

TRANSPAC Meeting Summary Minutes

MEETING DATE: September 13, 2012

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Julie Pierce, Clayton (Chair); David Durant, Pleasant Hill (Vice Chair); Bill Shinn, Concord; Cindy Silva, Walnut Creek (Alternate) Ron Leone, Concord

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Dan Richardson, Clayton; Diana Vavrek, Pleasant Hill; John Mercurio, Concord

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT: Martin Engelmann, CCTA; Ray Kuzbari, Concord; Jeremy Lochirco, Walnut Creek; Steve Waymire, Walnut Creek; Lynn Overcashier, 511 Contra Costa; Corinne Dutra-Roberts, 511 Contra Costa; Kerri Bock-Willmes, 511 Contra Costa; Amanda Bornstein, 511 Contra Costa; Barbara Neustadter, TRANSPAC.

GUESTS PRESENT: Mo Pazooki, Caltrans; Sid Pawar, Caltrans; Bob Armstrong, Clayton

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Marilyn Carter, TRANSPAC Staff

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 – Completed

Chair Pierce convened the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

2. Public Comment

Bob Armstrong, former Planning Commissioner from Clayton, is no longer on the Planning Commission with the City of Clayton, and expressed his appreciation in serving the TRANSPAC organization.

CONSENT AGENDA

3. Approval of the July 12, 2012 minutes – Durant/Shinn/Unanimous

END CONSENT AGENDA

4. Thank you to Bob Armstrong, City of Clayton Planning Commissioner for his service to TRANSPAC, October 12, 2006 to May 10, 2012 presented by Chair Pierce

Chair Pierce and Barbara Neustadter presented a specially-designed “duck” plaque to Bob Armstrong in appreciation of his six years of service to TRANSPAC. Mr. Armstrong was also

presented with a bag of extra ducks (to hurl at motorists who talk on their cell phones or violate the HOV lane restrictions) as well as a specially-prepared dozen of blueberry-lemon muffins.

Ms. Neustadter explained that Bob Armstrong came to TRANSPAC as an alternate from the City of Clayton, and after two meetings he became the Planning Commissioner representative for Clayton. His first meeting with TRANSPAC was October 12, 2006. She continued that Bob has been a steadfast representative for the City of Clayton by bringing much energy and enthusiasm. She invited Mr. Armstrong to return to TRANSPAC meetings for visits in the future.

ACTION: None required.

5. Happy 50th Birthday to the Benicia-Martinez Bridge.

Chair Pierce announced the item and asked for comments.

Barbara Neustadter introduced Mo Pazooki from Caltrans, the project manager of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge. She shared that Mo Pazooki and Sid Pawar led TRANSPAC members on several tours of the new bridge while under construction. She thanked Mr. Pazooki and Mr. Pawar for the valuable experience.

Mr. Pazooki commented that it was a great pleasure working with TRANSPAC. Any time Caltrans needed help from TRANSPAC it was provided and he expressed his gratitude and thanks. He continued that the old bridge was built in 1962, with four lanes and was built for \$25 million (approximately \$1 billion in today's dollars). In 1980, after an earthquake, it was determined that emergency retrofit was needed on the bridge. Then in 1991, the bridge was widened. There was a full retrofit in 1999, at a cost of nearly \$5 million. The old bridge was opened to four southbound lanes when the new bridge was constructed, and so far, there has not been excessive traffic on that bridge.

Since the time he left working on the Benicia-Martinez Bridge, Mr. Pazooki has been working on the Antioch Bridge and the Dumbarton Bridge.

Ms. Neustadter introduced Sid Pawar, who worked for Mo Pazooki and with TRANSPAC on the Benicia-Martinez Bridge.

Mr. Pawar shared that he was hired by Mo Pazooki and thanked Mr. Pazooki for the experience and knowledge he shared. He advised that the Benicia-Martinez Bridge project was already in construction when he came onboard. Some of the challenges addressed on that bridge are being used all over the world now. There were delays and challenges, but overall it was a great success.

