

## ***TRANSPAC Meeting Summary Minutes***

**MEETING DATE:** March 10, 2011

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Bill Shinn (Chair), Kristina Lawson, Walnut Creek; Mark Ross, Martinez; David Durant, Pleasant Hill; Julie Pierce, Clayton; Karen Mitchoff, Contra Costa County

**PLANNING COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Bob Armstrong, Clayton; Diana Vavrek, Pleasant Hill

**STAFF PRESENT:** Eric Hu, Pleasant Hill; Martin Engelmann, Amin AbuAmara, CCTA; Ray Kuzbari, Concord; Tim Tucker, Martinez; Jeremy Lochirco, Walnut Creek; Corinne Dutra-Roberts, 511 Contra Costa; Barbara Neustadter, TRANSPAC; Randy Iwasaki, CCTA

**MINUTES PREPARED BY:** C. L. Peterson, TRANSPAC Staff

**Chair Shinn convened the meeting at 9:03 a.m.**

**Pledge of Allegiance/Self introductions – Completed**

**Public Comment** – Member Pierce made a motion to add Assembly Bill 710 to the agenda as an emergency item for discussion. Item to be heard after Item 7. **Pierce/Mitchoff/unanimous**

**Consent Agenda**

- 3. Approval of January 31, 2011 TRANSPAC minutes**
- 4. Approval of February 10, 2011 TRANSPAC minutes**

**Action: Approved the consent agenda. Pierce/Durant/Unanimous**

**End Consent Agenda**

- 5. Report on the Development of a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) for the Bay Area and an update on SB 375 Implementation presented by Martin Engelmann, CCTA Deputy Executive Director, Planning**

Martin Engelmann presented an update on SB 375. He reported that ABAG and MTC have been working on implementation of SB 375 and are on the verge of developing the Initial Vision Scenario (IVS) of the SCS. The SCS must meet the targets that have been adopted for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions—7% by 2020 and 15% by 2035. SB 375 also requires that enough housing is provided to accommodate the region's population including commuters from the Central Valley. ABAG and MTC are responsible for preparing an achievable land use/transportation plan that meets the targets. In addition, the SCS must be

consistent with the other three Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) elements (the policy element, financial element and action element). The eight-year Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation process will be driven by the 25-year SCS housing forecast.

ABAG recently completed its Draft Projections 2011, the latest job and housing forecast for the Bay Area. Projections 2011 provides a recession update to Projections 2009, and the major change is that Projections 2011 reduces the number of jobs in the Bay Area from 5.1 million to 4.4 million. Mr. Engelmann noted that Projections 2011 is considered a current regional plans alternative and will not be published as Projections 2011. ABAG will release the first SCS draft of the IVS on March 11. Simultaneously, MTC is initiating a "Call for Projects" and is asking for the Congestion Management Agencies (CMA) to provide input on the projects that they want included in the RTP. More detailed SCS scenarios and RHNA methodology will be developed in the spring and finalized and adopted in the fall.

In the last presentation on SB 375, Mr. Engelmann discussed how Transportation Demand Management (TDM), road pricing and land use all have an effect on GHG emissions. The focus of the SCS now will be on land use projections. Over the past decade, projections have gone from a market-based to a policy-based approach. In 2009, a focused-future approach with smart growth showed a 4% reduction, however, this projection also included a robust jobs forecast and did not account for the recession. Late last year MTC changed its model from a trip-based to a tour-based model. Projections 2009 was run again with the new model resulting in a gain of three points, or, a total gain of seven points with the new projections and the new model. Running the new model on Projections 2011 gets us to 10.6% rounded to up to 11%.

Mr. Engelmann presented a slide depicting what Contra Costa's SCS will look like, with color-coded place types by census tract. The IVS uses a constrained transportation forecast, unchanged employment from the Projections 2011 forecast and assumes more robust housing. He noted that ABAG is now using a "shift share" employment forecast that assumes the Bay Area will absorb 2.55% of the nation's employment.

Bob Armstrong asked to clarify if the figure that was given at the last meeting was 10% or 11%. Mr. Engelmann said it was rounding up of the number 10.6%.

Ms. Neustadter asked if it's been determined how long it will take to absorb all the vacant units in the Bay Area. Member Pierce said that the Housing Methodology Committee is looking into this. This Committee will also review new Census data which will provide new information about headship rates and how household patterns have shifted over the last decade, taking into account factors such as retirement, combining of households, as well as the foreclosure inventory.

