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COMMISSIONERS *Maria Viramontes, Chair* *Robert Taylor, Vice Chair* *Janet Abelson* *Newell Arnerich* *Ed Balico*  
*Susan Bonilla* *David Durant* *Federal Glover* *Michael Kee* *Mike Metcalf* *Julie Pierce*

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TO: Barbara Neustadter, TRANSPAC  
Andy Dillard, SWAT  
John Cunningham, TRANSPLAN  
Christina Atienza, WCCTAC  
Lisa Bobadilla, TVTC  
Calvin Wong, LPMC/SWAT (TAC)

FROM: Robert K. McCleary, Executive Director

DATE: February 19, 2009

SUBJECT: **Items approved by the Authority on February 18, 2009, for circulation to the Regional Transportation Planning Committees (RTPCs), and items of interest**

At its **February 18, 2009** meeting, the Authority discussed the following items, which may be of interest to the Regional Transportation Planning Committees:

1. **Federal Transportation Reauthorization – Potential for Federal Earmarks.** In December the Authority recommended that Contra Costa develop priorities for a short list of high priority projects that could be candidates for a federal earmark in the federal transportation reauthorization bill anticipated later in 2009. The attachment lists the proposals that have been received from the regional committees. Staff will recommend a priority list at the March APC meeting. *Staff is meeting with Congresswoman Tauscher on February 27<sup>th</sup>, and hopes to prepare a draft list of priorities for earmarks prior to the APC meeting. We will include it in the packet if time permits, and in any case will post it on the web in advance of the APC meeting.*
2. **Measure J Paratransit Allocation for April 1 – June 30, 2009.** The Paratransit Coordinating Council is requesting that Measure J funds be allocated to existing Measure C recipients for the last quarter of FY 2008-09 to reduce the impact of the economic downturn on paratransit operators. The operators would be unable to maintain existing service levels without the allocations. The Measure J expenditure plan does not address a paratransit allocation until FY 2009-10, the recommendation is that 2.97% of sales tax revenues be allocated to the current Measure C recipients. This is below the 5% program levels identified in the expenditure plan. The original plan to “back-fill” the last quarter of FY 2008-09 with Measure C paratransit program reserves has proven to be insufficient as reserves did not meet projections as sales tax revenues declined. *The Authority approved the augmentation of funding in order to sustain its commitment to paratransit in the face of revenue downturns.*
3. **Projections 2009 “what if?” Scenarios.** In December 2008, ABAG released a preliminary forecast for 2035, showing a prospective major shift in growth trends for Contra Costa. Called Projections 2009, “what if?” the projections are now under review by local jurisdictions with final adoption expected in April 2009. According to the Draft Projections, Contra Costa is forecast to continue to grow through 2035, but at a slower rate than previously forecast. ABAG also proposes a policy shift that would direct new growth in households and jobs away from East County, towards Central County and points south and west. As the Congestion Management Agency (CMA) for Contra Costa, the Authority is responsible for maintaining a travel model and land use data set that is consistent with the ABAG forecast. Staff has reviewed the proposed “what if”

scenarios, and developed comments to forward to ABAG. *The Authority appreciated the presentation and insights provided by Paul Fassinger of ABAG, and the evolution to the third version of Projections 2009, which better reflects local plans. The Authority encourages local jurisdictions to review the most recent projections, and provide ABAG with comments if the projections appear to be inconsistent with local expectations and plans.*

*The Authority also noted that local jurisdictions, the Authority and ABAG will need to work closely together over the next four years, as ABAG prepares the "sustainable communities strategy" (i.e., the land use plan to be included in the 2013 Regional Transportation Plan per SB 375 (2008)). The Authority stressed that the SCS needs to both support the regional goals and be realistic.*

