

**SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
1250 SAN CARLOS AVENUE, SAN CARLOS, CA 94070**

**MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2008**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** R. Foust (Chair), R. Gordon, J. Lee, K. Matsumoto,  
R. O'Mahony, J. Vreeland

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** M. Church

**STAFF PRESENT:** G. Cameron, J. Cassman, V. Harrington, R. Haskin, J. Hurley, R. Lake,  
M. Martinez, I. McAvoy, N. McKenna, D. Miller, M. Scanlon,  
M. Simon

Vice Chair Rosalie O'Mahony called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. Approval of Minutes of August 7, 2008
- b. Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenses for July 2008

A motion (Gordon/Lee) was passed to approve the consent calendar.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jim Bigelow, Redwood City/San Mateo County Chamber, reported that the California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) approved the contract with HNTB to begin engineering and environmental work for the High Speed Rail (HSR) project from San Francisco to San Jose. Parsons Engineering was selected for the segment work from San Jose to Gilroy via the Pacheco Pass to Merced.

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) REPORT**

Chair Pat Dixon reported on the meeting of September 2, 2008

- Recommended approval of the TA resolution to authorize a \$3 million increase in the FY 2009 capital budget and authorize entering into a funding agreement with the City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) to allocate \$3 million of Measure A Funds in order to fund the Alternative Route Incident Management Plan.
- Recommended support for HSR and endorsement of Proposition 1A.
- Discussed outcomes of the TA Strategic Plan community meeting held in Pacifica on August 27 and the Burlingame meeting held on September 3. Chair Dixon said the Pacifica group preferred to hear about future projects rather than an explanation of the original Measure A. The Burlingame group, which was a smaller group, asked quality questions and provided good suggestions.

Director Jim Vreeland arrived at 5:07 p.m.

Director John Lee asked for the number of current CAC members and about attendance. Chair Dixon said there are 15 members and said attendance was good.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Vice Chair O'Mahony reported:

- a. Strategic Plan outreach public meetings are scheduled in Redwood Shores at the community library and in Daly City at the city hall.

Executive Director Mike Scanlon recognized Director Vreeland for his attendance at the Pacifica outreach meeting and for facilitating a successful meeting.

Mr. Scanlon said Chair Rosanne Foust was attending an event at the Redwood City Boys and Girls Club, which was attended by Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps.

Director Vreeland thanked Chair Dixon and members of the TA CAC and staff for holding the Strategic Plan outreach meeting in Pacifica. He said there were productive ideas for strategic planning and a need for geographic equity.

- b. Policy Discussion: South San Francisco Request for Funding of Ferry Service:

Mr. Scanlon said there was no action planned for the meeting. Staff has met and agreed with the City of South San Francisco to carry this agenda item routinely for the next couple of months while information is exchanged about the availability of Measure A funds and the cash flow needs of the Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA).

## **SAMTRANS LIAISON REPORT – KARYL MATSUMOTO**

Available in the agenda packet.

Director Lee referred to the SamTrans liaison report on the purchase of non-revenue hybrid vehicles and asked for a description of a non-revenue vehicle. Mr. Scanlon said it refers to any vehicle that does not have a farebox or charge fares. Mr. Scanlon said staff is considering a hybrid vehicle similar to a Toyota Prius.

## **JOINT POWERS BOARD REPORT (JPB)**

Executive Director Scanlon reported on the September 4 JPB meeting:

- a. The Board
  - Received a presentation on the Caltrain Electrification/2015 project and included:
    1. Electrification is part of a larger 2015 program to improve the railroad that includes new rolling stock, a new signal and communications systems and safety improvements to grade crossings, among other items.
    2. The electrification project has reached the 35 percent design stage. Cost elements of the project were revised following the 35 percent review and escalated out to costs in the year of expenditure dollars, with construction to take place roughly between 2011 and 2014.
    3. Rail Transformation Chief Bob Doty presented a future vision of Caltrain as a rapid transit application on a conventional heavy rail system. Mr. Doty estimated an 80-85 percent probability from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) that Caltrain will receive the rule of particular applicability, which is the ability to run mixed fleet compliant and non-compliant rail vehicles at the same time, allowing the use of electric multiple units, a technology that will dramatically improve the performance of the railroad.

4. Federal and state funds may be available for the electrification project, given its positive impact on the environment through reduced emissions in the operation of the railroad and reductions in automobile usage.
5. Replacement of rolling stock is a \$400 million aspect of the 2015 program that will have to go forward as the system's fleet will reach the ends of its useful life.

Chair Foust arrived at 5:19 p.m.

