



Policy Advisory Committee

San Mateo County Transit District

Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor

1250 San Carlos Avenue

San Carlos, CA

Friday, November 5, 2010, 1:00 PM

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Chairperson Comments
4. Project Manager Comments
5. Public Comment (For items not on the agenda)
6. Consent Calendar
 - a. Minutes of May 7, 2010 Meeting
7. Report of the Citizens Advisory Panel
8. Action Items
 - a. Technical Study Findings and Next Steps (JPB)
9. Information Items
 - a. Interim Bus Update (DBROC)
10. Correspondence
11. Requests from Members
12. Next Meeting Date
13. Adjourn

Meeting:
DRC Policy Advisory Committee

Date:
May 7, 2010

Location:
Union City Council Chambers
34009 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City, CA

Time:
Meeting Start: 1:05 pm
Meeting Adjourn: 2:50 pm

Minutes Prepared By:
Terri O'Connor

Issue Date:
June 11, 2010

Attendance:

<p><u>Policy Committee Members</u></p> <p>Mayor Mark Green, ACTIA (Chair) Commissioner Sue Lempert, MTC (Vice Chair) Council Member Barbara Pierce, SMCTA Council Member Heyward Robinson, SMCTA Council Member, Anu Natajaran, ACTIA Council Member, Richard Larsen, VTA Commissioner Scott Haggerty, MTC Council Member, Luis Freitas, ACTIA</p>	<p><u>Project Staff</u></p> <p>Marian Lee, Joint Powers Board Howard Goode, Joint Powers Board Sylvia Cox, Joint Powers Board Hilda Lafebre, Joint Powers Board Donna Chung, Joint Powers Board William Hurrell, Wilbur Smith Associates Terri O'Connor, Wilbur Smith Associates Nancy Whelan, Nancy Whelan Associates Bruce Brubaker, DC&E Alexis Lynch, DC&E</p> <p><u>Others</u> Please refer to the attached sign-in sheet</p>
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Item No. Discussion

1. *Call to Order*

Chair M. Green called the meeting to order.

2. *Roll Call*

M. Green, S. Lempert, B. Pierce, A. Natajaran, R. Larsen, and L. Freitas were present to start the meeting without a quorum. S. Haggerty and H. Robinson arrived later to form a quorum.

3. *Chairperson Comments*

M. Green discussed the upcoming availability of grant funds to complete gaps in the Bay Trail. He supports a new crossing over the Alameda Creek.

D. Kutrosky (CCJPA) was asked to present an update on the upcoming CCJPA grant application. D. Kutrosky presented the following:

- A total of \$2.3 billion in High Speed Rail (HSR) funds are available.
- The CCJPA will submit a grant application to the FRA for up to \$220 million.
- The application is due in early July.

M. Green stated that the acquisition of the ROW by the Capital Corridor would be a benefit to the Dumbarton project.

4. *Project Manager Comments*

M. Lee welcomed the newest members of the PAC, Richard Larsen and alternate Margaret Abe-Koga, representing the VTA; John Seybert and alternate Barbara Pierce, representing the SMCTA, and acknowledged the reappointment of Ana Apodaca and alternate Luis Freitas, representing the ACTIA.

5. *Public Comments (For items not on the agenda)*

Steve Van Pelt, resident of Menlo Park, inquired about construction activities and ballast piles in the railroad ROW near Chilco Avenue in Menlo Park.

6. *Consent Calendar*

The December 18, 2009 meeting minutes were approved 5-0 with 3 abstentions.

7. *Report of the Citizen Advisory Panel (CAP)*

T. Pitsker, Vice Chair of the CAP, reported that the CAP supports allocating RM2 operating funding for an interim bus service. He expressed the CAP interest in using RM2 operating money for the projects capital costs.

8. *Information Items*

Dumbarton Rail Technical Study Update

M. Lee presented a summary of the conclusions from the last PAC meeting including the need to develop a project strategy, the reassessment of the project scope and service plan for the maximum return on investment, and a plan for project delivery. She introduced the new consulting team lead by William Hurrell of Wilbur Smith & Associates who will provide consulting services for this next phase of work.

W. Hurrell provided a status report on the study and highlighted the following:

- The ridership sensitivity analysis tested variables that affected increasing levels of ridership, including more station stops, increased peak period service, added off-peak service and a Dumbarton transfer turn-back service. Findings indicate that increasing service frequency showed the greatest promise for increased ridership. And adding stops had minimal impact on ridership.
- W. Hurrell addressed the changing project setting and presented the net changes from the 2005 to 2009 ABAG projections for the year 2030. The projections show significant job losses in the Caltrain Peninsula corridor and in the East Bay Cities. That is paired with population growth in the Caltrain peninsula (2.3%) and population losses in the East Bay Cities (-2.6%). It is anticipated that San Joaquin County growth will be significant.