- 4. Review of the Joint Policy Committee's Proposed Policies for the Bay Area's Implementation of Senate Bill 375.** On January 23, 2009, JPC staff released a draft set of policies to guide the Bay Area's regional agencies through implementation of SB 375. Policy recommendations include: (1) Setting aggressive targets for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reductions for the Bay Area; (2) Developing an "integrated" land-use transportation model that improves analyst's ability to assess impacts of land use decisions on GHG emissions; (3) Commit to the development of a realistic and attainable Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS – a presumed land use pattern for future development), leaving the Alternative Planning Strategy (APS – a set of policy alternatives not constrained by existing authority) only as a last resort; (4-6) Integrate, coordinate, and facilitate the process through the Partnership to arrive at a consensus SCS no later than June 2010; and (7) Starting immediately, allow for all regional policies affecting land use and transportation infrastructure to be vetted through the JPC, and filtered against the emerging SCS. These proposed policies could have major implications for the Authority's programs and its local jurisdictions. *The Authority heard a presentation by Ted Droettboom, manager of the Joint Policy Committee (JPC) comprised of representatives from ABAG, the Air District (BAAQMD), BCDC, and MTC on the implementation of SB 375. The Authority found the presentation insightful, particularly with regards to the complex and still unfolding requirements of that legislation. The Authority directed staff to prepare a draft letter to the JPC consistent with the issues raised in the staff report and at the February Planning Committee meeting, i.e., acknowledging the importance of the goals and indicating a strong interest in having the Authority and local jurisdictions intimately involved in determining how SB 375 will be implemented in the Bay Area.*

*The letter will also reinforce Authority concerns, particularly with regard to the following aspects of the JPC's proposed policy approach: (1) Encourage the JPC to promote a feasible and reasonable target for reducing carbon emissions for the Bay Area, rather than an aggressive target, in order to limit the risk of litigation against the RTP that might threaten the Authority's ability to accomplish the Measure J program with state and federal augmentations, which will be necessary to accomplish the program promised to the voters; (2) limit "off the top" funding for the proposed "priority development area" (PDA) program so as not to undermine the "Fix It First" policy of maintaining the region's local streets and roads and transit capital needs; (3) work in partnership with local jurisdictions to ensure that land use assumptions made in the planning process are consistent with local plans and directions, and are developed with a strong "bottom-up" approach that reflects buy-in from the Bay Area's cities, towns and counties; and (4) recognize the need to balance investments in the PDA process - which analysis has shown will have a more modest and more long-term impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions than other available tools - with investments needed to accomplish other regional, county and local objectives, including sustaining the economy and providing mobility and access.*

**5. Update to the Measure J Strategic Plan: Revenue Projections and Development Schedule.**

The significant downturn in the economy has adversely affected Measure J sales tax projections. Consequently, staff recommends updating the Measure J Strategic Plan. *The Authority authorized staff to initiate an update to the Authority's Strategic Plan, with the objective of completing the update in August or September in advance of the Authority's \$300 million bond sale, scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup>.*

*In light of the significant downturn in anticipated revenues, several points were made: (1) accomplishing key projects that are matched by several hundred million dollars over the next few years remains very important; (2) regardless of the downturn in revenues, the Authority remains committed to its 2004 vision as approved by the voters, and will seek other funds as necessary to accomplish them, just as has been done to fulfill the promises made in 1988 with Measure C; (3) equity among the sub-regions will continue to be a core policy of the Authority; and (4) within the context of the first three, the Strategic Plan process needs to look at not just projects, but programs, to assess how best to cope with the significantly lower sales tax revenues now forecast. The Authority will work closely with the RTPCs on all the update to the Strategic Plan over the next several months.*

**6. Consideration of Measure J Enhancement Funding to Support Existing Transit and**

**Paratransit Services.** The Bus Transit Coordinating Committee (BTCC) and the Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC) are requesting that the Authority consider a Measure J Expenditure Plan amendment or policy action that would, under limited circumstances and with appropriate RTPC support, allow eligible bus and paratransit operators to use funds from Measure J bus and paratransit enhancement programs to maintain existing services when funding shortfalls threaten those services. *The Authority authorized staff to develop a proposal that would allow more flexibility in the use of funds from categories 16, 19, and 20. Subject to RTPC concurrence, the flexibility could allow transit operators to retain higher levels of service than would otherwise be possible in the face of the dramatic revenue reductions facing them, which are a result of both the downturn in the economy and the State's budget crisis, as reflected in the just-approved revised budget which eliminates the STA contributions in the near term.*

