

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Santa Barbara County Association of Governments  
Board of Directors**

**Thursday, February 21, 2008  
Board of Supervisors Hearing Room  
105 East Anapamu Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Santa Barbara, CA**

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

Chair Firestone called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

**Members Present:** Salud Carbajal, Supervisor, First District; Janet Wolf, Supervisor, Second District; Brooks Firestone (SBCAG Chair), Supervisor, Third District; Joni Gray, Supervisor, Fourth District; Joe Centeno, Supervisor, Fifth District; Lupe Alvarez (SBCAG Vice-Chair) Mayor, City of Guadalupe; Marty Blum, Mayor, City of Santa Barbara; Larry Lavagnino, Mayor, City of Santa Maria;; Jim Richardson, Councilmember, City of Solvang;, Councilmember, City of Goleta, Joe Armendariz, Councilmember, City of Carpinteria; Dick DeWees, Mayor, City of Lompoc; Russ Hicks, Councilmember, City of Buellton

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jim Kemp, Executive Director; Stephen VanDenburgh, Deputy Director Programs; Michael Powers, Deputy Director Planning; Fred Luna, Transportation Engineer; Brittany Odermann, Transportation Planner, Terry Contreras, Board Clerk; Kevin E. Ready, Sr., Senior Deputy County Counsel; Pat Mickelson, Caltrans District 5 Representative, Aileen Loe, Caltrans District 5 Representative

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Firestone called for the pledge of allegiance.

**3. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

**4. REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION**

No closed session items.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*Approval of minutes for February 21, 2008 Board of Directors meeting.*

Motion to approve the minutes. Motion: Lavagnino, Second: Carbajal

Motion carried 12-0 (Armendariz absent)

Councilmember Armendariz arrived at 8:37 a.m.

6. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

Approve by roll call vote on one motion:

A. **ROUTE 135/CLARK AVE. (WEST) PARK AND RIDE LOT IMPROVEMENTS**

- 1) *Authorize the Executive Director to execute a cooperative agreement with Caltrans to add lighting and increase parking capacity at the Park & Ride lot.*
- 2) *Approve a Measure D expenditure plan amendment allocating up to \$60,000 in regional Measure D funds for the lot improvement project. (Requires two-thirds majority approval or 9 affirmative votes)*

Motion to approve consent item 6A. Motion: Alvarez, Second: Skytt

Motion carried 13-0

B. **AMTRAK PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE**

*Support the City of Santa Barbara On-TRAC plan.*

C. **FY 2008-2009 TDA/LTF APPORTIONMENTS**

*Receive and file the estimated apportionments of Local Transportation Funds to local agencies for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.*

D. **FY 2008-2009 MEASURE D REVENUE ESTIMATES**

*Receive and file the estimated apportionments of Measure D funds for allocation to local agencies for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.*

E. **FY 2006-07 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

*Receive and file SBCAG's audited Annual Financial Report and Single Audit Report for FY 2006-07.*

F. **2007 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

*Adopt FTIP amendment #16 to increase the Lump Sum Project listing for the Local Highway Bridge Program for Santa Barbara County and to include Highway Bridge Program funding for the Hollister Avenue Bridge project in Goleta.*

G. **FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS EARMARKS FOR FY 2008-09**

*Authorize staff to submit FY 08/09 federal appropriations earmark funding requests to the region's congressional representatives for the Highway 101 Santa Maria River Bridge six-lane widening, Highway 101 Carpinteria Creek Bridge reconstruction, and Highway 166 (East) safety improvements.*

H. US 101 TRAFFIC CONGESTION SENSORS

*Authorize the Executive Director to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC) to partner on the installation of traffic congestion sensors, which will be used to communicate travel information to Caltrans, and on publicly accessible websites.*

I. US 101 MILPAS TO CABRILLO HOT SPRINGS: PHASE I

*Authorize the Chair to sign a letter inviting Governor Schwarzenegger to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the Highway 101 Milpas to Cabrillo\Hot Springs project.*

J. US 101 MILPAS TO CABRILLO HOT SPRINGS: PHASE II

1. *Authorize the Chair to sign a cooperative agreement with Caltrans and the City of Santa Barbara to complete Phase II design and right of way of the Milpas project (Cabrillo Blvd underpass improvements at the Union Pacific Railroad).*
2. *Authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 5 to the extend the term of the contract with Moffatt & Nichol Engineers and increase the contract amount by \$292,631 for Phase II design and right of way services.*

Motion to approve consent items 6B – 6J. Motion: Hicks, Second: Carbajal

Motion carries 13-0

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**ACTION ITEM 8 WAS HEARD OUT OF SEQUENCE DUE TO THE ABSENCE OF REPRESENTATIVE FOR ITEM 7.**

8. REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ALLOCATION

*Receive status report on preparation on Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan and provide direction.*

Jerry Bunin of the Home Builders Association addressed the board, stating he did not think that the TPAC recommendation was bad but thought that consensus was not always the best decision. Would like some tweaking of the 1/3, 1/3, 1/3. Thinks ½ of RHNA allocation should be based on the existing job-housing imbalance. Believes board should start balancing the housing throughout the county.

