

TRANSPAC Transportation Partnership and Cooperation

Clayton, Concord, Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek and Contra Costa County
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TRANSPAC MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2009

9:00 AM TO 11:30 AM

in the

COMMUNITY ROOM

CITY OF PLEASANT HILL CITY HALL

100 GREGORY LANE

PLEASANT HILL

(925) 969-0841

TRANSPAC reserves the right to take formal action on any item included on this agenda, whether or not a form of resolution, motion or other indication that action will be taken is included on the agenda or attachments thereto.

- 1. Convene meeting: Pledge of Allegiance/Self-Introductions/Welcome to Michael Murray, new Contra Costa County Planning Commission representative appointed by the Board of Supervisors**

- 2. Public Comment**

At this time, the public is welcome to address the Committee on any item not on this agenda. Please complete a speaker card and hand it to a member of the staff. Please begin by stating your name and address and indicate whether you are speaking for yourself or an organization. Please keep your comments brief. In fairness to others, please avoid repeating comments made by others and observe any time limits that may be announced.

- 3. CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of the February 12, 2009 minutes (attachment)

END CONSENT AGENDA

- 4. Presentation of the Countywide Transportation Plan (CTP) by Brad Beck, Senior Transportation Planner, CCTA - 25 minutes. The CTP may be downloaded at www.ccta.net, look under the Transportation Planning header on the main CCTA page for the "2009 Countywide Transportation Plan" box and click. (attachment - the summary used at the 1/21/09 CCTA meeting is in the packet)**

Mr. Beck will present the CTP that is one of the key planning tools called for in the Measure J Growth Management Program (GMP). CCTA is required to support efforts to develop and maintain an ongoing planning process with the cities and the county through the funding and development of a Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

The Authority adopted its first Countywide Plan in 1995. The first major update to the Plan was adopted in July 2000. The second major update, which helped define the Measure J Expenditure Plan and GMP, was adopted in May 2004. The CTP is intended to provide the overall direction and a coordinated approach for achieving and maintaining a balanced and functional transportation system within Contra Costa while strengthening links between land use decisions and transportation. It outlines the Authority's vision for Contra Costa and it establishes goals, strategies, specific projects, and other actions for achieving that vision. Comments on the CTP and DEIR are due by 5:00 p.m., Monday, April 6.

ACTION: With thanks to Mr. Beck, develop comments as necessary for transmission to CCTA, and/or as determined

5. Central County Action Plan - Consideration of Joint TRANSPAC/TRANSPLAN/WCCTAC TAC recommendation to jointly Develop a Corridor Management Plan for SR 4 – 15 minutes (attachment)

RTPC staff has crafted the following language to be inserted into the Action Plan in Chapter 4 under SR 4 if approved by the participating RTPCs (TRANSPAC, TRANSPLAN and WCCTAC). WCCTAC has approved participation (see item 1c in attached letter under this item in the packet) and TRANSPLAN is scheduled to consider its TAC's recommendation to approve this action at its March 12, 2009 meeting.

Please note that WCCTAC staff has expressed interest in participating in the development of the SR 4 Corridor Management Plan. The proposal was presented to the WCCTAC TAC on February 12, 2009. Participation was recommended by the WCCTAC TAC and approved by the WCCTAC Board at its February 27, 2009 meeting.

“Partner with TRANSPLAN and WCCTAC to develop a Corridor Management Plan for SR4 from East County through Central County (boundaries to be defined) including connecting and/or supporting arterials. This process will identify an MTSO(s) for SR4, actions, projects and define an approach to managing arterials in the corridor. TRANSPAC and TRANSPLAN jointly will seek funding for the Corridor Management Plan from CCTA and other available sources.”

In addition, it is suggested that the current SR 4 MTSO in each Action Plan (5.0 Delay Index in Central County) be annotated as follows: “Upon acceptance of this recommendation by TRANSPAC, TRANSPLAN, and WCCTAC, the current SR 4 MTSOs in the respective Action Plans will be annotated to indicate that the current MTSOs are expected to be revised upon completion and adoption of the Corridor Management Plan by TRANSPAC, TRANSPLAN and WCCTAC.”

TRANSPAC staff has informally approached CCTA to discuss funding of this effort.