## Draft Federal Earmark Request List as submitted by Regional Committees

WCCTAC			Project Description	Project Cost (x1,000)	Requested Earmark (x1,000)
Tier I	County	Project Title			
Tier I	County	North Richmond Truck Route	Truck route over an existing private road (Soto St.) to divert truck traffic away from residential North Richmond.	\$22,000	\$15,500
Tier I	San Pablo	Reconstruct I-80/San Pablo Dam Road Interchange (stage 1)	Relocate WB I-80/El Portal Dr on-ramp.	\$25,000	\$15,000
Tier I	San Pablo	Reconstruct I-80/San Pablo Dam Road Interchange (stages 2 and 3)	Close WB I-80/McBryde WB Off-ramp, construct new Frontage Road, relocate the pedestrian overcrossing, and reconstruct I-80/San Pablo Dam Road I/C.	\$93,000	\$76,000
Tier I	El Cerrito and Richmond	I-80/Central Avenue Interchange Improvements	Phase 2 - Establish a new roadway connector to Pierce from San Mateo. Remove traffic signal at Pierce/Central and restrict to right-in/right-out only.	\$17,000	\$17,000
Tier II	Hercules and Richmond	Hercules and Richmond Ferry Service	High-speed ferry service from Hercules and Richmond; funds are for capital improvements; operations; transit feeder service, etc. in cooperation with WETA.	\$102,000	\$39,850
Tier II	Hercules	Hercules Rail Station Improvements	Ferry, bus, Capitol Corridor Intermodal Transit Center, public improvements, and TOD.	\$45,000	\$12,580

Total Earmark Request: \$175,930

SWAT			Project Description	Project Cost (x1,000)	Requested Earmark (x1,000)
1	CCTA	Project Title			
1	CCTA	Caldecott Tunnel	Construct a two-lane fourth bore of the Caldecott Tunnel.	\$425,000	No Shortfall identified at this time.
2	CCTA	I-680 Transit Corridor Improvements	Includes Auxiliary Lanes and Norris Canyon Road Interchange.	\$126,400	\$74,400

Total Earmark Request: \$74,400

TRANSPAC			Project Description	Project Cost (x1,000)	Requested Earmark (x1,000)
1	CCTA	Project Title			
1	CCTA	SB I-680 HOV	Close HOV gap in SB Lane between N. Main & Livorna.	\$80,000	\$10,000
2a	Concord	Ygnacio Valley Road Widening	Widen Ygnacio Valley Road to six thru lanes from Michigan Boulevard to Cowell Road.	\$12,500	\$10,000
2b	Pleasant Hill	Contra Costa Blvd. Improvement Project	Between 2nd Ave. and Monument Blvd., construct left/right turn lanes, modify intersection alignment, pavement rehabilitation, add Class II Bike lane, signal upgrade, and improve traffic operations.	\$10,000	\$10,000
3	City of Martinez	Ferry Terminal	Construction of Ferry Terminal for Ferry system connecting Antioch and Martinez to San Francisco as part of an overall Water Emergency Transportation Agency (WETA) San Francisco Bay wide plan.	\$10,000	\$10,000

Total Earmark Request: \$40,000

TRANSPAN		Project Title	Project Description	Project Cost (x1,000)	Requested Earmark (x1,000)
1	East County Corridor Project	State Route 4 East Widening - Somerville to SR160	Widen SR4 East to eight (8) lanes - three (3) mixed flow lanes and one (1) High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane in each direction from Somerville Rd. to Hillcrest Ave. (plus auxiliary lanes), including a wide median for transit; and Widen SR4 East to six (6) lanes - three (3) mixed flow lanes in each direction from Hillcrest Ave. to the interchange with SR 160 and the new SR 4 Bypass.	\$739,000	\$90,000
		State Route 4 Bypass	Sand Creek Road Interchange, SR4 Bypass 4-Lanes from Laurel Rd. to Sand Creek Rd., Balfour Road Interchange, SR4 Bypass: 4-lanes from Sand Creek Road to Balfour Rd., WB SR4 to NB SR160 Connector, SB 160 to EB SR4 Connector.		
		Vasco Road Safety Project	Extend the southbound passing lane through the Brushy Creek area near the Contra Costa/Alameda county line; Construct concrete median barrier for an approximate project length of 2.5 miles.		