6. Locomotives can be replaced with diesel vehicles or Caltrain can move to the electrified system.
  7. Director Jim Hartnett gave some empowering remarks on how the Caltrain Electrification/Caltrain 2015 project is an opportunity to pilot and demonstrate how Caltrain can reinvent rail transportation in the United States.
- b. Conducted a public hearing for consideration of a Caltrain fare increase to help offset higher fuel costs. Six members of the public spoke on the proposed fare increase. Action on the fare increase will be taken at the October 2 JPB meeting.
  - c. Approved the consent calendar.
  - d. Awarded a contract for security guard services at the Centralized Equipment Maintenance and Operations Facility (CEMOF) for a three-year term to Cypress Security, LLC for a total cost of \$517,716.
  - e. Passed a resolution in support of HSR and endorsed Proposition 1A.
  - f. Met in closed session where legal counsel updated the Board on litigation related to the cracked bolster problems. All involved Caltrain cars will be back in service in two weeks.

#### **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Scanlon said the TA would be having an event on September 9 in Half Moon Bay to celebrate the completion of the Route92/State Route1 interchange project.

#### **FINANCE**

##### **Authorize a \$3,000,000 Increase to the FY 2009 Capital Budget and Authorize Entering into a Funding Agreement with C/CAG to Allocate \$3,000,000 of Measure A Funds in Order to Fund the Alternative Route Incident Management Plan**

Director of TA Programs Joe Hurley said the Board previously took this action in March and this is an adjustment in the source of funds from the operating budget to the capital budget.

A motion (Gordon/Vreeland) to authorize the increase and funding agreement was approved.

#### **PROGRAM**

##### **Support for High Speed Rail – Endorsement of Proposition 1A, High Speed Rail Bonds**

Chief Development Officer Ian McAvoy said this is a request for a vote similar to that taken by the JPB this morning. Most transportation agencies in the Bay Area are taking positions or proposing to take positions in support of Proposition 1A.

Director Vreeland said he will recuse himself from the vote because of his employment with the Environmental Protection Agency, which will have to approve environmental reports related to High Speed Rail.

#### Public Comment

Jim Bigelow, Redwood City/San Mateo County Chamber, said AB 3034 was a clean up bill on Proposition 1, which became Proposition 1A. C/CAG unanimously supported Proposition 1 last month with the cities of Atherton and Menlo Park abstaining. The JPB unanimously supported the proposition today. He said Proposition 1A is polling well without a major campaign. He encouraged strong unanimous support for Proposition 1A on the November ballot. If Caltrain becomes electrified and HSR is built along the Caltrain right of way, it could be the national demonstration project for the United States for regional commuter rail and HSR could become the national project for longer haul rail in the United States.

Director Karyl Matsumoto asked if the HSR project begins first or if work on Caltrain electrification done concurrently. Mr. Scanlon said project details will need to be worked out but Caltrain has completed 35 percent design work on the electrification project. Caltrain will be working with the HSR Authority's concept and how it will work with the Caltrain corridor and alignment of HSR in the state. Mr. Scanlon said everything Caltrain has completed on the right of way in the last few years has been done so as to not preclude HSR on the Caltrain right of way.

A motion (O'Mahony/Lee) to support and endorse the resolution was approved.

#### **Capital Projects Status Report – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY 2008**

Mr. Hurley said the report is included in the agenda packet. He extended an invitation to meet with any Board members to discuss any report issues.

Chair Foust said the report is well organized and inclusive, which makes it much easier for the Board to answer questions about capital projects.

Mr. McAvoy said staff is planning to improve the Capital Projects Status Report with a stoplight chart format to indicate red, amber and green for scope, scheduling and budgeting of the projects.

#### **REQUESTS FROM THE AUTHORITY**

Director Matsumoto asked that since the current Measure A ends December 31, 2008 and the reauthorized Measure A begins January 1, 2009, how much of the old Measure A funding is currently committed to projects and how much will be carried over into the reauthorized Measure A and if carryover funds are accountable to different percentages.

Mr. Miller said Director Matsumoto's question is timely. Legal counsel has been working with staff for several months to bring the Board a proposed programming of funds and a final programming of remaining funds under the original Measure A. Implementation guidelines contained in the reauthorized Measure A provide a directive as to what happens to funds on projects that have not commenced. The intent is to collectively honor the objectives of the voters in 1988. Mr. Miller said, for some period of time, there will be two measures in place at the same time but there will be much more in the way of detail on this issue, perhaps as early as the October 2 Board meeting.

Chair Foust said the TA Strategic Plan subcommittee has been discussing programming issues relating to the original and reauthorized measures and will present discussion information at October, November and December Board meetings.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO AUTHORITY**

No additional communications.

**REPORT OF LEGAL COUNSEL**

None.

**DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 2, 2008 at 5 p.m. at the San Mateo County Transit District Administrative Building, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos CA 94070.

Chair Foust thanked Director O'Mahony for chairing part of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.