ACTION: Approve the proposed language for insertion into the TRANSPAC Action Plan and/or as determined

6. Review and Approval of the Central County Action Plan Proposal for adoption - 15 minutes (separate attachment in packet)

The latest version of the Action Plan is included as a separate attachment with the agenda packet. Once the action taken in item 5 is (or is not) approved for inclusion in the Action Plan and the additional information requested from CCTA is incorporated, TRANSPAC will have a "current" version for use by CCTA, RTPCs, TRANSPAC jurisdictions and other agencies. After the February 26, 2009 TRANSPAC TAC meeting, CCTA staff requested that TRANSPAC action on this item be labeled as approval of the Central County Action Plan Proposal for Adoption which makes clear that the 2009 TRANSPAC Action Plan supercedes the 2000 Action Plan Update and will be incorporated into the CCTA's Countywide Transportation Plan. Once the CCTA completes the Countywide Transportation Plan process later this year, the Central County Action Plan process may be considered completed. Absent any objections from the TRANSPAC TAC, staff recommends that this action be labeled as requested by CCTA.

ACTION: Approval and designation of the latest version (including the language in item 5, map and chart edits from CCTA, as well as any minor edits and corrections as may be necessary) as the Central County Action Plan Proposal for Adoption and/or as determined

7. Discussion of the Use of TRANSPAC's Measure J Enhancement Funds (line items 19 and 20) – 15 minutes (attachment)

As reported at the February TRANSPAC meeting by CCTA representative Durant, CCTA staff proposed a policy action or possibly a Measure J Expenditure Plan amendment which would allow bus and paratransit operators facing service cuts to use Measure J funds for existing services in addition to the enhanced and supplemental services described in the Measure J Additional Bus Transit (line item 19) and the Transportation for Seniors and People with Disabilities (line item 20) funding categories (see attached Measure J Expenditure Plan Allocations Chart).

The intent of the CCTA action is to provide flexibility in the allocation of line items 19 and 20. Allocations for these monies are to be decided by TRANSPAC and WCCTAC which are the only RTPCs with funding in these categories. Please note that CCTA also is establishing this flexibility for its allocation of funds in line item 16, Express Bus services. The need for this flexibility is driven by the serious funding cutbacks experienced by transit and paratransit operators (see CCTA staff report and STA transit funding cut information provided by County Connection). The use of these funds to start new service while cutting existing service also may be confusing to the public.

In May 2008, TRANSPAC sent a letter to CCTA (copy in packet) that makes clear that the Measure J funding for "Additional Bus Transit Enhancements" (line item 19) ...is intended to augment bus services through annual payments over the 25 year life of Measure J, with such funds to be used by County Connection at its discretion to best address Central County's bus transit needs. County Connection must report annually to TRANSPAC on how the funds were used, and must consider using annual disbursements to establish a fund reserve to ease expected Measure J revenue variances over its 25-year span. TRANSPAC looks forward to continuing its long partnership with County Connection to the benefit of Contra Costa residents."

The TRANSPAC TAC reviewed this use of funds issue at its February 26, 2009 meeting. At the TAC meeting, County Connection staff advised that it would like to use line item 19 funds for a route restructuring which is a blend of existing and new service. For instance, a new route #16 will provide a direct connection between the Monument corridor and the County Hospital in Martinez. In the past riders were forced to transfer at the Amtrak station. A new weekend route, the #316, will provide service linking Martinez to the Pleasant Hill BART station via Sun Valley Mall, DVC, and downtown

Pleasant Hill creating a new and improved connection between downtown Pleasant Hill and the Pleasant Hill BART station. Given the magnitude of the funding cuts, County Connection is expected to make a request for FY 08/09 funding from Measure J line item 19 in support of the described existing/modified bus service and in the future, may request the use of line item 20 funds for the same existing/modified service for paratransit service.

Since the TAC meeting, CCTA staff has advised that an amendment to Measure J is required to allow the use of line item 19 and 20 funds for existing/modified service. From the TAC's perspective, TRANSPAC's May 2008 letter supports the use of "Additional Bus Transit Enhancements" funds for addressing service cuts and service modifications. The TAC also indicated that it would recommend a request to CCTA for a Measure J amendment if required for the use of both line items for existing and modified service.