Total Earmark Request: \$90,000

Request from Congresswoman's Tauscher's Office for 3 to 5 major projects Countywide. (Total \$40-\$50 million dollars)  
 Total Earmark Requests from the Regional Committees: \$380,330,000



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**SUMMARY MINUTES**

**January 21, 2009**

**Commissioners Present:** Dave Hudson (Chair), Janet Abelson, Susan Bonilla, Michael Kee, Julie Pierce, Karen Stepper, Don Tatzin, Bob Taylor

**Commissioners Absent:** David Durant, Federal Glover, Maria Viramontes

**Alternates Present:** Ed Balico for Maria Viramontes, Gayle Uilkema for Federal Glover

**Ex-Officios Present:** Gail Murray, Mike Shimansky for Joe Wallace

**Staff Present:** Bob McCleary, Arielle Bourgart, Martin Engelmann, Paul Maxwell, Susan Miller, Amin AbuAmara, Brad Beck, Randall Carlton, Erick Cheung, Peter Engel, Jack Hall, Hisham Noeimi, Stan Taylor (Authority Counsel), Danice Rosenbohm (Executive Secretary)

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**A. CONVENE MEETING:** *Chair Hudson* convened the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*There were no public comments on items not on the Agenda.*

**D. COMMENDATION:** To Commissioner Karen Stepper for her service as a member and alternate, December 2003 through January 2009.

*Chair Hudson* presented a plaque and thanked outgoing *Commissioner Stepper* for her dedication and service to the Authority.

*Commissioner Stepper* stated that she would be keeping up with the Authority and its projects. She said that she had enjoyed working with the other Authority members, and thanked staff for its leadership.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Authority Minutes of December 17, 2008.

**ACTION:** *Commissioner Stepper* moved to approve the Minutes of December 17, 2008, seconded by *Commissioner Tatzin*. The motion passed unanimously, 10-0.

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR:** Consent Items recommended by the following committees:

**ACTION:** *Commissioner Abelson* moved to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by *Commissioner Stepper*. The motion passed unanimously, 10-0.

**2.A Administration & Projects Committee:**

- 2.A.1 Monthly Project Status Report.**
- 2.A.2 Monthly Expenditure Report for November 2008.** This report also includes the summary of payroll and benefits costs by organizational unit.
- 2.A.3 Monthly Investment Report for November 2008.** The Authority's Investment Policy requires this report.
- 2.A.4 Quarterly Project Funding Plans – Major State Highways.** The quarterly report on the status of ongoing consultant project-related contracts as well as on key project funding issues.
- 2.A.5 Central Contra Costa Transit Authority – Pacheco Transit Hub/Park & Ride Lot (Project 2210)**
  - 2.A.5.1 Peer Review of Design Plans:** The TCC approved the 95% design plans on December 18, 2008 for the Pacheco Transit Hub/Park & Ride Lot project. Staff recommends approval of the peer review recommendations.
  - 2.A.5.2 Request for Appropriation of Measure C funds for Construction.** Central Contra Costa Transit Authority is requesting an appropriation of \$823,820 for construction activities for the Pacheco Transit Hub/Park & Ride Lot project. **Resolution No. 09-01-P.**
- 2.A.6 I-80 Corridor - Central Avenue Project. Amendment No. 2 to Consulting Services Agreement No. 214 with PB Americas Inc. (Project 7003)** Staff seeks authorization to amend the scope of Consulting Services Agreement No. 214.
- 2.A.7 Amendment No. 3 to Contract No. 243 with Endsight for the Continuation of Information Technology Services.** The Authority outsources technology support for its network servers, desktop computers and laptops. The contract with Endsight is for three years subject to annual renewals. The proposed amendment will renew the contract for a second year under the same pricing terms of the original contract.
- 2.A.8 Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 249 with Economic & Planning Systems for Transportation Regional Fee Analysis.** The amendment will address additional work not anticipated in the original scope, including additional revisions to the analysis based on input from local jurisdictions. Additional hours as a contingency are also included for public presentations in case they become necessary.
- 2.A.9 Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 173 with Bartel Associates to Perform Actuarial Services for Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB).** The amendment will continue the existing terms of the original contract and provide required services for Fiscal Years 2009-10 and 2010-11.
- 2.A.10 Employee Travel Report.** Pursuant to the Authority's travel policy, all staff travel out of state is approved by the Executive Director and the cost reported to the APC. In November, the Deputy Executive Director, Planning attended the Intelligent Transportation Systems conference in New York at a cost of \$1,949.20.
- 2.A.12 State Route 24 - Caldecott Fourth Bore. Cooperative Agreement for Construction (Project 1698).** Staff requests authorization for the Chair to execute Cooperative Agreement No. 90.16.04 with Caltrans to fund construction and management services for the Caldecott Fourth Bore project. Following the December APC meeting, Caltrans requested significant amendments which could not be resolved prior to the December Authority meeting.