In the discussion that followed, Mr. Armstrong asked if ABAG was getting information from the banks about the number of foreclosures the banks own. Member Pierce confirmed that they do have those figures. Member Ross was optimistic that the cycle of foreclosures will end, jobs will come back and people will move back into houses, but may face more

difficulty with financing than before. Diana Vavrek asked what assumption underlies the projected job growth, given that job numbers are now at 1990s levels. Mr. Engelmann answered that the job growth projections are based on job growth nationwide. The Department of Commerce provides these numbers and ABAG assumes that 2.55% of the jobs will come to the Bay Area. It is not yet known how ABAG will distribute them. Member Pierce noted that the Housing Methodology Committee was considering whether it can count vacant foreclosed property as new affordable housing units in the projections.

Chair Shinn asked Ms. Neustadter if she would arrange for a speaker from the Contra Costa Association of Realtors to come at a future date to talk about housing.

Mr. Armstrong asked if the percentage used in the assumptions for employment could be decreased to see what it looks like with more realistic increase in the employer number such as 1.9%. Mr. Engelmann said that is possible as other percentages have been run in the analysis, but ABAG has chosen to use 2.55%. Mr. Armstrong said that they are being asked to make decisions on assumptions that they know are not right.

Mr. Engelmann concluded his presentation with information about the Public Outreach Plan. He said that as CMA for Contra Costa, the Authority is responsible for providing opportunities for public input on the RTP "Call for projects". The Authority is embarking on a public outreach effort that includes notification and involvement of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and low income communities of concern. The Public Outreach Plan will use a number of forums to provide information and will rely on the participation of the RTPCs. The effort will involve distribution of information and notices electronically. The Authority's website will be used extensively to circulate information. Public meetings will be video recorded for broadcast on television and for posting on the Authority's website.

**Action: Reports received**

**6. The 2013 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) "Call for Projects" presented by Jack Hall, CCTA Transportation Analyst, Projects**

Amin AbuAmara, Associate Transportation Engineer, filled in for Jack Hall (called to handle another assignment) in presenting information on the RTP "Call for Projects". The RTP is a comprehensive 25-year plan for transportation projects in the Bay Area and is updated by MTC every four years. Completion of the new RTP is scheduled for 2013.

Mr. AbuAmara described the three categories for developing the project list: Committed, Financially Constrained, and Vision. The CMAs are to coordinate project submittals in their counties and staff will work with project sponsors, RTPCs and transit operators to input projects into MTC's online database. Authority staff presented the "Call for Projects" to the TAC last month and requested that it update and prioritize the lists. Transit operators are asked to coordinate their recommendations with the affected RTPC. The Authority needs the lists from RTPCs by April 14 in order to get Board approval and allow time for staff to

assist proponents in entering their projects into the 9 database. The lists will be submitted to MTC on April 29.

Ms. Neustadter added that the TAC will be working on this at its March 24 meeting and will have a draft list for [approval?] at its next meeting TRANSPAC to meet the Authority's schedule.

**Action: Receive report and/or as determined**

**7. Appointments of TRANSPAC Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) representatives for the March 2011 to March 2013 term**

**Action:** Appointed Eric Hu, Ray Kuzbari and Tim Tucker as TRANSPAC TCC representatives and John Greitzer as the alternate for the March 2011 to March 2013 term.

**Ross/Pierce/Unanimous**

**EMERGENCY ITEM – Discussion of Assembly Bill 710**

Member Pierce distributed a copy of Assembly Bill 710, introduced by Assembly Member Skinner. This bill had just come to her attention and she had concerns that it might be moving too quickly delay discussion until the next meeting. She brought attention to the language that states: "This bill would also prohibit a city or county from requiring more than one parking space per residential unit and more than one parking space per 1,000 square feet of commercial or other nonresidential space for a residential or mixed-use residential project located in a transit intensive area, as defined, or subject to an adopted downtown area plan, an adopted neighborhood plan, or an adopted redevelopment project area." The last phrases create chaos in planning. She went on to say that this language takes away all local control, and while it might work in downtown San Francisco, it doesn't work in the suburbs where people need cars to get to transit. Member Pierce called for formal opposition to this bill as it sets unrealistic standards.

Member Mitchoff said that while she doesn't have a problem opposing this bill, it would be preferable to first contact Assembly Member Skinner's staff to determine what the genesis of this bill is. Member Ross said bills are often introduced and then get trimmed back. Member Pierce wasn't sure that we can count on it getting trimmed back. Member Mitchoff pointed out the phrase "...located in a transit intensive area, as defined," and wondered if this gives some kind of protection. Member Durant said the real concern is the phrase that follows which is remarkably broad, and we need more background and information. Member Pierce said that we should send a letter that says we have grave concerns over the impact of this language on some of our downtowns and some of our suburban transportation centers. Ray Kuzbari agreed that these numbers are unrealistic because people need access to transit centers and residential development needs parking. Jeremy Lochirco wanted to know if this could impact or preclude a city from assessing parking impact fees for building public parking garages. Member Pierce expressed concern that this

could limit parking spaces in residential units as well, which could be a problem in the suburbs.

