

**Summary Minutes
TRANSPAC – December 11, 2008**

ATTENDANCE:

Elected Officials: David Durant, Pleasant Hill, TRANSPAC Chair; Mark Ross, City of Martinez, Vice-Chair; Julie Pierce, Clayton, CCTA Representative, TRANSPAC; Guy Bjerke, Concord; Cindy Silva, Walnut Creek, CCTA Representative. Absent: Susan Bonilla (excused)

Planning Commissioners: Jon Malkovich, Walnut Creek; Diana Vavrek, Pleasant Hill. Absent: Bob Armstrong, Clayton; Bob Hoag, Concord; Donnie Snyder, Contra Costa County (excused); Vacant Seat: Martinez

Staff: Deidre Heitman, BART; Ray Kuzbari, Concord; Martin Engelmann, CCTA; John Hall, Walnut Creek; Tim Tucker, Martinez; Lynn Overcashier, 511 Contra Costa; Barbara Neustadter, Connie Peterson, TRANSPAC staff.

David Woltering, Clayton's Community Development Director, was welcomed to TRANSPAC.

1. **Meeting was convened with a quorum by Chair Durant at 9:10 a.m.**
Pledge of Allegiance/Self-Introductions – completed

2. **Public Comment – None**

CONSENT AGENDA: Silva/ Pierce/Unanimous

3. **Approved the November 13, 2008 minutes**
END CONSENT AGENDA

4. **Request from the Regional Measure 2 Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Regarding Analysis of HOV Direct Connector Ramp Options Proposed for Analysis in the I-680 HOV/Express Bus Access Study.**

Regional Measure 2 (RM2) legislation requires that an evaluation be conducted of HOV Direct Connector Ramp Options as part of the determination as to whether RM2 funds (\$14+ million) should be allocated to the I-680 Southbound HOV Gap Closure project or to an HOV Direct Connector Ramp to the Pleasant Hill and/or Walnut Creek BART Stations. The PAC, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and consultant team, led by Deborah Dagang, CH2M HILL, has formulated recommendations on a number of potential HOV direct connector ramp options to/from and in between the Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek BART stations. The PAC is requesting that TRANSPAC review these alternatives and offer its guidance.

Deborah Dagang presented a summary of the three alternatives. The PAC recommended two alternatives: Option B - Walnut Creek Perimeter Road, and Option E - Coggins Drive/Oak Park Boulevard. Both alternatives would require the widening of I-680 and construction/realignment/relocation of some freeway and local street facilities. The PAC considered including a third alternative, Option D - North Main Street, for further analysis. Option D would also assume widening of I-680, realignment of the I-680 Lawrence Way on-ramp including right of way impacts to the City of Walnut Creek Corporation Yard. The advantage of this alternative is that it would have less impact on residences as the right of way issues for conversion of commercial land is usually easier to accomplish than for residential uses.

TRANSPAC discussed the three options. While all the options are expensive due to significant right of way impacts and topography issues, Option E was the first to be eliminated because of its cost. The decision reached here would not represent an endorsement of or agreement with any of the options but would satisfy the need for the study.

ACTION: TRANSPAC reached consensus to forward to the PAC its recommendation that only Option B be analyzed in the I-680 HOV express Bus Access Study. Silva/Pierce/Unanimous

5. Central County Action Plan

The Central County Action Plan was released for review on October 16, 2008. Comment letters were received from the Executive Director of WCCTAC and the Mayor of Lafayette. The TRANSPAC TAC reviewed the letters at its November 20, 2008 meeting and recommended the following responses to TRANSPAC for consideration:

The WCCTAC letter related a slightly different position than that originally reported to TRANSPAC, which was an acknowledgement of the differences in MTSOs and a commitment to consult should corridor issues arise. The current letter expresses concern that the TRANSPAC SR-4 super segment MTSO may impede WCCTAC's ability to achieve its MTSO. WCCTAC has requested that the Central County Action Plan acknowledge WCCTAC's standard in the Action Plan. The TRANSPAC TAC agreed with this request and recommended to TRANSPAC that such language be included in the Action Plan as shown in the draft language in the "MTSO, Actions and Responsibilities" section on page 29 of Chapter 4 of the Action Plan.

ACTION: The TRANSPAC Manager will notify the WCCTAC Executive Director by letter of TRANSPAC's decision to acknowledge WCCTAC's standard in the Central County Action Plan. Bjerke/Silva/Unanimous.