**2.A.13 Allocation of State-Local Partnership Program Funds.** Staff estimates that the State-Local Partnership Program will provide approximately \$25 million available as matching funds to the Authority. Initial applications are due to the California Transportation Commission in February. Staff recommends that the funds be used to offset anticipated lower levels of Measure J sales tax funds, and provide a portion of the funds to El Cerrito. This item was continued from the December Authority meeting to afford El Cerrito an opportunity to present a modified proposal. **Resolution No. 09-02-P**

**2.B Planning Committee:**

**2.B.1 Approval of Cooperative Agreement 21S.02 with TRAFFIX for Authorization for Advance Funding Reimbursement Request.** The San Ramon Valley School Bus program, dba TRAFFIX, is in its final planning stages preparing for full program roll out in August 2009 for the 2009-10 school year. In order to stay on schedule, the engagement of a contract administrator is essential to provide program management functions necessary to complete program implementation. TRAFFIX, a joint powers agency whose members include the Town of Danville, City of San Ramon, Contra Costa County, and San Ramon Valley Unified School District will fund the contract administrator but is requesting authorization to be reimbursed with Measure J southwest county Safe Transportation for Children program funds after October 1, 2009. TRAFFIX anticipates needing \$50,000 to fund the contract administrator until Measure J officially begins in April 2009. **Resolution No. 09-02-GJ.**

**2.B.2 Approval of Master Cooperative Agreement No. 12J.CO.00 with Contra Costa County to Receive CC-TLC funds, and Approval of Resolution No. 09-01-GJ to Advance \$200,000 in Measure J funds to Prepare the Pittsburg/BayPoint BART Bicycle and Pedestrian Access Plan.** Funding for this project will involve an advance of \$200,000 in Measure J Contra Costa Transportation for Livable Community funds. The Authority gave "in concept" approval for this request in November 2008. The project focuses on improving bicycle and pedestrian access from the north side of SR-4 to the Pittsburg/BayPoint BART station. **Resolution No. 09-01-GJ.**

**2.B.3 Approval of Cooperative Agreement No. 45.05.08 with the City of Pittsburg to Prepare the Pittsburg/Bay Point BART Redevelopment Plan Using Second-Cycle T-PLUS Funds.** This project will consist of developing a Master Plan for the area surrounding the Pittsburg/Bay Point BART station area to replace vacant land and surface parking with mixed-use, transit oriented development in close proximity to the BART station. The Authority approved allocation of \$150,000 in Transportation-Planning Land Use Solution (T-PLUS) Funds for this project in June 2008. The T-PLUS program is federally funded through MTC. **Resolution No. 09-01-G.**

**End of Consent Calendar**

**3.0 MAJOR DISCUSSION ITEMS:** (None)

**4.0 REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:**

**4.A Administration & Projects Committee**

**4.A.11 Legislation.** Staff will report on the status of state budget discussions and proposed economic stimulus packages. The Authority may take action on these subjects or on any other matter related to the Authority's legislative objectives.