**Action:** Chair Shinn asked Barbara Neustadter to contact Ann Grodin in Assembly Member Skinner’s office to get more information on SB 710. Local jurisdictions should consider the proposed legislation and transmit their comments to Assembly Member Skinner, with copies to the TRANSPAC Manager to be discussed at the next meeting.

**8. TRANSPAC CCTA Representative Reports: Reports on the most recent CCTA Administration and Projects Committee (Member Pierce), Planning Committee (Member Durant), and CCTA meetings (Members Pierce and Durant)**

Administration and Projects Committee (APC) meeting

Member Pierce reported that she was elected APC Chair for this term. The APC received numerous reports, including a legislative report on a bill sponsored by Buchanan concerning Vasco Road. The APC considered mid-year budget adjustments. A new auditor has been selected for the next five year term. The State budget was discussed, and staff received approval to submit a Letter of No Prejudice (CAB608) to expend Measure J funds on SR4 from Somersville Road to 160, which will enable reimbursement later. Approval was given for an RFQ for services to perform the Authority’s periodic study of salary and benefits.

Planning Committee (PC) meeting

Member Durant reported that the PC elected Janet Abelson as Chair and Don Tatzin as Vice Chair. It discussed the proposed Public Outreach Plan for the 2013 RTP/SCS. It approved the 2011-12 TFCA 40% Expenditure Plan. The PC discussed Draft Guidelines for the Measure J Transportation for Livable Communities and Pedestrian Bicycle and Trail Facilities Program. The PC also discussed the initial approach for allocating funding \$2.47M in SR2S funds from MTC. The PC also received an update on SB 375.

**Action: Received reports**

**9. 511 Contra Costa and TRANSPAC Staff Reports**

**511 Contra Costa:** Corinne Dutra-Roberts reported that the first “Peace on the Streets: Ride On” school bicycle/pedestrian safety program recently took place in Clayton. Member Mitchoff asked what the name of the program means, and Ms. Dutra Roberts explained that it represents sharing the streets among cars, bicyclists and pedestrians. Last week Clayton’s Diablo View Middle School was the first school to participate in this week-long event. Included in the program were: bicycle safety training by the League of American Bicyclists, a bike rodeo, a parent outreach group, a challenge to use commute alternatives, and an assembly featuring a bicycle stunt team. The program will be conducted at Walnut Creek Intermediate in two weeks, with future events planned for Pleasant Hill, Martinez and Concord. Ms. Dutra-Roberts noted that the program must be customized for each school.

Member Pierce commended 511 Contra Costa staff for their efforts in making the event at Diablo View a success.

**TRANSPAC Report:** The TRANSPAC Manager continued to work on a draft School Crossing Guards contract and transmitted a revised draft contract to the TAC in February which can be adapted for TRANSPAC jurisdictions to use individually or collectively. The cities of Concord and Walnut Creek have been meeting to review the opportunities and issues which need to be addressed as part of the analysis to determine the viability of joint contracting for school crossing guard services.

**ACTION: Reports received**

#### **10. TAC Reports by Jurisdiction**

**Martinez** – Tim Tucker reported that the Marina Vista project is wrapping up and street lights have been installed. He offered to bring in slides that show highlights of the project.

**Walnut Creek** – Jeremy Lochirco reported that improvements are planned on Newell Avenue, where a sidewalk will be installed by Kaiser. Overlay projects are planned for Rossmoor Parkway at Tice, at Riviera near BART, and on Treat Boulevard east to the Concord city limits.

**Action: Reports accepted**

#### **11. Correspondence/Copies/Newsclips/Information – Information received**

Ms. Dutra Roberts announced that Thursday, May 12 is Bike to Work Day and 511 Contra Costa is the coordinator.

Member Pierce clarified information given in a newsclip concerning Clayton's housing element. She stated that the housing element has been approved.

#### **12. For the Good of the Order**

Member Ross said that bicycle/pedestrian and electric car infrastructure should be incorporated into the SCS strategy. He said that the Air District is offering a \$700 incentive to 2,500 people to install chargers at their homes.

#### **13. Next Meeting Date:** The next TRANSPAC meeting date was changed to April 21, 2011 as the previously scheduled meeting date of April 14 conflicts with the ABAG Spring General Assembly in Oakland.

#### **14.** The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.