

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

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Executive Minutes – September 19, 2011

<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>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
Janet Hinesly	Mike Smith	<u> </u>	City of Dinuba
Jack Allwardt	Dale Sally	<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
Ronald Irish	Cameron Hamilton	<u> </u>	City of Porterville
Craig Vejvoda	Skip Barwick	<u>M</u>	City of Tulare
Bob Link	Steve Nelsen	<u>M</u>	City of Visalia
Rudy Mendoza	Raul Gonzales, Jr.	<u> </u>	City of Woodlake
Bill McKinley	Greg Woodard	<u>M</u>	Member-at-Large
Terry McKittrick	Bob Stocker	<u>M</u>	Member-at-Large
Tom Sparks	Ernie Hernandez	<u> </u>	Member-at-Large
Sharri Bender-Ehlert	Neil Bretz	<u>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	Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Ben Giuliani	Senior Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Mark Hays	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Ramon Lara	Administrative Service Officer	<u>P</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
Cynthia Echavarria	Associate Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Michal Mierzwinski	Accountant II	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Colleen Potts	Secretary III	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Carrie Perez	Office Assistant	<u> </u>	TCAG

I. Call to Order & Welcome

The Transportation Policy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Vander Poel at 1:00 p.m. on September 19, 2011.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

At the request of Chair Vander Poel, Member Link led the pledge of allegiance.

Mike Camarena, Public Works Director, City of Lindsay, welcomed everyone to the City of Lindsay and provided a power point presentation on Measure R projects in the City of Lindsay.

III. Public Comments

Farshad Tafti, Business owner in Goshen, provided comment to the Board regarding the Betty Drive Interchange Reconstruction project. Mr. Tafti provided a copy of a letter addressed to Phillip Sanchez, Caltrans Project Manager, stating that proposed plan #2 and #4 are not in the best interest of business owners located on the east and west side of highway 99.

Brenda Allan, 30681 N. Hwy 99, Visalia, CA, business owner, provided comment to the Board stating that she has the same problem as Mr. Tafti regarding the Betty Drive Interchange Reconstruction project. At this time, their business has easy access and she estimates that 40% of the customers they receive stop in because they are easily seen. She asked that the Board review the plans and consider their comments.

Domenica Santrufenia, 30575 Road 68, Goshen, CA, 93227, business owner on the east side of highway 99 provided comment to the Board regarding the Betty Drive Interchange Reconstruction project. He stated that he has the same issues relating to access to his business.

Lorena Vasquez, resident of the City of Lindsay, provided comment to the Board. She asked why the streets and sidewalks are so terrible outside of the center of Lindsay. Ms. Vasquez stated that the sidewalks are not suitable for wheelchairs or strollers. She stated that she went to the City of Lindsay to inquire about the sidewalks and was told that sidewalks are the homeowner's responsibility. She ended by asking if the sidewalks belong to the homeowners.

Yolanda Flores, business owner in the City of Lindsay provided comment to the Board. She stated that the sidewalks are not suitable for wheelchairs and children walk in the streets. She stated that the City of Lindsay spent money to fix a park three times adding that it is misspent money and the residents are tired of it. Ms. Flores passed photos around.

Yolanda Ramirez, community organizer and a resident of the City of Lindsay provided comment to the Board. She stated that five communities within Lindsay have petitioned to the City asking that they work with them. She asked how the homeowners are going to fix the streets and sidewalks.

Chad Tafti, provided comment to the board expressing the same concerns regarding the Better Drive interchange reconstruction.

IV. Transportation Consent Calendar –Action Item

Request Approval of the Transportation Consent Calendar Action Item (IV-A)

A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve the Revised Final 2011/12 Local Transportation Funds (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA) Fund Apportionments

Upon a motion by Member Ennis and seconded by Member McKittrick, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the Transportation Consent Calendar Items IV-A.

V. Transportation Consent Calendar Information Items

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

VI. Transportation Action/Discussion Items

A. Presentation: Draft Tulare County Community College Transit Study

Ms. Chavez and Charlie Clouse provided a power point presentation on the draft Tulare County Community College Transit Study during the workshop. Mr. Clouse stated that the study clearly shows that the student pass is positive.

B. Presentation: Film Commission Annual Report

Eric Coyne provided a power point presentation. Mr. Coyne was enthusiastic about the four film projects that took place in Tulare County this year and is hopeful for more in the future. Mr. Coyne explained the projects and revenue benefits.

C. Public Hearing: 2009 Public Participation Plan Amendment No. 1

Mr. Wendt provided details on the 2009 Public Participation Plan Amendment No. 1 and an opening statement for the Public Hearing.

Chair Vander Poel opened the Public Hearing.

Hearing and seeing none, Chair Vander Poel closed the Public Hearing.

D. Action: Adoption of Resolution: 2009 Public Participation Plan Amendment No. 1

Mr. Wendt provided details on the 2009 Public Participation Plan Amendment No. 1

Upon a motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Ennis, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the 2009 Public Participation Plan Amendment No. 1

E. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve Fiscal Year 2011/12 Overall Work Program (OWP) Amendment No. 3

Mr. Lara provided details on the adjustments to work elements 601.08, 602.06, and 601.04 in the OWP as requested by member agencies.

Upon a motion by Member Vejvoda and seconded by Member McKittrick, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the Fiscal Year 2011/12 Overall Work Program (OWP) Amendment No. 3

F. Information: Status of State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Allocations and California Transportation Commission (CTC) Update

Mr. Giuliani provided a STIP allocations update and CTC update. The September CTC meeting had several Tulare County projects. Mr. Giuliani detailed a list of favorable projects including SR 99 and SR 45 widening projects.