*(Staff Report and Action on both Agenda Items 4.A.11 and 4.A.14 included below)*



**4.A.14 Proposed Federal Economic Stimulus Projects.** Staff has assembled a list of all projects submitted by Contra Costa jurisdictions for the anticipated Federal Economic Stimulus Package. Staff recommends initiation of a process to screen and prioritize local streets and roads projects for Authority consideration in February.

*ACTION:* *Commissioner Tatzin* moved to approve preparation of a priority list of local streets and roads projects that would be shovel-ready within ninety (90) days of the bill's passage at a special meeting of the TCC on January 26<sup>th</sup> and to convene a special meeting of the APC on January 28<sup>th</sup> to approve the list, seconded by *Commissioner Pierce*. The motion passed unanimously, 10-0.

**STAFF REPORT:**

Bob McCleary stated that the latest information on the Federal Stimulus House Recovery Bill was reflected in a meeting handout (MTC Memorandum dated January 20, 2009). He said that the package proposed by the Democratic House leadership could potentially result in \$30 billion for the Federal Highway Administration program. Mr. McCleary stated that the total package of \$825 billion included \$275 billion in proposed tax cuts, and \$9 billion for the Federal Transit Administration program. Mr. McCleary stated that much of the funding appeared to flow through the State as reflected on the formula distribution PowerPoint slide provided by MTC staff, which was also distributed as a meeting handout.

Mr. McCleary explained that staff had been working closely with the jurisdictions on the development of a list of projects which would need to be under contract within ninety (90) days of the bill's passage. He said that MTC had requested a list of projects by January 28<sup>th</sup>, further accelerating the process and requiring an urgent meeting of the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) on January 26<sup>th</sup>. He said that staff was requesting delegated authority to submit the project list to MTC following the TCC meeting of January 26<sup>th</sup>, and subsequent APC review on February 5<sup>th</sup> or at a special meeting which could be scheduled for January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. McCleary said that timelines for the transit funding component of the bill may be longer and likely would be handled separately through MTC.

*Commissioner Tatzin* asked what direction should be provided to staff if the list of projects developed at the TCC exceeded the prospective \$23.4 million in Federal stimulus funds. Mr. McCleary responded that deliverability was the primary criterion, and that breaking jurisdictions into multiple (up to three) levels based on population, or allocating funding for projects by formula to each jurisdiction were possibilities for the TCC's consideration. Mr. McCleary said that staff felt that an equitable distribution was important—that all jurisdictions should benefit.

*Commissioner Stepper* said that she would be available for a special meeting of the APC on January 28<sup>th</sup>, and that staff should have adequate information on projects compiled over the last couple of years for preparation and submittal of a project list.

*Commissioner Pierce* asked about the status of environmental clearance on subject projects. Mr. McCleary emphasized that current information and MTC direction suggests that projects must be contract-ready, including NEPA processing, within ninety (90) days.

**4.B Planning Committee**

**4.B.4 Approval to release the Draft Countywide Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Update.** Measures C and J require that the Authority develop a CTP and update it periodically. The 2009 CTP is the third such update. It includes the Authority's vision, goals and strategies for addressing long-range transportation issues for Contra Costa.

**ACTION:** *Commissioner Tatzin* moved to release the Draft CTP and EIR, and adopt the timelines presented by staff, seconded by *Alternate Gayle Uilkema*. The motion passed unanimously, 10-0.

**STAFF REPORT:**

Martin Engelmann, Deputy Executive Director, Planning, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the draft 2009 Countywide Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP), which was distributed as a meeting handout. Mr. Engelmann stated that the CTP had been revised based up comments from WCCTAC, SWAT, and TRANSPAC, and that the proposed changes had been outlined in the staff report. He said that staff was proposing to release the CTP in early February.