The City of Lafayette transmitted 22 comments for which staff prepared a draft response. TRANSPAC is requested to review the comments and advise if additional revisions are needed. It should be noted that in response to Lafayette's comments, MTSOs were added to Route of Regional Significance segments of Geary Road, Pleasant Hill Road and Taylor Boulevard. It appeared to the TAC that Lafayette/ SWAT is interested in the development of a Traffic Management Plan in the Pleasant Hill Road corridor, and the response letter requests that Lafayette advise the TRANSPAC if such a study should be pursued jointly.

It was also noted that the Subregional Transportation Mitigation Program (STMP) fee chart has been revised to reflect the increased Traffic Impact Fees adopted by the City of Walnut Creek which go into effect on December 22, 2008.

In TRANSPAC's Action Plan (page 39) under Actions/ Responsibilities, a statement was included that indicated TRANSPAC's intention was to "work with SWAT/City of Lafayette on corridor issues and, if feasible, consider development of a traffic management plan and other operational strategies for Pleasant Hill Road."

It was determined that as it was impractical to discuss each comment individually in the time available, the original Action Plan subcommittee should reconvene to review and address a response to the City's concerns and to affirm willingness to participate in a collaborative

process. Chair Durant suggested that the TRANSPAC Manager draft and send a letter to the Mayor of Lafayette to acknowledge receipt of the City's comments and to advise that a response will be developed after further discussion. In addition, some final minor revisions to the Action Plan itself need to be finished before it is adopted in February or March.

ACTION: Approval was given to the TRANSPAC Manager to send a letter to the Mayor of Lafayette acknowledging receipt of the City's comments and advise that an amplified response would be forthcoming. The Action Plan subcommittee will convene to formulate a response to the comments, as well as to make any final revisions and refinements to the Action Plan prior to its adoption. Pierce/Ross/Unanimous

6. TRANSPAC and CCTA Representatives are requested to report on the most recent CCTA Administration and Projects Committee (Member Pierce), Planning Committee (Member Durant), and CCTA meetings (Members Pierce and Durant).

a. CCTA meeting

Member Durant/Pierce reported on changes in the Growth Management Program approved at the Workshop meeting on November 19th. Neustadter commented that the GMP Task Force would be meeting this afternoon to discuss the new version.

b. Administration and Projects Committee meeting

Member Pierce reported that the Administration and Projects Committee received a dismal legislative report, but did receive a positive report on the compliance audits. The Authority is optimistic concerning the Highway 24 Caldecott Tunnel lawsuit. Also discussed were funding issues, federal stimulus funds and if earmarks are being allowed. Salaries and benefits for staff were also reviewed.

c. Planning Committee meeting

Member Durant reported that there was no December Planning Committee meeting.

7. Reports from Staff and Committees – Reports received

a) Measure J Transportation for Livable Communities (CC-TLC) Guidelines and establishment of a staff committee. At the November 13, 2008 TRANSPAC meeting, staff noted the CCTA staff's initiation of the development of guidelines for the Measure J CC-TLC Program. CCTA staff requested a staff representative to serve on a committee to develop draft guidelines for the CC-TLC Program. This request was considered at the November 20, 2008 TRANSPAC TAC meeting. John Hall volunteered to serve on the seven-member committee.

b) Traffic Counts – Down? Up? Both? Just before Thanksgiving, TRANSPAC and CCTA representative Julie Pierce received traffic count information from Clayton and Concord staff regarding a drop in traffic between 2005 and 2006. Theories explaining a drop in traffic counts have been given by Clayton and Concord engineering staff, TRANSPAC staff and the Clayton City Manager. TRANSPAC and CCTA representative Julie Pierce received traffic count information from Clayton and Concord staff regarding a drop in traffic between 2005 and 2006. Member Pierce asked the TRANSPAC TAC to look at this as well, and the responses are shown in the packet. She noted that one response

that was not on the list might be, in addition to East County's transportation improvements, the lack of safety on Marsh Creek Road which has discouraged people from taking this route. Other possible contributing factors were discussed such as loss of jobs, foreclosures, gas prices, and changes in commute habits.

- 8. Correspondence/Copies/Newsclips/Information – Accepted**
- 9. For the Good of the Order – none**
- 10. The meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m. The next TRANSPAC meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2009 at 9 a.m. in the Community Room, City Hall, City of Pleasant Hill.**