

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

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Executive Minutes – June 20, 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</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>M</u>	City of Dinuba
Jack Allwardt	Ted Macaulay		City of Exeter
Paul Boyer	Mike Santana	<u>A</u>	City of Farmersville
Pamela Kimball	Steve Velasquez	<u>M</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		<u>M</u>	City of Visalia
Rudy Mendoza	Gregorio Gonzalez, Jr.		City of Woodlake
Bill McKinley	Greg Woodard		Member-at-Large
Terry McKittrick	Bob Stocker	<u>M</u>	Member-at-Large
Tom Sparks	Ernie Hernandez	<u>M</u>	Member-at-Large
Sharri Bender-Ehlert	Neil Britz	<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		TCAG
Marvin Demmers	Regional Planner		TCAG
Ben Giuliani	Senior Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Mark Hays	Associate Regional Planner		TCAG
Ramon Lara	Administrative Service Officer	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Roberto Brady	Associate Regional Planner		TCAG
Christine Chavez	Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Jason Waters	Regional Planner		TCAG
Marcos Segura	Regional Planner		TCAG
Michal Mierzwinski	Accountant II		TCAG
Colleen Potts	Secretary III	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Carrie Perez	Office Assistant		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 June 20, 2011.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Public Comments

None

IV. Transportation Consent Calendar –Action Item

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

- A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Reaffirm Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Apportionment
- B. Action: Authorize TCAG to Enter into an Agreement with Tulare County Transit Agencies for T-Pass Administration
- C. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claims for the City of Farmersville for Fiscal Year 2010/11
- D. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve Nominations to the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)

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

V. Transportation Consent Calendar Information Items

- A. Information: Draft 2011/2012 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Apportionments
- B. Information: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Project Update

VI. Transportation Action/Discussion Items

- A. Presentation: Senator Jean Fuller's Representative

Stephanie Amaral, Field Representative for Senator Jean Fuller introduced herself and offered her assistance.

- B. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve Fiscal Year 2011/12 Overall Work Program (OWP) Amendment No. 1

Mr. Lara stated that the amendment is necessary to facilitate TCAG's move and will not affect membership dues or TDA contributions. Mr. Smalley added that some of the costs will be recovered when the current office equipment in use is sold back to the County of Tulare.

Upon a motion by Member Ennis and seconded by Member Irish, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved Fiscal Year 2011/12 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 1.

- C. Action: Adoption of Resolution: TCAG Fiscal Audit Consultant Selection

Mr. Lara stated that based on set scoring criteria, it is recommended that Pressley and Associates, Inc. conduct the fiscal audit. Pressley and Associates, Inc. submitted a proposal that showed that they have the best understanding of the projects and offered the highest level of staff to provide services. Pressley and Associates, Inc. also has prior experience working with other Council of Governments (COG's).

Upon a motion by Member Link and seconded by Member Vejvoda, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved Pressley and Associates, Inc. conduct the TCAG Fiscal Audit.

D. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve the 2010/2011 Unmet Transit Needs Findings

Ms. Chavez provided information on the 2010/2011 Unmet Transit Needs findings. Ms. Chavez detailed outreach efforts including public hearing dates which went beyond the Transportation Development Act (TDA) requirements. Comments were received and the findings and recommendations of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) were forwarded to local transit providers and the TCAG Board for review and approval. Any need that is found to be reasonable to meet must be implemented and funded before any agency may use TDA funds.

Upon a motion by Member Cox and seconded by Member Mendoza, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the 2010/2011 Unmet Transit Needs findings.

E. 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 is scheduled to meet June 22nd and 23rd. Mr. Giuliani detailed several Tulare county projects listed on the CTC agenda.

Mr. Smalley detailed strategy options for advancing state funded projects in fiscal year 2011/12 and asked the Board for direction. Three Tulare County projects are on a waiting list since it is unsure when the state will sale bonds again. Mr. Smalley met with California Transportation Commission staff who recommended the Road 80 Phase 3 project since Plaza Drive has secured Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) funding. At this time funding is not available for two projects; staff is recommending to move forward with funding one project.

