

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 15, 2014

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Congestion Management Program & Planning Committee (CMPP) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairperson Pirzynski in VTA Conference Room B-104, 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Rose Herrera	Vice Chairperson	Present
Joe Pirzynski	Chairperson	Present
David Whittum	Member	Present
Ken Yeager	Member	Absent
Dave Cortese	Alternate Member	Absent
Jamie Matthews	Alternate Member	N/A
Jason Baker	Alternate Member	N/A

* Alternates do not serve unless participating as a Member.

A quorum was not present and a Committee of the Whole was declared.

2. ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no Orders of the Day.

3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no Public Presentations.

The Agenda was taken out of order.

REGULAR AGENDA

9. Bicycle Expenditure Program (BEP) – Semi-Annual Status Report

Ying Smith, Transportation Planning Manager, provided a brief background and overview of the staff report.

Member Whittum queried whether City staff should be contacted for projects with no status information available.

Staff responded that these projects are part of a long-range program and some of them may be in the early stages of planning.

Members of the Committee expressed their appreciation that bicycle projects are moving forward.

On order of Chairperson Pirzynski and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received a status report on the Semi-Annual Update of the Bicycle Expenditure Program (BEP) projects.

10. Proactive Congestion Management Program (CMP) Quarterly Report for January-March 2014

Ms. Smith provided an overview of the staff report highlighting projects that were reviewed and commented by VTA during the January through March 2014 period.

John Ristow, Planning & Program Development Director and Staff Liaison, noted development patterns show Member Agencies' General Plans support the transit system.

Upon query of Chairperson Pirzynski, staff clarified that trip reduction recommendations are based on land use/transportation context as well as trip reduction rates of similar approved projects nearby. However, the City can recommend a higher or lower trip reduction target depending on their negotiations with the project developer.

Public Comment

Roland Lebrun, Interested Citizen, made a comment pertaining to the City of San Jose's Diridon Station Area Plan and suggested that VTA consider relocating the San Jose Diridon light rail station above the future VTA's BART Silicon Valley Extension Diridon station.

On order of Chairperson Pirzynski and there being no objection, the Committee of the Whole received the Proactive CMP Quarterly Report for January to March 2014.

11. San Francisco Planning and Urban Renewal Association (SPUR) Report: Land Use and Urban Design

Mr. Ristow gave a brief background of staff engagement with SPUR San Jose (SPUR) and introduced Benjamin Grant, Public Realm and Urban Design Program Manager.

Mr. Grant presented the report, highlighting: 1) benefits of land use choices depend on urban design; 2) definition and challenges of effective urban design; 3) walkability as a measure of success and outlined its key elements; 4) examples of best practices for pedestrian circulation; and 5) orienting building to streets and open space.

Vice Chairperson Herrera arrived at the meeting and took her seat at 10:24 a.m. and a quorum was established.

Chairperson Pirzynski requested hard copies of report for the Committee.

Vice Chairperson Herrera expressed her appreciation of SPUR's efforts in encouraging walkability and transit use in the area. She asked whether SPUR had spoken to Silicon Valley companies about urban design and the benefits of better land use alternatives.

Mr. Grant responded that SPUR has met with several companies, developers, and brokers, noting the importance conveying a unified message between the City and the applicant on how the development should evolve.

Member Whittum commented that some of the challenges in implementing overall better urban design standards involve financing and politics. He noted that some Cities are leveeing fees to developers to get the best quality development projects, with pedestrian and transit amenities.

Public Comment

Mr. Lebrun made the following comments: 1) suggested staff evaluate transit connectivity between the residential development at the former Hitachi site in South San Jose and the Cottle light rail station; and 2) suggested staff consider building above the Diridon station.

Members of the Committee and staff continued their discussion, covering: 1) engaging corporate leaders and getting their feedback on transit and transit use; 2) exploring opportunities to consider good urban design practices; and 3) investigating examples of other cities' best practices.

Mr. Ristow added that staff has invited SPUR to present to Committees again in the Fall, covering its report on VTA and other case studies. Staff is also developing a set of recommendations for VTA Board of Directors' consideration to incorporate VTA earlier in a City's development process to provide adequate feedback on a development project.

On order of Chairperson Pirzynski and there being no objection, the Committee received a verbal report from SPUR on urban planning in Santa Clara County.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Regular Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2014

M/S/C (**Herrera/Whittum**) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2014.

REGULAR AGENDA (continued)

5. FY 2014/15 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Project Priorities

Amin Surani, Sr. Transportation Planner, provided a brief report, highlighting staff recommendations for programming the TDA funds.

M/S/C (**Whittum/Herrera**) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt a resolution approving the project priorities for the FY 2014/15 Countywide Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Program.

NOTE: M/S/C MEANS MOTION SECONDED AND CARRIED AND, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. **2014 Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) Program Manager Fund Supplemental Projects**

Mr. Surani provided a brief background and overview of the program, noting the multiple supplemental calls-for-project issued for this program cycle and all submitted projects can be funded.

Members of the Committee and staff discussed the Mountain View Bay Area Bike Share System Expansion, concerning its usage and funding.

Mr. Ristow mentioned that a staff report to the Committees regarding the Bikeshare Program is forthcoming.

M/S/C (Herrera/Whittum) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the programming of FY 2014/15 Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program Manager (TFCA 40%) funds to projects.