The following were PAC member key discussion items:

- M. Green stated that the cost per passenger, the construction cost, and the operations costs for each alternative was needed to compare their cost effectiveness.
- S. Lempert requested more detailed information on the alternatives, including the vehicle selection for the shuttle alternatives. She stated that a HOV lane is needed to make the bus a viable alternative. Providing an HOV on the bridge would be quite difficult.
- H. Robinson inquired about the shuttle alternatives service definitions and stated that the ridership results despite the multiple transfer penalty was encouraging. He requested more detailed information on the bus alternative including a dedicated BRT lane, metering lights and other capital improvements. He stated that the modelers needed to adjust the model appropriately to reflect the bus improvements accurately.
- S. Haggerty stated that CyberTran should be considered as a more cost effective alternative to heavy rail for the project.

The following were public comments:

J. Bigelow, representing the Redwood City Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Dumbarton Rail Corridor Project has a good opportunity to interface with the HSR and Altamont Corridor projects. He commented that the Altamont Corridor Alternatives Analysis did not look at continuing trains over the Dumbarton rail bridge. With the future projected increase in daily trips, transbay travel will become more challenging.

Interim Bus Service Update (DBROC)

LaVigne (AC Transit), representing the Dumbarton Bridge Rail Operations Consortium (DBROC), presented a brief report on the status of the existing Dumbarton Express operations. The report included the current operating shortfall of \$825,000 and the potential for service cuts. C. LaVigne also presented a proposal for the use of RM2 operating funds for the existing and expansion of transbay bus services, including a timeline for activities. He proposed having the final proposal to the PAC in October.

The following were key discussions on this item:

- There was general agreement that RM2 Dumbarton Rail operating funds should be considered to be used for Interim Bus for a temporary period of time.
- The members also stated that before making such a decision, there needs to be a solid operating plan that shows what the money would be used for. They also asked for clarification on the bid and procurement process, the specific language that will be used to shift the funding.
- A. Richman (MTC) stated that the \$5.5 million set aside is for the DRC project only. A hearing would be required to convert the RM2 monies from rail to bus and from bus back to rail. The public hearing process would take about 2 months.
- B. Pierce asked if DBROC could ask for the money without the PAC's support. A. Richman stated MTC would look to the PAC for their support.

The following were public comments:

Steve Van de Pelt, resident of Menlo Park, informed the PAC that the AC Transit bus services were very successful, served key destinations and had high ridership, but were undergoing cuts in services. He suggested that the U line and Highway 92 services should be considered for the expansion of transbay bus service.

9. *Correspondence*

No correspondence was received.

10. *Requests from Members*

No additional requests were made.

11. *Next Meeting Date*

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled to be held in October 2010.

12. *Adjourn*

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm

Attachments:

1. Sign-in sheet
2. Dumbarton Express Service (AC Transit)



DUMBARTON RAIL

Subject: Policy Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: May 07, 2010

Time: 1 PM

Location: Union City Council Chambers

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DUMBARTON RAIL

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JIM PIERSON		

Proposal for Use of Regional Measure 2 (RM 2) Funds for the Operations of a Dumbarton Corridor Interim Bus System for both Existing and Potential Expansion Services

Revenue impacts

RM 2 Funds Available (annual) - \$5.5M

- Funding cannot be used for capital expenditures
- Funding cannot be “banked” for use on the Rail project
- DBROC Members could greatly benefit from retention of annual contributions to Consortium

Estimated Operations Cost of Existing Service, net Fares - \$1.63M

Projected Timeline for Activities

- Procurement Exercise for DBX Service – May 2010 to September/October 2010
- Initial Concept Discussion with DB Rail PAC – May 7, 2010
- Interim Express Bus Proposal Development – May 2010 to October 2010
- Final Proposal Presentation to DB Rail PAC – October 2010
- MTC Commission Consideration – October/November 2010

Questions for Consideration

- Interim Express Bus System Governance
 - Continue DBROC?
 - Inclusion of Additional Parties?
- Service Restructure to Act as Ridership Generator for Rail Project?
- Additional Services to Act as Ridership Generator for Rail Project?
- Addition of AC Transit Lines DA and U that also operate along the Dumbarton Corridor?
- Others?

