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MEETING SUMMARY

SOUTH COAST SUBREGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

July 11, 2007

1:30 PM

**SBMTD Conference Room
550 Olive Street
Santa Barbara, CA**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Members Present: Salud Carbajal, Supervisor First District; Janet Wolf, Supervisor Second District; Roger Horton, Councilmember, City of Santa Barbara; Joe Armendariz, Councilmember, City of Carpinteria; Jonny Wallis, Mayor, City of Goleta.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Aileen Loe, Planning Manager, Caltrans District 5; Dave Davis, SBMTD Board of Directors

Members Absent: Brooks Firestone, Supervisor, Third District; Marty Blum, Mayor, City of Santa Barbara; Richard Weinberg, SBMTD Board of Directors.

Staff Members Present: Jim Kemp, Executive Director; Michael Powers, Deputy Director of Planning; Stephen VanDenburgh, Deputy Director of Programming; Gregg Hart, Public Information Officer; Fred Luna, Transportation Engineer; Brittany Odermann, Transportation Planner.

Chair Carbajal announced that he would have to depart from the meeting at 3:30 p.m. and Supervisor Wolf would assume role of Committee Chair at that time.

2. MEETING SUMMARY

Following a motion by Councilwoman Jonny Wallis, seconded by Supervisor Janet Wolf, the meeting summary of June 6th was approved.

3. MEASURE D RENEWAL

Chair Carbajal began the item with introductions of the South Coast Measure D Policy Development Committee. He also introduced Matt Dobberteen as the Measure D Renewal Facilitator.

Members in attendance included: Wilson Hubbell, Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition; Eva Inbar, Coalition for Sustainable Transportation; Hamid Bahadori, Automobile Club of Southern California; Steve Cushman, Santa Barbara Chamber; Jan Evans, Santa

Member Agencies

Buellton ▀ Carpinteria ▀ Goleta ▀ Guadalupe ▀ Lompoc ▀ Santa Barbara ▀ Santa Maria ▀ Solvang ▀ Santa Barbara County

Barbara County Taxpayers Association; Dennis Story, Coastal Rail Now; Steve Greig, Carpinteria Valley Chamber; Kristen Amyx, Goleta Valley Chamber; David Pritchett, PUEBLO; Kelly Burns, UCSB Associated Students; and Jamie Jo Sim, 15th District PTA.

Jim Kemp welcomed and thanked the committee members for their participation. He summarized the role and purpose of the Policy Development Committee and how the committee's work would be integrated into a larger investment plan for the entire county.

Jim Kemp continued to review the purpose of the committee as a venue to share ideas, understand priorities and recognize that there will be compromise in the process of developing the investment plan. He reminded the committee that they will need to take information from the committee and share it with the groups they represent to facilitate an open process. He told the committee they would present their recommendations to the South Coast Subregional Planning Committee which in turn will put their recommendation before the SBCAG Board. At that point a draft investment plan, that includes both the North and South recommendations, will be developed and advertised for public review. Mr. Kemp stated that the investment plan needs to be created and approved by November 2007 to adhere to the proposed November 2008 ballot schedule.

Chair Carbajal summarized the SBCAG Board decisions regarding the Measure D investment plan as a starting point for the committee's work.

Matt Dobberteen reviewed meeting procedures and the schedule. He thanked SBMTD for their hospitality and use of their facilities. He presented ground rules for the committee meetings related to the facilitated discussion format and goal to ultimately reach committee consensus.

Matt Dobberteen summarized key points of the Brown Act as they pertain to the committee and their actions. He reminded the committee that they are subject to the Open Meetings Act and encouraged members to discuss issues openly. Mr. Dobberteen concluded the review by thanking the committee for their commitment to the process.

Matt Dobberteen introduced Gregg Hart, SBCAG Public Information Officer, to begin a slideshow presentation and discussion related to Measure D.

Gregg Hart reviewed the existing Measure D program that will sunset in 2010. In response to several questions from the committee, Mr. Hart provided the following information:

- There is no existing, working definition of a local project versus a regional project in the current program.
- The current program divides revenues between 3 programs: 70% local program; 29.5% regional projects; and 0.5% Specialized Transit. This committee will need to determine distribution for the new program.
- All but one of the regional program projects was delivered in the existing measure, the undelivered project being the widening of Highway 101. The \$15 million programmed to widen Highway 101 was redistributed to smaller operational improvements, including the upcoming Milpas to Hot Springs project, and interregional bus service.
- Funding from the current measure coupled with the state Proposition 1B Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) program will widen approximately eight miles of the four-lane stretch of Highway 101; leaving an approximately eight-mile gap. The

CMIA project widens six miles of Highway 101, three in Santa Barbara County and three in Ventura County.

Committee members requested measure plan information from other self-help regions.

Gregg Hart reviewed key elements of the Measure D 2006 ballot measure including the tax rate, term, modal and geographic distributions. Committee discussion following the presentation included the following points and suggestions:

- Commuter Rail was funded with \$126 million in the last measure.
- There was a request to discontinue use of the term “alternative transportation” and call out each individual mode by name.
- The committee should receive a review of the recommendations developed as part of the *101 In Motion* planning process.

