

**SUMMARY MINUTES**  
**TRANSPAC Meeting – November 12, 2009**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Elected Officials:** Mark Ross, Martinez, TRANSPAC Chair; Cindy Silva, Walnut Creek, TRANSPAC Vice Chair; Julie Pierce, Clayton, CCTA Representative; David Durant, Pleasant Hill, CCTA Representative; Guy Bjerke, Concord. Absent: Susan Bonilla, Contra Costa County.

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

**Staff:** Ray Kuzbari, Concord; Tim Tucker, Martinez; John Greitzer, Contra Costa County; Deidre Heitman, BART; Martin Engelmann, CCTA; Jeremy Lochirco, Walnut Creek; Anne Muzzini, County Connection; Lynn Overcashier, Corinne Dutra-Roberts, 511 Contra Costa; Barbara Neustadter, Connie Peterson, TRANSPAC staff.

**Meeting convened without a quorum by Chair Ross at 9:05 a.m.** Member Bjerke arrived at 9:08 a.m. and David Durant arrived at 9:09 a.m.

1. **Convene meeting: Pledge of Allegiance/Self-Introductions - completed**
2. **Public Comment - none**
3. **CONSENT AGENDA: Bjerke/Silva/unanimous**  
Approved the October 2, 2009 minutes  
**END CONSENT AGENDA**
4. **Presentation on Concord Naval Weapons Station (CNWS) by Michael Wright, Concord Reuse Project Director and Will Baumgardner, ARUP**

Mr. Wright provided an overview of the Reuse Plan Preferred Alternative (Clustered Villages) selected by the Concord City Council in January. Mr. Wright's presentation showed the potential impacts of the two recommended alternatives, the Preferred Alternative and the Concentration and Conservation Alternative. The presentation described the significant and unavoidable impacts in land use compatibility, transportation and traffic, visibility, air quality and noise, as well as the impacts that would be less than significant after mitigation including those previously listed plus biological resources, cultural resources, hazardous materials, and utilities.

Mr. Wright said that "reuse plan" is a federal term used between the Navy and City of Concord to describe the disposal of the property, and he noted that it has no binding effect in California land law. The City's next big step is to amend the Reuse Plan into the General Plan. The amendment is subject to another CEQA review. He noted that another major item being addressed by the City is preparation of a Climate Action Plan, which will focus on steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the site. Meanwhile, the Federal government will need to complete processes such as the EIS, Section 7 consultation, and consultation of the state office of historic preservation. The property is not expected to change hands from the Navy for at least three to five years, and given the required plans and processes, actual building might not commence for eight or more years. Bob Armstrong asked when demolition will begin and Mr. Wright answered that it will occur after the property

changes hands. Member Bjerke noted that this is a program-level EIR, and all proposed projects will undergo additional reviews before anything is built.

Member Silva asked for more information on transportation issues. Will Baumgardner provided a broad overview, noting that the intensity of development is located on the northwest portion of the site. He described some of plans to help offset impacts, such as taking advantage of surplus capacity in the reverse direction and increasing roadway connectivity and redundancy. Some new connections on subregional routes of significance would take some pressure off Highway 4. The biggest impacts were around Port Chicago and on Highway 4 east of Willow Pass as well as some intersections where congestion exists today on Ygnacio Valley and Treat. Anne Muzzini added that the idea that enough density will allow a bus route to pay for itself is optimistic because no transit route pays for itself.

Martin Engelmann asked if the city had received comments from people concerned about their courtyards becoming punch-through streets. Mr. Wright said that a lot of comments have been received along those lines and those issues will need to be addressed. Member Pierce said that she believes development is going to be slow and might not occur our lifetime. Member Bjerke said that even if approved today, the infrastructure would take years to complete, with some extremities of the plan being probably 20 years away. Mr. Wright noted that because contaminated property will transfer from the Navy, considerable remediation will be required to be done by the private sector in order to have unrestricted use. Ideally, remediation efforts will be coordinated with the installation of infrastructure.

Bob Hoag brought up the issue of economics and the importance of getting the balance right between development and open space, noting Concord's obligation to its citizens. So far it has been doing a good job. Chair Ross believes that Concord will do the best it can in trying to predict what should be in that balance. Member Pierce added that when Concord transfers this property to private developers, the developers likely will be expected to pay for mitigating impacts. Member Bjerke suggested that the City might have to think outside the box and ask public benefit providers as well as developers to contribute although possibly to a lesser extent.

Member Bjerke said that the Concord City Council is grateful to Michael Wright for his work on the project and thanked him for the presentation.

**ACTION: With thanks to Michael Wright, Will Baumgardner and Ray Kuzbari, accepted the report on the Concord Naval Weapons Station Reuse Project.**

5. **TRANSPAC and CCTA Representatives' Reports.** Items approved by the Authority on October 21, 2009 for Circulation to the Regional Transportation Planning Committees (RTPCs), and items of interest as well as the Summary Minutes of the September 16, 2009 CCTA meeting were in the packet.