Mr. Pazooki shared that the most challenging part of construction of the bridge was the day pile-driving had to stop because a biologist noticed a bruised fish in the bay and demanded that construction be stopped. That delay was almost six months, at a cost of approximately \$200,000 per day. It was difficult to explain that situation to the funding agency and it was the most challenging part of the project. An air bubble system while driving piles was devised to solve the problem, and is being used all over the world now in similar situations.

Mr. Pawar commented that a challenge was also faced in using regular methods of drilling holes into plugs. Regular methods were not working and new technology was needed to drill holes with a massive rotator tool. This was another example of the unique issues that were utilized for the first time in building the bridge.

Mr. Pazooki advised that the new bridge is one of the strongest bridges in existence today. It is a lifeline bridge designed to sustain minor damage in the event of a substantial earthquake.

Everyone sang "Happy Birthday" to the Bridge – led by Martin Engelmann.

ACTION: None required.

6. 511 Contra Costa staff is seeking TRANSPAC approval for the FY 2013/14 TRANSPAC/TRANSPLAN 511 Contra Costa Program Work Plan with funds from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (TFCA), CCTA Measure J (Commute Alternatives) and MTC CMAQ (Employer Outreach)

Lynn Overcashier advised that the work plan and activities 511 CC is expecting to conduct in the 2013/14 TFCA grant application are contained in the agenda packet for members' reference. The TAC has reviewed the work plan. The Air District prefers to keep work plans as they are; otherwise additional audits would be needed. Ms. Overcashier requested approval of the 2013/14 program.

ACTION: Approved. Durant/Silva/Unanimous

7. Final Report for the FY 2011/12 TRANSPAC/TRANSPLAN 511 Contra Costa Program

Ms. Overcashier advised that the 511 Contra Costa program utilizes funds available on an annual basis, and the report has been submitted to the CCTA and Air District. Last year more TFCA funds were used for the buy one get one free programs through the transit agencies. Emphasis was placed on partnership-type programs with transit agencies rather than giving incentives to the general public. Marketing efforts of the transit agencies have been bolstered by focusing on routes where the agencies want to increase ridership. Electric vehicle infrastructure was installed for more jurisdictions. The Air District gave permission to use some of the incentive funds for electric charging stations and infrastructure without having to submit programs, budgets and authorization. Ms. Overcashier thanked Peter Engel for his assistance with those efforts. The strengthening of the StreetSmarts Program has resulted in more complementary programs to the TFCA and Measure J Programs.

ACTION: Report received.

8. Meet Mr. BEEPS!! 511 Contra Costa's newest staffer

Corinne Dutra-Roberts announced that the StreetSmarts Team is beginning to roll out the federal grant program which was received last year to the schools in Central and East Contra Costa County. The schools which were reached by the Peace On The Streets Ride On (POTSRO) Program last year are targeted for the StreetSmarts Program this year. She introduced Kerri Bock-Willmes and Amanda Bornstein, who introduced the newest addition to 511 Contra Costa, Mr. Beeps.

Ms. Bock-Willmes presented a slide show of the activities of StreetSmarts Program this summer. It included the Bank of America Youth Fair and Concord Safety Fair. The elementary school program is currently being launched which includes a 30-minute presentation with Mr. Beeps. A 511 Contra Costa staff member will present the program to the children, and another staff member will be behind the scenes controlling the robotic voice and movements of Mr. Beeps. Currently the program will be presented to grades K-2 or K-3, and next year there will be a presentation with a script for older students in grades 4-5.

The presentation includes stop sign and traffic signal recognition, crosswalk safety, helmets, and rules for traffic safety, especially at student drop-off locations. The benefit of walking, riding, and rolling will be presented to educate the students regarding clean air and traffic congestion. At the end of the presentation, a workbook entitled "Traffic Tim" (which is customized with the StreetSmarts logo) will be provided for the students and teachers.

Currently staff will be working with 8 schools from Antioch, Martinez and Concord, and are scheduling presentations to schools in the fall. Ms. Bock-Willmes invited members to refer schools for inclusion in the program.