Ann Crosby, resident, addressed the board on the housing that the unincorporated area of Santa Barbara is providing for the cities. Believes that the present job growth is a good indicator of the future job growth. Good policy for the cities that want economic activity to provide housing for the workers that they have attracted to their cities.

Chuck Kent, resident of the Eastern Goleta Valley, expressed thanks to David Matson and John McInnes for all the hard work they have been doing. Agrees that job/housing balance is a critical issue, would be smart to place more housing closer to the jobs.

Gary Earle expressed concern about the RHNA item being heard by the board out of sequence. Cities create the properties that create the jobs. Believe the cities push the housing needs onto the unincorporated areas and would like the housing put where the jobs are.

Kirk Lindsey, said the City of Santa Maria is not as able this RHNA cycle to accommodate a large share of the housing need. The City of Santa Maria, suggested that the if plan goes back to the TPAC board for tweaking that any direction the board could give the planners would be helpful. If the board believes that the jobs/housing balance is the right focus, then existing jobs should be the allocation factor that is emphasized.

Motion to return item to TPAC with direction to staff to return with consensus recommendation.

Motion: Gray, Second: Carbajal.

Motion carried 13-0

#### 7. MEASURE D RENEWAL INVESTMENT PLAN

*Receive presentation on public opinion survey conducted for draft investment plan.*

John Fairbank of Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates presented the results of a voter opinion survey conducted between January 17 and January 22, 2008.

Motion to receive presentation.

Motion: DeWees, Second: Bennett

Motion carried 13-0

#### 10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Michael Powers reported on the LOSSAN Policy Board meeting of February 6, 2008.

1. Budget included operating funds for continued operation of the intercity service within the three rail corridors.
2. Staff summarized the issues of the suspension Coast Starlight service. There was a landslide in Oregon on January 19, 2008 that buried a 14-mile segment of track that suspended service. Service from Los Angeles to Sacramento is still running, but the interstate service from Los Angeles to Seattle was suspended until April.
3. Caltrans is undergoing an audit of its rail program as a requirement before they are able to buy the equipment authorized by the bond money.
4. Electronic message signs at rail stations are entering the testing stage. Passengers will be able to see the status of arrival times.

5. LOSSAN board would like to promote rail by becoming more involved with other organizations. The corridor agencies are sponsoring an Intercity rail day coming up in Sacramento to promote legislative awareness.

Michael Powers reported on the Coast Rail Coordinating Council meeting of January 18, 2008.

1. Council is requesting funding from CTC for 25 million dollars for the initiation of Coast Daylight service. The funding will go to track and signal improvements. CTC did approve the allocation.
2. CRCC received and supported the City of Santa Barbara's *On-Trac* plan.
3. Discussed equipment issues, LOSSAN and Coast Rail Council are concerned about the availability of equipment in the event of any accidents or respond to new service demands.

#### 11. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jim Kemp reported on the Clean Air Express bus fire. The fire department determined there was no traffic violation and the preliminary determination of the cause of the fire was due to a faulty brake system. There were no injuries and all passengers evacuated the bus safely. A back-up vehicle is being used to keep all routes operating while SBCAG's bus is undergoing repairs for approximately 2 months. The bus is not CNG fueled as was reported incorrectly by some media outlets—it is a diesel bus. It is expected that the service contractor will be covering the vehicle repair.

Clean Air Express ridership has reached an all time high in January of 2008. Buses are full to almost 70%.

Curb Your Commute kickoff is taking place on Thursday, February 28, 2008 from 7:00am-9:00am at the Biltmore.

Hearing is being held by the State Transportation Commission on the 2008 STIP, CTC is required to hold these hearings biennially as part of the STIP adoption process. Allows regional agencies an opportunity to present testimony to the commission on projects that have been nominated. Staff will be attending to make sure our interests are presented.

#### 12. CALTRANS DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Rich Krumholz, Caltrans District 5 Director, reported that the Board received in their packet a copy of the Caltrans monthly report with information about ongoing and upcoming construction projects.

Bids for the Milpas to Hot Springs project will open on March 5, 2008. Caltrans has been averaging about 11 contractors bidding on major projects and they have been coming in lower than the engineer's estimates.

Northbound Highway 101 just beyond Gaviota tunnel has some guardrail damage. Starting March 3, 2008 the number one lane will be closed for 24 hours, lasting approximately 4 weeks. Drivers to expect up to a 15 minute delay.

Caltrans expects to start the Highway 166 project on Monday, March 3, 2008.

Amgen bicycle tour has started and riders will be in the area on Friday, and Saturday.

Great American Clean Up will be on March 4, 2008. Emphasis will be on changing behavior and keeping trash in automobiles.

Mayor Alvarez requested that Caltrans add to the project list the installation of the traffic signal at the intersection of Highway 166 and Highway 1.

13. COMMUNICATIONS None.

14. ADJOURN

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 20, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Santa Maria.