ms. Chavez added that the Board voted on the "Consent Calendar" to adopt a resolution which supports a Caltrans grant that will be used to: prepare a study to identify transit needs; potential operating needs; and a funding plan to improve services for the College of Sequoias. Ms. Chavez is working on setting a meeting with transit providers to prepare if the grant is awarded.

Member Worthley asked if there is currently a student pass?

Ms. Chavez replied that there is no pass currently.

Member Worthley suggested that perhaps there could be a pass at a reduced rate.

Ms. Chavez provided further Public Hearing dates and locations. She added that the public comment period has been extended through April 15th. After that time she will give the comments to the appropriate transit providers. On May 25th the SSTAC will meet, review the comments and determine which comments are reasonable to meet. This information will go before the TCAG Board June 21st after it is approved it will be forwarded to Caltrans.

The Transit Providers were recognized.

C. Information: Legislative Update

Mr. Smalley provided a legislative update. Regarding the potential Stimulus 2 Bill, the current version will not pass as it is written and there has been an extension on SAFETELU. The biggest issue is where the funding will come from. Ms. Smalley stated that staff is preparing to meet with each agency. Staff will continue to monitor and keep the Board informed.

In an effort to make the TCAG to D.C. trip a continued success, Mr. Smalley encouraged feedback from those who attended.

Mr. Smalley stated that Hilary Baird with the League of California Cities plans to return to a TCAG meeting to provide an update on the ballot initiative.

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

Mr. Giuliani provided a status of State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) allocations and 2008/2010 STIP update. TCAG staff will be attending the STIP hearings scheduled in Northern California on March 22nd and Southern California on March 25th. Mr. Giuliani provided details on the proposed list of Tulare County projects for the 2010 RTIP.

- E. Information: Rail Update

Mr. Waters provided a rail update. The Rail Advisory Committee's meeting was rescheduled for March 22nd. Mr. Waters also provided information the East Side Rail Business Plan. The Request for Proposals went out March 22nd; the deadline for submittal is March 29th.

- F. Information: Caltrans Monthly Report

Ms. Bender-Ehlert provided a summary of Caltrans projects: State Highway 198 is moving slowly due to weather. The issues with man-holes on State Route 99 from Goshen to Kingsburg has been resolved. Mr. Smalley complimented Caltrans on the large amount of cost savings that was a result of Caltrans working with AT&T.

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

Upon motion by Member Mendoza and seconded by Member Vander Poel, 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-C)

- A. Minutes of February 18, 2010, Board Meeting
- B. Summary of February 16, 2010, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- C. Action: Local Clearinghouse Review 2010-02 Tipton Community Service Water Main Project
- D. Information: Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) 2009/10 Second Quarter Report

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Ortega, Item VI-A through VI-C of the Association Consent Calendar was approved. Member Boyer abstained.

VII. Association Action/Discussion Items

- A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Submittal of Revised TCAG Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) to Member Agencies for Review and Approval

Mr. Smalley provided information on the revised TCAG Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) to Member Agencies for review and approval. Mr. Smalley stated that the changes include language clean-up on current policies and practices. Mr. Smalley outlined three key items for consideration that would enable TCAG to: provide staff services to LAFCO; acquire real property including vehicles; and the ability to operate vanpool services (CalVans). Mr. Smalley stated that there are no structural changes included in this revision and County Council is working to update the TCAG By-laws as well. The goal is to have it completed before July 1st.

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Mendoza the Association unanimously approved to submit the Revised TCAG Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) to Member Agencies for review and approval.

VIII. Correspondence

None

IX. Other Business

A. Information: Items from Staff

Chair Ennis reminded Board members that 700 Forms are due April 1st.

B. Information: Items from Board Members

Member Ishida provided an update on the Water Commission. The next Water Commission meeting is scheduled Monday, March 22nd. The Resource Management Agency will be providing an overview on the water element of the Tulare County 2030 General Plan Update. Member Ishida spoke on a panel of five at the California State Republican Spring Convention on the affects of water in the San Joaquin Valley. As a result of the panel, they have been asked to make their presentation in Orange County. Member Ishida stated that they are not going to be able to pass a comprehensive water bill or solution if it concentrates only on the effects of agricultural. It affects a lot more people.

C. Request from Board Members for future agenda items

None

**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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Terry McKittrick	Joey Morales	<u></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	vacant	<u>M</u>	City of Visalia
Rudy Mendoza	Raul Gonzalez, Jr.	<u>M</u>	City of Woodlake

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XI. Transportation Authority Consent Calendar

Request approval of the Authority Consent Calendar (Item X-A)

- A. Action: Minutes of February 18, 2010 Authority Meeting
- B. Information: Measure R Update

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

XII. AUTHORITY ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Support Letter of No Prejudice (LONP) for Road 80 Phase 1A

Mr. Smalley provided information on the LONP for Road 80 Phase 1A. The LONP process allows projects to move forward using Measure R funds and be reimbursed at a later date. Prob 1B money is reserved for Self-Help counties. Once the state is able to sale bonds, this will move the project closer to the top of the reimbursement list. The risk is that the state will not be able to sale bonds.

Upon motion by Member Wrothley and seconded by Member Boyer the Tulare County Transportation Authority voted to approve the resolution to support Letter of No Prejudice (LONP) for Road 80 Phase 1A

- B. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approving Measure R Local Advances to all Eight Member Agencies FY 2010/11

Mr. Smalley provided information on the item approving Measure R local advances to all eight member agencies. Mr. Smalley stated that this will allow agencies to move forward with projects this summer, when the weather is better, verses waiting until the spring. Mr. Smalley detailed projection dollars and cost savings. Mr. Smalley complimented agencies for their efforts to prepare projects for Stimulus 2.

Member Vander Poel suggested Measure R outreach include residents in rural areas.

Mr. Smalley stated that TCAG will work with Britt Fussel, Tulare County Resource Management Agency (RMA), Assistant Director of Public Works, on providing more visuals.

Upon motion by Member Ortega and seconded by member Ishida the Tulare County Transportation Authority voted to approve Measure R Local Advances to all eight member agencies FY 2010/11.

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 3:00 p.m. The next TCAG/Transportation Authority Board meeting will be held **April 19, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.** (following a **12:00 p.m. Workshop**) at the Board of Supervisors Conference Rooms A & B, County Civic Center, Administration Building, Visalia, CA 93291