International Walk to School Day which is October 3, 2012, is being launched. Amanda Bornstein is in the process of building the list of schools. In East County, some schools will be on break during that time, and the date will be rescheduled.

Ms. Overcashier advised that all schools were contacted and had been offered the program, and the schools indicated in the presentation are the ones who chose to participate.

Chair Pierce commented that it is a very good program, and that all schools have traffic issues to deal with, especially with student drop-off zones.

ACTION: Information Received

OUT OF ORDER ITEM TAKEN AT REQUEST OF CINDY SILVA

11. 511 Contra Costa and TRANSPAC Staff Report

b) TRANSPAC Report:

Barbara Neustadter introduced Steve Waymire with the City of Walnut Creek who is in attendance to represent Heather Ballenger, Public Services Director for the City. The City of Walnut Creek has delivered two major projects with federal funds. The City has \$594,440 left over in unobligated funds which will revert to the federal government if not expended. The City has no other projects on which it can expend the funds, so the City suggests that the funds be spent on another local federalized project. Two possibilities are Highway 4 and the Caldecott Tunnel. The only request by the City is that there is an understanding that at some point in the future the same amount of funding could be used by another Walnut Creek project(s). In order to expedite the request, the letter was sent to the TRANSPAC TAC, and there is no objection to moving forward in supporting the recommendation to the Transportation Authority.

Cindy Silva commented that she would rather use the funds in Pittsburg, California as opposed to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Steve Waymire thanked CCTA Staff and TRANSPAC Staff for the expeditious manner in which the issue was handled.

Barbara Neustadter advised that this item will be included in the status letter which goes to the Transportation Authority, and then a separate letter will be sent to the Transportation Authority regarding this topic only.

ACTION: Approved. Shinn/Durant/Unanimous

9. 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)

David Durant gave a report on the Planning Committee meeting. He advised that the City of Clayton's Growth Management Program Compliance Checklist was approved and TRANSPAC Additional Transportation Programs for Seniors and People with Disabilities Measure J funding was approved. TFCA projects and Bay Area Air Quality Management District cost effectiveness criteria were evaluated. Discussion was held on the CTP work plan and the launch of the OneBayArea Grant. Approval was granted to circulate the draft technical procedures update for review and comment which will be forthcoming.

Barbara Neustadter commented that TRANSPAC TAC will be reviewing the draft procedures at its next meeting.

Chair Pierce gave a report on the Administration and Projects Committee meeting. She advised that the quarterly sales tax report was received and was significantly improved over last year. The City of Pleasant Hill Geary Road Improvement Project was approved. She gave thanks to the engineers for work performed in the Peer Review Process for these types of projects. Legislative issues included items from Senator DeSaulnier's bills to inner-city passenger rail act issues, to pension issues. Approximately 300 trees and large brush will be removed from the area surrounding Southbound I-680 lanes in South County (Sycamore Valley to Crow Canyon). The vegetation will be replanted at a ratio of 3-1, but it will be awhile before it is replanted. The Mokelumne Bike Pedestrian Trail Overcrossing on SR-4 was approved. The Executive Director entered into an agreement with Keystone Public Affairs for federal lobbying and consultation services which should help to assist with the new legislation for the transportation bill because there will be no earmarks.

ACTION: Reports received

10. SB 375/SCS Report by Martin Engelmann, CCTA Deputy Executive Director, Planning

Martin Engelmann gave an update on SB 375 and the SCS implementation. The last update was when MTC was in the midst of identifying alternatives for the Draft Environmental Impact Report on the Regional Transportation Plan. Five alternatives are available and a draft EIR will be released in approximately October or November. Gary Gallegos from SANDAG will be at the Authority meeting

on September 19 to present SANDAG 2050 RTP which is the first SCS to be adopted in California, and the resulting lawsuits and issues involved with the Attorney General in adopting that SCS.