Mr. Engelmann said that the CTP, required by both Measure C and Measure J, outlined the Authority's long-range vision, goals and strategies for achieving the vision, and plans and programs developed by the RTPCs through the Actions Plans for Routes of Regional Significance. Mr. Engelmann said that the appendices including the Countywide Comprehensive Transportation Project List (CTPL) were lengthy and therefore had not been included in the agenda packet, but that they would be posted on the Authority's website. Mr. Engelmann explained that the CTPL was a financially unconstrained project list which included all known projects, sponsors, and associated costs, including those used to develop the Authority's Strategic Plan.

Mr. Engelmann's presentation included forecast growth numbers for households, jobs, daily vehicle miles traveled (VMT), daily vehicle hours traveled (VHT), and comparison percentages representing the increase for the year 2030 over 2007. He stated that performance measures developed by each of the regional committees, also known as Multi-modal Transportation Service Objectives (MTSOs), included delay index, level of service, duration of congestion and other multi-modal measures such as rail ridership and HOV utilization.

Mr. Engelmann summarized the schedule for the review process, with final adoption of the CTP expected in May or June, 2009.

Mr. Engelmann stated that at the GMP Workshop in November 2008, the Authority provided direction for certain changes to the Growth Management Program. He said that the proposed changes were being discussed by the Growth Management Task Force and that they were scheduled to be brought back to the Planning Committee in March. Mr. Engelmann said that the 2009 CTP update was proceeding under existing policy, and that proposed changes would be reflected in the final CTP update.

Next steps include publishing the CTP and Draft EIR, conducting joint RTPC-TAC meetings to discuss any issues that may result from the Action Plans, and convening the CTP Task Force to review comments on the Plan and any proposed Measure J Amendments.

*Commissioner Abelson* asked if VMT and VHT data for specific regions, freeways or arterials was available. Mr. Engelmann responded that the information could be provided and was very reliable.

*Commissioner Pierce* asked if the Draft CTP and EIR could be released together and how they would be distributed? Mr. Engelmann responded that publication/printing would be minimal, and that the Draft EIR would be available on the website and in CD format.

*Commissioner Pierce* asked about the Authority's traffic modeling, specifically about testing alternative land use scenarios towards development of a "sustainable communities strategy" (SCS). Mr. Engelmann responded that alternatives could be tested.

*Alternate Balico* asked for clarification on how VHT data was calculated. Mr. Engelmann responded that VHT data was not identified for specific trips, but instead represented the cumulative amount for all trips throughout the county.

**4.B.5 Approval of Comment Letter to MTC Regarding the 2009 Draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).** Staff proposes supporting inclusion of the Authority's priority list of "committed" projects, retaining the "Fix It First" policy for local streets and roads and transit capital needs, and requesting removal of Routes 4, I-80 and I-680 in Contra Costa from the proposed regional high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes network based on the need for further technical analysis and resolution of other issues and concerns.

**ACTION:** *Commissioner Stepper* moved to approve the draft comment letter to MTC subject to modifications as outlined and authorize staff to work with the Chair to finalize the revised letter, seconded by *Alternate Uilkema*. The motion passed unanimously, 10-0.

**STAFF REPORT:**

Bob McCleary stated that MTC had requested comments on its Draft 2009 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Staff proposed comments supporting the Contra Costa project list and the Fix It First policy, and reservations and concerns regarding the proposed HOT Lanes Network.

Mr. McCleary stated that the draft letter to MTC, which had been included in the Authority packet, did not reflect feedback recently received from MTC *Representative Amy Worth*. He said that *Representative Worth* indicated that without consensus from all CMAs, it was unlikely that the HOT lanes legislation would move forward. He reported she advised him that remaining open to negotiation on critical issues, and not separating from other allied counties that have legislation authorizing HOT lanes, could provide her more flexibility at MTC. Accordingly, he suggested some revisions to the letter based on *Representative Worth's* critique.