F. Information: Rail Update

Mr. Smalley stated that there are talks of potential partnerships between shippers and Union Pacific (UP) to build-up short haul rail. Discussions are continuing.

Member Ishida added that UP is willing to invest in improvements on the rail line and they are looking at ways to make it run more efficiently.

G. Information: Air Quality update.

Ms. Wright stated that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reported that while the Indirect Source Review Rule of 2006 is a good ruling; credit can't not be taken. This could pose a problem for project delivery over the next several years. Staff has been working hard to ensure that current projects do not get delayed due to this and will keep member agencies posted.

H. Information: Caltrans Monthly Report

Mr. Britz provided a Caltrans monthly report.

Member Ennis requested that Mr. Britz look into signage for the Porterville Fairgrounds for North and South bound freeway.

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

Upon motion by Member Link and seconded by Member Santana, 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-C)

- A. Minutes of May 16, 2011, Board Meeting
- B. Summary of May 12, 2011, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- C. Action: LCR 2011-01: Self-Help Enterprises, Pre-Application for Federal Assistance from USDA, Rural Development for Section 533 Housing Preservation Grant funds

Upon motion by Member Link and seconded by Member Santana, the Association unanimously approved the Association Consent Calendar Items VIII-A through VIII-C.

IX. Association Consent Calendar –Information Items

There were no Consent Calendar Information Items.

X. Association Action/Discussion Items

A. Action: Approve Reinstatement of TCAG Staff Position

Mr. Smalley stated that when Ben Giuliani assumed the position of Executive Officer with the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) his position was inadvertently eliminated at TCAG. Mr. Smalley asked that the TCAG Board approve reinstatement of a Regional/Associate planner position to TCAG. Once approved by the TCAG Board it will go before the Tulare County Board for approval.

Upon motion by Member Link and seconded by Member Ennis, the Association unanimously approved the reinstatement of a Regional/Associate planner position to TCAG.

B. Action: Receive Comments and Recommendations from Board Members on three (3) Regional Blueprint Documents

Mr. Smalley stated that a presentation was provided in January to the TCAG Board on the three Regional Blueprint documents. Mr. Smalley stated that he wanted to present all the information to the Board and give them another opportunity to provide direction to Member Ishida and Member Mendoza before the Policy Council meeting on Friday, June 24th.

Member Ishida added that he attended a California Forward meeting and California Forward has received a 15 million dollars grant to study land use and growth. Member Ishida stated that he feels it would not be advantageous to the cities in the valley. Member Ishida stated that Council of Governments (COGs) are designed to deliver projects not set policy as California Forward is suggesting.

Member Link stated that he agrees with Member Ishida adding that it would be harder for smaller cities to compete for funding.

Member Worthley stated that it's important to continue to work cooperatively with the COG's.

Member Ishida added that it's important to continue to work together on agreeing on projects and continue one voice trips to D.C.

C. Action: Provide Direction Regarding TCAG Relocation

Ms. Wright stated that there is no new information on the relocation of TCAG at this time. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

D. Information: Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) Amendment Update

Ms. Wright stated that as of June 13th the TCAG JPA Amendment No. 1 has been fully executed. All signatures have been obtained from member agencies and each agency will receive their original shortly. She thanked member agencies for expediting this.

XI. Correspondence

Mr. Smalley provided details on the "save the date" flyer for the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Fall Policy Conference at Bass Lake.

Chair Vander Poel informed attendees that minutes from Exeter City Council were received reappointing Jack Allwardt to represent the City of Exeter on TCAG and TCTA and appointing Dale Sally to represent the City of Exeter as the Alternate Member on TCAG and TCTA.

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. A presentation on nitrate study will be provided by Dr. Harder at the next Water Commission meeting. Also, a presentation will be provided on the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) of the San Joaquin River. At the last Water Commission meeting discussion took place regarding supporting projects on the Delta Bay. Member Ishida stated that he is going to work with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and the Delta Bay to understand what the projects are and where they are in agreement.

C. Request from Board Members for future agenda items

Member Cox requested an update on the loop bus.

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