The OneBayArea Grant (OBAG) Program was adopted by MTC, which is the \$320 million in federal funding to congestion management agencies. Contra Costa will receive approximately \$45 million, and may spend it on CMA planning, local streets and roads, pedestrian bikes and trails, and safe routes to school. Seventy percent (70%) of the funds must be expended in Priority Development Areas (PDAs) or at locations that have proximate access to PDAs. TCC met in August to review it and will meet again on September 20 to discuss needed committees. Planning Directors will meet on September 14 to discuss OBAG. A leadership roundtable meeting of elected officials from MTC, ABAG, and the Air District will be held on September 17. Executive Director Ezra Rapport will be there to discuss implementation of the SCS and how to assist cities develop the PDAs. Planning directors will be present to discuss practical matters of building the PDAs. An MTC Joint Planning and ABAG Committee meeting will be held on September 17 to discuss the Urban SIM model. A Joint Policy Committee meeting will be held on September 21, where all four agencies will meet together. Planning Directors will meet on September 14 to discuss OBAG.

ACTION: Report received

11. 511 Contra Costa and TRANSPAC Staff Report

a) 511 Contra Costa and TRANSPAC Staff Report

Lynn Overcashier advised that the Program Manager's Report is in the agenda packet for review. She will be attending a two-day workshop in Massachusetts in February instead of October, as stated in the report. She is one of four people across the nation who were invited to attend the workshop to assist with the State's expanded Safe Routes to School and TDM Programs. Ms. Overcashier will attend TRB in January 2013 to discuss, among other things, delving more deeply into performance measures. California is on the leading edge of development of performance measures because of the tie to air quality over the years.

The 21a Safe Transportation for Children funding from Central County will be utilized for the follow-up program (StreetSmarts II) to the Safe Routes to School Pilot Program. Diablo View Middle School in Clayton and Adams Middle School in Brentwood will receive the program this fall. The 21a funds will be used for the Central County follow-up program and Measure J funds will be used for East County since they don't have Safe Transportation for Children funds.

The Diablo View infrastructure program in front of the school has been completed. There is now a need for the Clayton Community Park access, so 511 Contra Costa will be working with City Staff as well as the school regarding how to better utilize that space for drop-off zones. The 21a funds are earmarked for small infrastructure projects such as bike racks or signage and striping.

There will be a need to request additional 21a funds for continuation of the follow-up program and infrastructure later in the year. TRANSPAC TAC will be requested to identify sidewalk gap closure projects and crosswalk projects in proximity to schools, in anticipation of the request for funds from the OneBayArea Grant.

TDM ordinances are in the process of being updated. This is required because the SCS is forthcoming and because of new legislation that has been passed that requires pre-tax benefits of employment sites with 50 or more employees.

Additional requests for electric vehicle infrastructure have been received. Walnut Creek has requested additional sites adjacent to locations that have been installed because of more demand. Martinez and the County have also requested additional sites. TAC members will be asked to identify those jurisdictions with interest.

511 Contra Costa attempts to incorporate and utilize funding on hand to provide assistance for more infrastructure capital projects within programmatic funding, so that jurisdictions don't have to apply for separate grants. She thanked Peter Engel and East County who pushed to get the Air District to identify that use of the funds could be approved for electric vehicle infrastructure within a program.

ACTION: Reports received

12. TAC Reports by Jurisdiction

No reports given.

ACTION: None required

13. Correspondence/Copies/Newsclips/Information

Newsclip: August 13, 2012 *San Francisco Chronicle* Caldecott Tunnel excavation completed.

ACTION: Information received

14. Agency and Committee Reports

ACTION: Information received

15. For the Good of the Order

Congratulations to Eric and Stephanie Hu on the birth of their daughter.

Chair Pierce advised that if there are no items to be discussed in the near future, the October meeting will be cancelled.

ACTION: None required

16. The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m. in honor of CHP Officer Youngstrom, who was killed in the line of duty last week in Walnut Creek. The next meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. in the City of Pleasant Hill Community Room, unless otherwise determined.