Mr. McCleary stated that he had attended a presentation at MTC regarding the HOT Lanes Financial Plan, and that the only way a significant amount of revenue could be realized from HOT lanes was through 3+ HOV lanes. He said that using bridge toll revenues to secure better financing is MTC's strategy for overall control. Mr. McCleary commented that VTA staff remains concerned with regard to MTC staff's proposed policy to provide up-front payback for historic local investments in HOT lanes.

Mr. McCleary suggested that the letter to MTC might also include emphasis on social justice and air quality concerns. He asked for Authority direction on finalizing the letter.

*Commissioner Stepper* said that she agreed with *Commissioner Glover* and *Representative Worth* with respect to the Authority's position, and that staff should work with the Chair on finalizing the letter to allow for continued participation and discussion on the part of our MTC representatives..

*Commissioner Abelson* said that she had significant concerns about the I-80 corridor relative to air quality and health issues. She suggested that the letter incorporate more detail about projections of increased congestion and related concerns on I-80.

*Alternate Balico* stated that he also agreed with *Commissioner Glover* and *Representative Worth*, and that the study of the three projects in the region should not be eliminated. He said that the Authority should remain part of the HOT lanes study.

*Commissioner Pierce* agreed with *Commissioner Abelson* that the letter should emphasize the Authority's concerns about anticipated increased congestion, and state that the Authority looks forward to working with MTC to resolve such issues.

*Chair Hudson* said that he supported modifying the letter to some degree, while keeping the three main points as outlined in the draft letter. He asked if the letter to MTC should express support for added lanes or new construction. *Alternate Uilkema* said that referencing "new construction" might not be a

good idea. *Commissioner Tatzin* said that although newly constructed HOV lanes being converted to HOT lanes might be acceptable, it would be best to steer clear of such language.

## **5.0 CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

**5.1** Letter Dated December 22, 2008 From County Connection Regarding Economic Stimulus Package and Earmarks for Reauthorization Act (Handout at APC Meeting of January 8, 2009 related to APC Agenda Item 14).

## **6.0 ASSOCIATED COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**6.1** Central County (TRANSPAC): *Report of December 11, 2008*

**6.2** East County (TRANSPLAN): (Meeting of December 11, 2008 Canceled)  
*Report of January 7, 2009*

**6.3** Southwest County (SWAT): (Meeting of January 5, 2009 Canceled)

**6.4** West County (WCCTAC): (Next Meeting Scheduled for January 30, 2009)

**6.5** Conference of Mayors (COM):

**6.6** Contra Costa County (COUNTY)

**6.7** CCTA Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

## **7.0 COMMISSIONER AND STAFF COMMENTS:**

### **7.1 Chair's Comments and Reports**

Chair Hudson introduced new Authority *Commissioner Michael Kee*. He also reviewed protocol for arranging for Alternates at Authority and subcommittee meetings.

### **7.2 Commissioners' Comments and Reports**

Outgoing *Commissioner Tatzin* said that Lamorinda had been very consistent about rotating its members (appointed by SWAT) off of the Authority, and that former commissioner Mike Metcalf would be taking his place on the Board. He thanked the other commissioners, and said he believed that the Authority was the finest example of countywide cooperation in Contra Costa.

*Commissioner Tatzin* said that he looked forward to returning to the Authority in the future.

*Representative Gail Murray* said that Joel Keller would be returning as the Ex-Officio Representative from BART. She thanked the Authority, and said that her participation had facilitated a better understanding in her efforts to represent Contra Costa.

*Outgoing Commissioner Stepper* said that it had been an honor to serve with the other Authority members. She said that there was significant interest in Danville in transportation, and that Mayor Newell Americh looked forward to joining the Authority. *Commissioner Stepper* invited all to attend the event scheduled for Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at the Danville Community Center honoring Captain Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger.

*Alternate Uilkema* said that she appreciated the Authority's patience with her learning curve.

*Commissioner Kee* said he was glad to see some familiar faces, and that he looked forward to working with the Authority.

*Representative Shimansky* said that he would be taking Joe Wallace's place as Ex-Officio Representative of the Bus Operators.

**7.3 Executive Staff Comments**

**8.0 CALENDAR: February/March/April 2009**

**10.0 ADJOURNMENT to Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m. to February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.