G. Information: Rail Update

Mr. Smalley provided a rail update. Staff and the Rail Advisory Committee continue to work on two grant efforts. The Air District is working to upgrade existing rail. The County and the City of Porterville are working together to obtain right-of-way.

H. Information: Legislative and Valley Voice D.C. Trip Updates

Ms. Wright provided a legislative and Valley Voice D.C. trip update. Ms. Wright detailed the status of SB325, SB791, AB226, and AB294 legislation. Ms. Wright detailed the Valley Voice D.C. trip adding that several positive meetings took place with key administration who is involved in writing the next transportation bill.

I. Information: Caltrans Monthly Report / FHWA Report (TAC only)

Mr. Bretz provided a Caltrans monthly report.

ADDENDUM

J. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve Fiscal Year 2011/12 Overall Work Program (OWP) Amendment No. 3 Addendum

Mr. Lara detailed Amendment No. 3 addendum to the OWP. At the request of the County of Tulare and the City of Porterville it is necessary to make adjustments to work element 601.08 for due diligence for potential property acquisition for a future bike trail.

Upon a motion by Member Ennis and seconded by Member Kimball, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved Amendment No. 3 Addendum to the Overall Work Program.

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

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

VIII. Association Consent Calendar – Action Items

Request Approval of the Association Consent Calendar Items (VIII-A through VIII-D)

- A. Minutes of July 25, 2011, Board Meeting
- B. Summary of July 21, 2011, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- C. Summary of July 29, Special Meeting
- D. Action: Local Clearinghouse Review (LCR) 2011-02 Dinuba Village Partners

Upon a motion by Member Cox and seconded by Member Kimball the Association unanimously approved pulling item IX. A. the Abandon Vehicle Abatement (AVA) 2010/2011 Fourth Quarter Report for discussion.

Member Cox asked for clarification regarding the AVA program and how funds are distributed on population and abatement.

Mr. Lara stated that TCAG staff has reached out to member agencies and they have reported that they are in the process of switching the staff that handles this task.

Mr. Smalley requested that the Board allow time for staff to research this and bring it back.

Upon a motion by Member Cox and seconded by Member Kimball the Association unanimously approved the Association Consent Calendar Items VIII-A through VIII-D.

IX. Association Consent Calendar –Information Items

- A. Information: Abandon Vehicle Abatement (AVA) 2010/2011 Fourth Quarter Report

X. Association Action/Discussion Items

- A. Action: Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Update

Chair Vander Poel clarified that this is an “information” item and not an “action” item.

Ms. Wright provided a SCS update. Modeling staff are working to propose better numbers and create a long-range schedule. The San Diego MPO’s were the first to complete the SCS process. They received criticism and TCAG is hoping to learn from it. There’s a meeting scheduled September 21st with local agency planners to discuss this process. Ms. Wright encouraged agencies to send their planners.

Member Worthley stated that the local Air District lobbied hard to achieve a reduced amount based on transportation and housing; however, the representative did not relay this message at the meeting. The local Air District is aware that the numbers are impossible and are continuing efforts to make the Air Resources Board aware.

- B. Action: Adoption of Resolution: TCAG Website Consultant Selection

Mr. Waters provided details for consultant selection for TCAG’s website. In July, TCAG staff sent out 45 Requests for Proposals to create a new website for TCAG. Three proposals were received. Based on

set criteria, staff recommends CivicPlus. CivicPlus offered two payment plans. Mr. Waters detailed the two options.

Upon a motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Cox, the Association unanimously approved selecting CivicPlus, Option 2 for TCAG's website consultant. Option 2 includes: waiving the development, hosting, maintenance and training fees for a period of three years (resulting in no cost to TCAG). In exchange, TCAG agrees to the following: have CivicPlus as the exclusive provider for the hosting and web development content for TCAG; provide CivicPlus with an opportunity to be listed as a top sponsor with a speaking opportunity and exhibit space at one TCAG related annual conference and one development seminar, speaking opportunity and exhibit space; provide CivicPlus with a mailing list of member agencies; allow CivicPlus to publish an article once a year in our newsletter; allow CivicPlus to place a small "Powered by CivicPlus" link at the footer of the site.

C. Information: TCAG Relocation Update

Ms. Wright provided a TCAG relocation update. The final details of the lease are being worked out and it should be signed very shortly. Demolition has started and it is expected that TCAG staff will be moved in and fully functional by the New Year. If any member agencies are interested in walking through the owner is very friendly.

XI. CORRESPONDENCE

2011 Unmet Needs Approval Letter from Caltrans

Ms. Chavez stated that an approval letter was received from Caltrans with no negative comments regarding TCAG's 2011 Unmet needs.

XII. Other Business

A. Information: Items from Staff

Mr. Giuliani introduced Cynthia Echavarria, new LAFCO staff.

Mr. Smalley congratulated Britt Fussel, Assistant Director, Tulare County Resource Management Agency (RMA), on the bridge 416 project being awarded federal funds. This also means savings to Measure R funds.

Member Vejvoda informed members that one elected official is needed to sit on the Air Board. Also, a city representative is needed in the Madera and Chowchilla area.

Chair Vander Poel reminded members that this coming Thursday is the first Local Motion awards luncheon.

B. Information: Items from Board Members

Tulare County Water Commission

Member Ishida stated that the Water Commission is in the process of choosing members for an oversight committee to handle the grant funds.

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.