

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

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Executive Minutes – April 25, 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/A</u>	Tulare County-Dist. 5
Janet Hinesly	Mike Smith	<u>M</u>	City of Dinuba
Jack Allwardt	Ted Macaulay	<u>M</u>	City of Exeter
Paul Boyer	Mike Santana	<u> </u>	City of Farmersville
Pamela Kimball	Steve Velasquez	<u> </u>	City of Lindsay
Ronald Irish	Cameron Hamilton	<u>M</u>	City of Porterville
Craig Vejvoda	Skip Barwick	<u>M</u>	City of Tulare
Bob Link	Michael Lane	<u>M</u>	City of Visalia
Rudy Mendoza	Gregorio Gonzalez, Jr.	<u>M</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	vacant	<u>M</u>	Member-at-Large
Sharri Bender-Ehlert	Christine Cox-Kovacevich	<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> </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> </u>	TCAG
Roberto Brady	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Christine Chavez	Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Jason Waters	Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Marcos Segura	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 April 25, 2011.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Public Comments

None

IV. Transportation Consent Calendar –Action Item

Request Approval of the Transportation Consent Calendar Action Item IV. A

- A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Reaffirm 2011 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No.3, 4, and 5

Upon a motion by Member Ennis and seconded by Member McKinley the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the Transportation Consent Calendar Item IV.A

V. Transportation Consent Calendar Information Items

- A. Information: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Project Update
- B. Information: 2010 Census Population and Housing Figures for Tulare County and the Incorporated Cities

VI. Transportation Action/Discussion Items

- A. Information: 2011 Transit Unmet Needs

Ms. Chavez stated that this a continuation of the 2011 Transit Unmet Needs hearing that started in March. Ms. Chavez detailed outreach efforts and the adopted definition of Reasonable to Meet .

- B. Public Hearing: Continue 2011 Transit Unmet Needs in Tulare County

Ms. Chavez provided the Public Hearing opening statement.

Chair Vander Poel continued the Public Hearing.

Pat Chester, representing the City of Visalia Transit Committee, stated that she has a complaint regarding this not being advertised enough. Ms. Chester stated that she saw it in the news paper some time back; however, it was not in the paper today, the date of the Public Hearing.

Chair Vander Poel thanked Ms. Chester for her comments and stated that it will be included with all other comments.

Member Ishida stated that he has heard a need for school bus shelters in unincorporated areas. Member Ishida asked if this is something TCAG addresses or the schools.

Mr. Smalley stated that staff will research and respond.

Chair Vander Poel asked for further comments; no further comments were received.

Chair Vander Poel closed the Public Hearing

C. Public Hearing: 2011 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No. 9

Mr. Wendt provided the Public Hearing opening statement adding that TCAG will receive comments until May 11, 2011. Mr. Wendt detailed the projects included in Amendment No. 9. and offered copies of the Amendment adding that it can also be found on the TCAG website.

Chair Vander Poel opened the Public Hearing; no comments were received.

Chair Vander Poel closed the Public Hearing

D. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Exchange Authorization Fiscal Year 2010/2011

E. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Exchange Distribution Fiscal Year 2010/2011

Mr. Smalley requested permission to address item VI-D and item VI-E at the same time.

Chair Vander Poel approved

Mr. Smalley stated that these funds are used for road rehab and the dollar for dollar exchange of federal funds to state funds benefits everyone. Caltrans is not sure when the funds will be received; however, TCAG staff want to be prepared to respond as this has had positive results in the past.

Upon a motion by Member Ennis, and seconded by Member Worthley, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Exchange Authorization and Exchange Distribution for Fiscal Year 2010/2011.

F. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve the submittal of a letter of support for Caltrans, District 6's application for Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) cost savings to be used on the SR-99 widening project from north of Caldwell Avenue to north of Tagus Ranch

Mr. Giuliani stated that this project covers a two-mile stretch and would be a result of SR-99 bond savings.

Upon a motion by Member Cox, and seconded by Member Link, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the submittal of a letter of support for Caltrans, District 6's application for Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) cost savings to be used on the SR-99 widening project from north of Caldwell Avenue to north of Tagus Ranch.