- a. Administration and Projects Committee (APC) meeting

Member Pierce reported that in the Administration and Projects Committee, interviews are underway to select a search firm to replace retiring CCTA Executive Director Robert McCleary. Members Pierce and Durant are members of the committee in charge of selecting the search firm and are attending a special meeting this morning for that purpose. The APC has been working on a proposed Mission, Vision and Values statement that is intended to define the

Authority's role and should be useful in recruiting a new executive director as well as in the future as SB375 is implemented. Other topics of discussion were the Strategic Plan and the I-80/Central Avenue Interchange in West County.

b. Planning Committee (PC) meeting

Member Pierce reported that the Planning Committee discussed and approved the General Plan Amendment review process. She described how the Task Force had been formed to develop a review process that addresses Measure J requirements as well as new legislation. Martin Engelmann is preparing a staff report that outlines the process requirements for amending a General Plan. Another item on the agenda was Contra Costa Health Department's request for a letter of support for its application for an ARRA fund grant from the Department of Health and Human Services. This is a \$10-20 million program grant that provides funds to help create healthier communities, with which the County planned to implement bicycle and pedestrian programs if awarded. Member Pierce informed County staff that such efforts are already being coordinated countywide by the 511 Contra Costa program and requested that County staff work with them.

**6. Reports from Staff and Committees - Report accepted**

Lynn Overcashier, Program Manager of 511 Contra Costa, reported that last month she was invited to participate on the Massachusetts Department of Transportation National Advisory team because of the national recognition that 511 Contra Costa has received for its level of programs and for performance measures that translate from VMT to greenhouse gas emissions. While Massachusetts is watching how SB375 will be implemented in California, it has begun to integrate TDM elements into all its transportation projects. Ms. Overcashier said that when the County's grant application came to light, it became apparent that more marketing of the 511 Contra Costa program was needed, and staff intends to ramp up that effort.

Corinne Dutra-Roberts, Senior Transportation Analyst, provided highlights of the Walk and Roll program that was implemented in October at the Antioch's Dallas Ranch Middle School. The program's goal was to educate families on the merits of walking and rolling (bicycling, skateboarding, or rollerblading) to school. This project will be implemented throughout the county next year.

Ms. Dutra-Roberts also reported on the Contra Costa Centre's Holiday Shuttle program that will run to downtown Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek through December. While the shuttle is intended to serve all employees of the Contra Costa Centre, most riders were employees of AAA who commute by BART from South San Francisco. These employees were surprised to find out about the downtown areas. Barbara Neustadter thought the program could be ramped up to make employees aware of available services and local information. Suggestions included getting maps to AAA employees and distributing flyers from local shopping centers. Ms. Overcashier offered kudos to Ms. Dutra-Roberts for her work on this project.

In outreach efforts, an educational booklet was developed for the Pleasant Hill library's "Green Zone", which will eventually go to all libraries and to as many elementary schools as possible. The booklet's purpose is to educate children who will in turn educate their parents about car-less

behaviors, emphasizing that everything done with a car has an impact. The children are given an activity wheel with a log to complete and submit to 511 Contra Costa to be eligible for prizes.

Chair Ross thanked staff for the recent iSmog rollout. The app has been downloaded about 160 times in the US as well as times 20 outside this country.

**7. TAC Staff Reports: Update on local jurisdiction and agency transportation projects since the last TRANSPAC meeting – Reports accepted**

Ray Kuzbari, Concord, reported updates on two projects on Routes of Regional Significance: 1) Ygnacio Valley Road Permanent Restoration Phase 2 which involves a tieback wall system to shore up the adjacent hill. Two tiebacks need adjustment and the project should be completed by December 1. This project was funded by Measure J at a cost of \$3.4 million; and 2) pavement rehab improvements on five intersections (Ayers, Treat, Alberta, Bailey, and Farm Bureau) at Clayton Road needed because of the impact of truck traffic and construction. The \$1 million project, funded through stimulus funds and local funds, is complete.

Tim Tucker, Martinez, reported that with Measure C funds the city purchased property near the Amtrak station and demolished existing Quonset huts. The space will be used for parking. There are still some pedestrian lighting issues from Amtrak to the parking area. The second big project is the Alhambra Avenue improvement project that will ease congestion at some intersections. Sound walls, filling of pedestrian gaps, installation of signals, paving and landscaping have been completed. A 20-foot retaining wall with a sculptured rock appearance has also been installed.

Deidre Heitman noted that BART Director Gail Murray is expected to make a presentation at December's TRANSPAC meeting.

Anne Muzzini reported that County Connection has a groundbreaking event at the DVC Transit Center on November 17. She also reported that the County Connection has decided to not raise fares in the spring.

Member Silva said that energy-efficient LED signals are being installed on Ygnacio Valley Road over the next few weeks.

**8. Correspondence/Copies/Newsclips/Information - Accepted**

**9. For the Good of the Order** - Bob Armstrong mentioned that there were Water Resources meetings next week for landscaping water conservation. All General Plans and ordinances must comply with AB1881 by December 31. He also noted that in Clayton, the vegetable stand property owner has installed a circular driveway so that people will no longer stop on the road and block traffic.

**10. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 p.m. The next TRANSPAC meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2009.**