

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**Thursday, August 17, 2006**

**Board of Supervisors Hearing Room  
105 East Anapamu Street, Fourth Floor  
Santa Barbara, CA**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present:** Brooks Firestone, Supervisor, Third District; Joe Centeno (SBCAG Chair), Supervisor, Fifth District; Donna Jordan, Councilmember, City of Carpinteria; Jonny Wallis (SBCAG Vice-Chair), Mayor, City of Goleta; Lupe Alvarez, Mayor, City of Guadalupe; Dick DeWees, Mayor, City of Lompoc; Iya Falcone, Councilmember, City of Santa Barbara; Marty Mariscal, Councilmember, City of Santa Maria; Ed Skytt, Councilmember, City of Solvang; Rich Krumholz, Caltrans District 5 Representative.

**Members Absent:** Salud Carbajal, Supervisor, First District; Susan Rose, Supervisor, Second District; Joni Gray, Supervisor, Fourth District; Russ Hicks, Councilmember, City of Buellton.

**Staff Members Present:** Jim Kemp, Executive Director; Stephen VanDenburgh, Deputy Director of Programs; Michael Powers, Deputy Director of Planning; Kent Epperson, TDM Program Administrator; Fred Luna, Transportation Engineer; Gregg Hart, Public Information/Government Affairs Coordinator; Cathy Muneio, Board Clerk; Kevin E. Ready, Sr., Senior Deputy County Counsel.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Centeno called for the pledge of allegiance.

**3. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

The board recessed to closed session at 10:35 a.m. to discuss a matter of pending litigation.

**4. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION**

When the board reconvened to open session Counsel Ready reported that no reportable action was taken.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Wallis moved approval of the July 20, 2006 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Skytt and carried with Councilmember Falcone abstaining.

**6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

Mayor DeWees moved to approve the consent calendar. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Falcone and carried unanimously.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from the public.

**8. TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS FLEXWORK SANTA BARBARA PHASE II PROJECT**

Kent Epperson presented the report. He noted that Caltrans is required to have a traffic mitigation program in place for the Milpas to Hot Springs operational improvements and that the FlexWork Program will provide part of that traffic mitigation.

Mr. Epperson said that they have learned a written commitment is necessary for the flexwork participants in order to maintain a strong commitment to follow through with the program. He also noted that the next phase of outreach for the Flexwork Program could dovetail with the Milpas/Hot Springs outreach program to gain more public exposure.

Mr. Epperson said the recommendation to use the same consultant from Phase I was due to the familiarity that Telecommuting Advantage Group has with the region's commuters and employers. Another benefit was that the firm was willing to charge the same price where the other consultants that were proposed were much more costly.

Councilmember Jordan asked if there was a way to quantify the goals of the program by identifying how many cars would be off the road and asked if Traffic Solutions had a specific goal they would like to meet.

Mr. Epperson replied that the congested segments of the 101 freeway would be free flowing if 2000 car trips could be eliminated in the each direction during the peak traffic hour. The FlexWork Program could play a significant role in achieving this goal. He explained that the Regional Chamber of Commerce staff and Supervisor Carbajal have met to discuss how to reach this goal and noted that the chamber will be identifying what their contribution can be.

Councilmember Falcone thanked Mr. Epperson for all of his help with the City of Santa Barbara's FlexWork Program and said she was looking forward to expanding the program to achieve the goal of removing additional cars off the freeway.

Supervisor Centeno said that the Board of Supervisors had received a presentation on its alternative transportation program and they were in the process of analyzing how many of the county employees would be able to participate in the program. He asked if Kent Epperson could work with Sue Paul at the county to develop data. Mr. Epperson responded affirmatively.

Councilmember Mariscal asked what the process was for signing up private employers for the program and asked whether the incentive for employers to save money was used.

Mr. Epperson replied that they would be showing employers how they lower costs by reducing office space needs and lowering employee retention and recruitment costs, etc. He said Phase I project results provided strong positive data to share with other employers.

Mayor DeWees requested the Board receive periodic updates of this program.

Supervisor Firestone moved to authorize the Chair to execute an agreement with the Telecommuting Advantage Group for the FlexWork Santa Barbara Phase II program for a not to exceed amount of \$60,000. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Falcone and carried unanimously.