G. Action: Legislative Actions and Update

Ms. Wright provided a legislative actions and legislative update. Regarding the states transportation budget, the gas tax swap was reaffirmed. Staff will provide further updates as information becomes available. No additional funds, this year, will go to High Speed Rail. There are talks regarding Tiger III program, with a new name. Staff will be looking at how to improve Tiger applications.

Ms. Wright provided details on SB325, SB468 and AB892.

Member Ishida commented that he attended a meeting where discussion took place in support of SB325 and it appears that this will move forward to the full senate.

Regarding SB468, it is recommended that the Board take action to oppose as it adds new requirements to capacity increasing projects. TCAG went to D.C. requesting that this process be streamlined and this would do the opposite. Regarding AB892, it is recommended that the Board support this as it is proposed to save time to have the state approve standard environmental documents.

Upon a motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Ennis, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved opposing Senate Bill 468 and supporting Senate Bill 892.

H. Information: 2011/2012 Draft Overall Work Program (OWP)

Ms. Wright provided information on the 2011/12 Draft OWP during a presentation before the Board at the workshop on this date.

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

Mr. Giuliani provided an update on the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) allocations and California Transportation Commission (CTC). The CTC meets in Sacramento May 11th and 12th. The agenda has not been released at this time; however, the STIP fund estimates assumptions are scheduled to be approved at the May CTC meeting. There could be a delay pending the outcome of the budget.

J. Information: Rail Update

Member Sparks provided a rail update. Member Sparks stated that he received a tour of the San Joaquin Valley rail facility and it was good to see repairs being done to the east side. Some questions are being raised regarding rail abandonment and surcharges being imposed in some areas and not in others. It appears that there will be more abandonment taking place if action is taken quickly.

K. Information: Caltrans Monthly Report

Ms. Cox-Kovacevich provided a Caltrans monthly report. Caltrans is gearing up for their centennial. Ms. Cox-Kovacevich provided pictures of SR-99 being built in early nineteen hundreds. Ms. Cox-Kovacevich also provided details on: the status of local projects, budget update, and tips for successful grant applications.

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

Upon motion by Member McKittrick and seconded by Member Ennis, 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-B)

- A. Minutes of March 21, 2011, Board Meeting
- B. Summary of March 17, 2011, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Link, the Association unanimously approved the Association Consent Calendar Items VI-A through VII-B.

IX. Association Consent Calendar –Information Items

There were no Consent Calendar Information Items.

Chair Vander Poel adjourned to Closed Session

Chair Vander Poel reconvened as the Tulare County Association of Governments

X. Association Action/Discussion Items

- A. Action: Site Location Short List Approval to Negotiate

Mr. Smalley stated that the Site Location and Negotiating team continues to work on the details.

- B. Action: Appoint a Member-at-Large Alternate for Position #2 on the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) Board

Mr. Smalley stated that there were no applications received and this will stay on the agenda until it is filled. Please encourage people to apply.

C. Action: Seeking Direction for Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) Extension Authorization

Mr. Mierzwinski provided information on the AVA extension authorization. It is necessary to provide an AVA extension authorization to the Department of Motor Vehicles along with a resolution to continue funding.

Upon motion by Member Ennis and seconded by Member McKittrick, the Association unanimously authorized the approval of an AVA extension.

XI. Correspondence

There were no Correspondence items.

XII. Other Business

A. Information: Items from Staff

None

B. Information: Items from Board Members

Member Ishida provided an update on the Tulare County Water Commission.

Member Mendoza invited everyone to the Woodlake Western Week including a rodeo May 7th and 8th.

Chair Vander Poel re-opened the Public Comment period.

Mr. Javier Ramirez, Matheny Tract Community Member introduced Eva Castillo, who spoke in Spanish. Ms. Castillo stated that there are two bus stops in Matheny Tract and they are far away. There are a lot of elderly people who can't make it to the bus stops.

Mr. Javier Medina, 537 W. Becon, Matheny Tract Community Representative, asked for more shelters and benches at the bus stops. Mr. Medina also asked for more frequent stops as it is hard to go to town.

Mr. Javier Ramirez, Matheny Tract Community Member, stated that the dial-a-ride is often late and it makes people 30 or 40 minutes late to doctor appointments.

Chair Vander Poel asked if there were any further comments, seeing and hearing none, Chair Vander Poel closed the Public Hearing.

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.**