7. **2013 Monitoring and Conformance Report**

Ms. Smith provided an overview of the staff report, highlighting: 1) percentage of freeway segments operating at Level of Service (LOS) F has increased due to increased congestion, noting State Route (SR) 87 as the most congested facility; 2) SR 237 and Interstate 880 has improved slightly from their 2012 levels; 3) staff evaluating new freeway data collection methodology, such as “Big Data”; 4) slight decrease in dwelling unit approvals, versus a significant increase in commercial/industrial land use approvals; and 5) all Member Agencies are in conformance with the Congestion Management Program (CMP) monitoring requirements.

Vice Chairperson Herrera commented that the report shows employment growth increasing greatly as compared to residential growth, which could lead to increased traffic congestion.

M/S/C (Whittum/Herrera) to approve submitting a recommendation to the Board of Directors, pursuant to California Government Code Section 65089, to adopt the 2013 Monitoring and Conformance Findings.

8. **Crossroads Countywide Traffic Collision Database**

Eugene Maeda, Sr. Transportation Planner, provided background and overview of the Crossroads Countywide Traffic Collision Database, noting: 1) goals and benefits of the database; 2) example of reports; and 3) maintenance cost and trial period, including work scope.

Upon query of Chairperson Pirzynski, staff responded that all local police departments within Santa Clara County had been involved during the development of the software and have confirmed they can work with the software. Staff also clarified the pilot program timeline.

Members of the Committee and staff proceeded to discuss the following: 1) questions regarding funding and management of the database; and 2) types of data included in the reports, such as bicycle and pedestrian accident information.

Public Comment

Mr. Lebrun suggested making the traffic collision database accessible by the public.

Upon query of Vice Chairperson Herrera, staff responded that public access of the traffic collision database had not yet been evaluated and will report back to the Committee.

Members of the Committee expressed their support in including an option in which information can be made available to the public in accordance with the Member Agency's open data policy.

M/S/C (Herrera/Whittum) to authorize the use of \$150,000 from the Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) 15% Countywide program for Crossroads software maintenance to establish a Countywide Traffic Collision Database to be maintained by the County of Santa Clara Roads and Airport Department (County) staff as part of a three-year pilot program.

11.X State Route 85 Express Lane Project – Environmental Process Update

Casey Emoto, Deputy Director of Project Development, provided an update on the environmental process of the SR 85 Express Lanes Project, highlighting: 1) single-lane Express Lane versus double-lane Express Lanes comparison; 2) truck ban on SR 85 currently in place will not change based on this project; 3) the level of detail in analysis on the Caltrans-lead environmental study would be the same on either an Initial Study/Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement; 4) the range of noise level has yet to be studied as part of the single-lane Express Lane option; and 5) projected gross annual revenue generation.

Staff also referenced the significant improvement in congestion relief and total travel time savings in the proposed double-lane Express Lanes option.

Members of the Committee and staff engaged in a discussion, concerning: 1) ensuring that the right project is selected for the right reasons; 2) that the project moving forward could help to address noise in the corridor as raised in comments to the draft environmental document; and 3) the process to complete the environmental review process. Staff responded that a process is being followed to respond to the comments received on the document, with completion of the process later in the Summer or early Fall.

Member Whittum suggested including a clearer description of the positive performance benefit of the double-lane Express Lane option.

On order of Chairperson Pirzynski and there being no objection, the Committee received an update on the Environmental Process for the SR 85 Express Lane Project.

OTHER ITEMS

12. Items of Concern and Referral to Administration

Mr. Ristow mentioned that staff will report back to the Committee regarding the Crossroads Traffic Collision Database and SPUR will be returning for another presentation.

13. Committee Work Plan

On order of Chairperson Pirzynski and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Work Plan.

14. Committee Staff Report

Mr. Ristow provided a written report to the Committee containing information on local events; Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)/Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), State & Federal; and VTA CMA.

On order of Chairperson Pirzynski and there being no objection, the Committee received the Committee Staff Report.

15. Chairperson's Report

There was no Chairperson's Report.

16. Determine Consent Agenda for the June 5, 2014 Board of Directors Meeting

CONSENT:

Agenda Item #5. Adopt a resolution approving the project priorities for the FY2014/15 Countywide Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Program.

Agenda Item #6. Approve the programming of FY 2014/15 Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program Manager (TFCA 40%) funds to projects.

Agenda Item #7. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65089, adopt the 2013 Monitoring and Conformance Findings. The 2013 CMP Monitoring and Conformance Report finds all Member Agencies in conformance with the CMP monitoring requirements.

Agenda Item #8. Authorize the use of \$150,000 from the Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) 15% Countywide program for Crossroads software maintenance to establish a Countywide Traffic Collision Database to be maintained by the County of Santa Clara Roads and Airports Department (County) staff as part of a three-year pilot program.

Agenda Item #9. Receive a status report on the Semi-Annual Update of Bicycle Expenditure Program (BEP) projects.

Agenda Item #10. Receive the Proactive CMP Quarterly Report for January to March 2014.

Agenda Item #11.X. Receive an update on the Environmental Process for the State Route 85 Express Lane Project.

17. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Announcements.

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

On order of Chairperson Pirzynski and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Oblena, Board Assistant
VTA Office of the Board Secretary