**9. CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING**

Mr. Kemp presented the staff report on the upcoming CTC meeting that will be held in Santa Barbara on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor DeWees informed Mr. Kemp that he and possibly other city representatives would be attending the League of California Cities meeting during that time. He said that Councilmember Keller would be available to attend as the Lompoc alternate. He made a request to include the Hwy 246 widening project in the list of projects that will be mentioned.

Mr. Kemp said he would include all of the major projects in the Measure D renewal program.

Supervisor Centeno reminded the board not to discuss anything in its public capacity to promote the passage of Measure D. He said he and the SBCAG board had received an invitation to a COLAB board meeting and invited any of the board members to attend that meeting in an individual capacity and not as part of the SBCAG board.

Mr. Kemp said that the sensitivity of this issue was well understood and the intent of speaking with the CTC was not to persuade or advocate for the renewal measure but to let the CTC know that even though Santa Barbara County is a self help county it will need to partner with the state for additional funding.

Mr. Ready reported that County Counsel was being very meticulous about the advice they give on the renewal measure.

Mr. Krumholz stated that Proposition 1B is also going to be on the ballot in November and if Prop 1B passes the CTC would be adopting guidelines on how funds will be distributed. He said that having the CTC meeting in Santa Barbara County was a very special opportunity to impress decision makers. Mr. Krumholz said he was happy to participate with Jim Kemp and Supervisor Carbajal for the presentation at the CTC meeting on September 7th.

Supervisor Centeno suggested taking them through Montecito at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor DeWees asked if Caltrans could provide board members with an unbiased view of Proposition 1B.

Mr. Krumholz said that the SBCAG staff had provided as much information to the board as was available at this time.

Mayor DeWees requested that he be provided with major questions and answers that the public might ask relative to that proposition.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Kemp said that the South Coast Subregional Planning Committee meeting scheduled for September 6 was cancelled. He said that they were planning to schedule a North County Subregional Planning Committee meeting in mid September to review a draft of the North County Transit Plan.

Mr. Kemp said that there will be ten counties with local transportation sales taxes measures on the ballot this November (6 renewing and 4 new). Combined they represent the potential for about twenty billion dollars in revenue for transportation, nearly the same amount as state Prop 1B.

Mr. Kemp said that SB 1587 that was a bill to phase out CMAQ funds for Santa Barbara and Monterey Bay regions was scheduled for hearing today. He said it had passed by the senate and was now at the assembly and was listed as an urgency statute.

Mr. Kemp said that COLAB had invited all the SBCAG board members to meet with the COLAB board members at 12:30 PM at Pea Soup Andersen's on Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> and that this will provide an opportunity to inform and educate the COLAB board members about the renewal of Measure D.

Supervisor Centeno requested that the board members convey to staff their interest in attending the COLAB board meeting.

#### **CALTRANS DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Supervisor Centeno asked what was being done about putting in left turn lanes on 166 in Cuyama.

Mr. Krumholz responded that the project was intended to be included as a rehab project and go out to bid but was delayed due to technical issues. He said that they had to make sure they had the right asphalt concrete. He said they had planned to use a mix that failed on Highway 33 so now there is a six month delay to construction. He said they had considered making the left turn pocket a separate project but decided it would take the same amount of time to complete as one project.

Mr. Krumholz said that the Serena Park sound wall project was expected to be completed at the end of August and that the Santa Maria six-lane project would be starting very soon. He said they were doing their best to insure two lanes of traffic stay open and that ramp closures occur during non peak hours. He said that there was an open house held for the 101/Santa Maria River bridge widening project and noted attendance was light. He said it was important to make sure stakeholders are informed on that project. He said there was enough funding to get them through 60 percent of the design phase and said that all funding sources need to be explored to complete this project.

Mr. Krumholz stated that they are going to be placing a temporary stop sign at Hwy 154 at Baseline/Edison and said it will require advance beacons and said there was some trouble with fabrication of the steel posts but it should be installed by October.

Councilmember Falcone asked if the Castillo Street project would be completed in September.

Mr. Krumholz said that as far as he knows the date is accurate but would get back to her with that information.

Mr. Kemp introduced Brittany Odermann, a new transportation planner recently hired for SBCAG staff who will be working in the programming section of SBCAG. He explained that she would be working on the ITS program, call box program and the freeway service patrol program.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

#### **ADJOURN**

Chair Centeno adjourned the meeting at 11:52 am.