The TAC also recommended general guidelines for the use of these funds: In years where revenues are declining, line items 19 and 20 funds may be used for service support and modifications; in years where funding allows for growth in service levels, these funds would be used for service enhancements; and if County Connection's funding levels are restored to 2008 levels, these funds should be used to enhance that service. TRANSPAC will determine if the use of line item 19 and and/or 20 funds by County Connection or other operators meets these guidelines for the allocation of these funds.

TRANSPAC is requested to send a request to CCTA to amend Measure J at its earliest convenience to allow the use of line item 19 and 20 funds for existing and modified service, reiterate that these decisions are made by TRANSPAC which will use the general guidelines proposed by the TAC.

ACTION: Approval of a request to CCTA to amend Measure J at its earliest convenience to allow the use of TRANSPAC's Measure J line item 19 and 20 funds for existing and/or modified service (County Connection Routes 16 and 316) and other service(s) as approved by TRANSPAC subject to the general guidelines described above and/or as determined

8. Letter of support on behalf of the City of Pleasant Hill for a 2009-10 Caltrans Planning Grant Application for Contra Costa Boulevard - 10 minutes (attachment)

The City of Pleasant Hill is submitting an application for a Caltrans Planning Grant to develop a Corridor Concept Study for Contra Costa Boulevard and has requested a letter of support for this application. The CCTA Planning Committee approved a similar request at its March 4, 2009 meeting.

The TRANSPAC TAC reviewed this request at its February 26, 2009 meeting and recommends approval with thanks to the City of Pleasant Hill for its diligent work in moving this project forward. A draft copy of the grant application is in the packet for information.

ACTION: Approve sending a letter of Support for the City of Pleasant Hill's 2009-10 Caltrans Planning Grant for Contra Costa Boulevard and/or as determined

9. Appointments to the CCTA Technical Advisory Committee (TCC) (attachment)

Current TCC appointments expire on March 31, 2009 and TRANSPAC has been requested to appoint three representatives and an alternate. The TAC's recommendation on these appointments will be reported at this meeting and TRANSPAC is requested to approve the TAC's recommendation.

ACTION: Appointment of TRANSPAC representatives and an alternate to the CCTA TCC and/or as determined

10. Federal Stimulus Package Update – 10 minutes

Staff will report on actions proposed as a follow-up to the submission of the stimulus package.

Action: As determined

11. 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).

“Items approved by the Authority on February 18, 2009 for circulation to the Regional Transportation Planning Committees (RTPCs) and items of interest” as well as the minutes of the January 21, 2009 CCTA Board meetings are attached for information under this item in the packet. (attachment)

12. Reports from Staff and Committees - information - 15 minutes (attachment)

a) 511 Contra Costa report by Lynn Overcashier, Program Manager

ACTION: Receive reports and/or as determined

13. Correspondence/Copies/Newsclips/Information - 5 minutes

2/23/09 TRANSPAC February status letter to CCTA; 2/23/09 letter to Lafayette Mayor Anderson from the TRANSPAC Chair re: the Central County Action Plan; 2/23/09 TRANSPAC 2009 appointments letter to Robert McCleary, CCTA Executive Director from the TRANSPAC Manager; 1/17/09 letter to the CCTA Chair from Mark Ross, TRANSPAC Chair re: approved proposed project earmarks for the Federal transportation reauthorization act; 2/13/09 WCCTAC January status letter to CCTA; 2/4/09 SWAT February status letter to CCTA; County Connection, January 2009 and December 2008 Fixed Route Operating Reports; February 28, 2009 CCTA Project Status Report.

14. For the Good of the Order (attachment) – 10 minutes

- An updated TRANSPAC roster is attached
- Mike Wright, CNWS Reuse Project Director, will provide an update on the CNWS project on April 9, 2009 and at the May 14 meeting, CCTA staff and consultants will present the response to TRANSPAC’s 2008 request to find “sooner, cheaper” way to begin Phase 3 I-680-SR 4 improvements specifically the missing” third lane on SR 4.

15. Adjournment. The next TRANSPAC meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2009 at 9 a.m. in the Community Room, City Hall, City of Pleasant Hill unless otherwise determined.