Gregg Hart reviewed the election results of Measure D 2006 and outlined reasons for the 2006 failure as discovered in conversations with voters. He also reviewed the framework for Measure D 2008 as determined by the SBCAG Board.

Committee members discussed the status of Highway 101 widening and how the renewal measure money will be used. Gregg Hart reviewed the limits of the CMIA project from the Ventura County Line to the Casitas Pass interchange. He also discussed the Milpas to Hot Springs operational improvements project and the environmental and design work for the 8-mile gap in between. He stated that highlighting this work will counter the criticism about the lack of progress on the 101 widening and demonstrate that the project can and will be delivered.

Committee members also questioned the funding division between north and south inquiring if a true return to source model had been considered. Gregg Hart replied that the current county population split is approximately 50-50; however projections indicate that the north county population will surpass the south coast during the 30-year measure term and the proposed split is a straight forward formula that jurisdictions and voters will understand.

The committee recessed for a ten-minute break.

Aileen Loe, Caltrans District 5, offered the state’s perspective on future funding and investments in transportation. She stated that the Department supports self-help counties and complimented Santa Barbara County on their current measure and the work of SBCAG and supporters of Measure D. She also reinforced the importance of community involvement and recognized the committee’s work as essential to a successful program. She concluded with the statement that measure funds are an important source for leveraging state dollars and that the state is looking to invest scarce state funds in projects that have local matching funds like Measure D.

Stephen VanDenburgh presented slides outlining the countywide need for transportation funding and estimated revenues over the next 30 years. He reviewed important points for the committee to consider in developing the investment plan. He reminded the committee that Measure D is an important funding source, but not the only funding source available and that we will need to consider factors like the availability of other funding and ability to leverage new dollars when crafting the investment plan.

Committee members inquired about other funding sources and asked staff to prepare information about state Proposition 1B as well as the other funding sources available to Santa Barbara County. Members would like to understand restrictions on funding and how measure funds fit in. Members also asked staff to quantify the estimated revenue that will not be available to Santa Barbara County communities if Measure D is not renewed.

A committee member also requested that staff prepare a review of the 101 in Motion planning process to understand development of the Measure D 2006 regional program.

A committee member asked if other funding sources are guaranteed, i.e. is there any assurance that there will be funding for projects that are not included in the Measure investment plan. Stephen VanDenburgh replied that are few absolutes in transportation funding outside of the local measure revenues.

Stephen VanDenburgh introduced and reviewed the information displayed in a table of regional south coast programs and projects taken from the Measure D 2006 renewal expenditure plan.

Committee members discussed table content and asked for clarification. Stephen VanDenburgh reviewed the projects and designated which items are included in the current Measure. He confirmed that the Highway 101 project was not included on the list because under the SBCAG board's approved framework, this project will be funded as the highest priority regional project. He also explained that project costs are shown in current dollars, but that it was assumed that the growth in Measure D revenues over 30 years would offset project cost increases due to inflation.

Committee requested that the existing table color scheme be modified for clarity.

Committee members questioned the amount programmed to Highway 101 and how that number was determined. Staff indicated that the amount used for the expenditure plan framework is \$140 million funded countywide and that this is the same amount approved by the SBCAG board in the 2006 plan. Committee members questioned whether this amount should be reduced since the revenues with a ½ cent renewal are less.

Gregg Hart presented a funding framework similar to the diagram found in the committee staff report. Committee members again questioned the 50-50 split between north and south. Jim Kemp explained that the population formula contributed to the success of the original ballot measure and continues to carry popular support in the north region. He noted that other factors were considered in the distribution formula for the current Measure D, but that these led to winners/losers and lack of agreement.

Committee members discussed the importance of compromise and recognizing that not everyone will receive everything they would like to see in the investment plan. Members also reiterated the importance of recognizing the SBCAG Board decisions made to date regarding the renewal measure.

Stephen VanDenburgh introduced local program considerations and importance of understanding local jurisdiction's perspective in relation to their needs for continued

measure funding. He announced that public works directors and transit professionals will share their perspective at the August 1st meeting.

Matt Dobberteen reminded the committee that the more civil and open the discussions the better off the committee will be in terms of effectiveness.

Jim Kemp summarized the discussion and concluded with key points for the committee to remember throughout the process. He also presented the committee with homework in preparation for the next meeting. Mr. Kemp requested that additional questions and ideas for projects be sent to Gregg Hart by July 20. He also announced that information related to this meeting and the process will be posted on the SBCAG website, including handouts, presentations, and summaries.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 1, 1:30 p.m. at SBMTD.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Gandrud requested that objective criteria be developed and used to create the regional investment plan. He requested contact information for each member of the Policy Development Committee. Mr. Gandrud also suggested that funding be set aside for future transportation needs that can not be identified at this time, but may be necessary in a 30-year timeframe.

5. ADJOURN

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM.