

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 9, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Transportation Committee meeting was called to order on Monday, March 9, 2009 at 12:01 p.m. by Chairman Tom Kirk.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Kelly led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

A roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

MEMBERS/ ALTERNATES PRESENT

Councilmember Tom Kirk
Councilmember Dick Kelly
Councilmember Patrick Mullany
Legislative Assistant Michael Gialdini
Councilmember Joseph DeConinck (Tele-Conferencing)
Councilmember Alan Seman
Mayor Eduardo Garcia
Councilmember Ginny Foat
Mayor Melanie Fesmire
Councilmember Scott Matas

AGENCY

City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Indian Wells
County of Riverside
City of Blythe
City of Rancho Mirage
City of Coachella
City of Palm Springs
City of Indio
City of Desert Hot Springs

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Councilmember Greg Pettis
Tribal Vice Chair Jeff Grubbe

C. Mikel Oglesby

AGENCY

City of Cathedral City
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla
Indians
SunLine Transit

MEMBERS VACANT

Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians

ALSO PRESENT

Joe Shaw
Paul Gonzales
Margaret Park

Mark Greenwood
Robert Manning
Steve Sims

AGENCY

Harris & Associates
Harris & Associates
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla
Indians
City of Palm Desert
Southwest Rail Passenger Asso.
GoBike

STAFF PRESENT

Larry Parrish
Mike Shoberg
Carol Clapper
Aurora Wilson

Jim Sullivan
Gary Leong
Jacob Alvarez
Carol Rayner

4. **FINALIZATION OF AGENDA**

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bob Manning, Southwest Rail Passenger Association, stated he has just returned from a meeting in Washington DC with positive news regarding the implementation of the Stimulus package and Amtrak in the Coachella Valley.

Steve Sims, GoBike, asked Committee members to promote Safe Routes to Schools in regards to bike paths within their cities.

6. **COMMITTEE MEMBER\ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

None.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

8. **RECEIVE AND FILE PRESENTATION ON THE 2009 UPDATE OF THE CVAG NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Ryan Synder, of Ryan Synder Associates, provided an updated progress report for the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan (NMTP). Mr. Snyder reported he is close to wrapping up the process of obtaining information for NMTP. A small amount of information is still needed from the Parks and Recreation. Mr. Synder stated he has held workshops, met with stakeholders, agencies and has met with all jurisdictions to obtain information. Mr. Synder stated a classification system has been established.

Mr. Synder reported the draft maps will be updated in GIS format including the Salton Sea area and also the Palo Verde Valley area. The draft plan should be completed within the next couple of weeks and be given to Allyn Waggle for review. It will then be circulated to the cities for viewing. Mr. Synder will include any changes at that time. The final plan will then go through CVAG committees for approval. The plan must be adopted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the cities general plans to be considered for any funding.

CONSENSUS AGREED TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE PRESENTATION OF THE 2009 UPDATE OF THE CVAG NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION PLAN

9. **AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR USE OF CMAQ PROGRAM SAFETEA LU FUNDS**

Aurora Wilson, CVAG's Community Resources Director, reported this item was approved at the February 9th Transportation Committee meeting and was presented to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on February 13th. After a discussion, the TAC Committee recommended to the Executive Committee that a Review Panel of CMAQ SAFETEA LU

funding be reassembled and consider the use of all of the withdrawn projects monies (\$2,180,000) as available funds.

Mrs. Wilson continued by stating the Executive Committee met on February 23rd and;

1. Authorized a Call for Projects for use of CMAQ Program SAFETEA LU Funds in the amount of \$2,100,000.
2. Authorized the inclusion of the following projects and project categories in the Call for Projects.
 - PM-10 projects in the current four project areas of: paving; soil stabilization: windfencing and clean streets management;
 - Transportation Control Measures: Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Programs; Congestion Reduction & Traffic Flow Improvements: Management systems for traffic congestion reduction; signal synchronization; intersection improvements; and grade separation improvements spanning railroad tracks;
 - Authorize \$1.1 million from the next phase of SAFETEA LU funds be "set-aside or "earmarked" for the City of Palm Desert for their Bicycle Facilities-Mid-Valley Bike Path project.

Councilmember Kelly stated the funds were allocated to the City Palm Desert's to use and the City should be able to transfer the \$1.1 million from one project to another. A discussion ensued.

Mayor Garcia indicated the item was brought to the Executive Committee under the assumption that each jurisdiction should have an opportunity to have the funds allocated for projects within their city and the City of Palm Desert would have an opportunity to reapply for the funds. Councilmember Kelly stated if the end result was not decided in favor of the City of Palm Desert's request, with the economy as it is now, the "earmarked" funds may not be available next year. Mayor Garcia stated the item was not presented as fully to the Executive Committee as it was presented to the Transportation Committee today.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER MATAS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MULLANY THAT THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THAT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, FOLLOWING A FULL PRESENTATION FROM THE CITY OF PALM DESERT RELATIVE TO THEIR REQUEST TO WITHDRAW THEIR AWARD OF \$1.1 MILLION FROM THEIR TURN LANE PROJECT AT FRED WARING AND MONTEREY AND REDIRECT THOSE FUNDS TO THEIR BIKE PATH PROJECT:

1. **RECONSIDER THEIR PREVIOUS ACTION TO INCLUDE THE \$1.1 MILLION AS PART OF THE NEXT CALL FOR PROJECTS;**
2. **APPROVE CITY OF PALM DESERT'S INITIAL REQUEST TO REDIRECT THE \$1.1 MILLION TO THE CITY'S BIKE PATH PROJECT;**
3. **SHOULD THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE CITY'S REQUEST; THEN THE EARMARK DESIGNATION OF \$1.1. MILLION FOR THE NEXT PHASE OF CMAQ SAFETEA LU FUNDS IS WITHDRAWN.**
4. **SHOULD THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO CONCUR WITH ITS PREVIOUS ACTION, THEN THE ORIGINAL STAFF RECOMMENDED MOTION STANDS AND IS PRESENTED FOR ACTION.**

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH TEN AYES AND TWO MEMBERS ABSENT.

10. RECEIVE AND FILE INFORMATION REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE FIVE INTERCHANGE PROJECTS ON INTERSTATE 10

Joe Shaw, of Harris & Associates, provided an update on the five Interchange Projects on Interstate 10.

Indian Avenue – Offers have been made to all but 2 of the 15 property owners. Five agreements have been executed. Other owners have accepted terms and agreements and the all is under review. The City and County are working to avoid a lengthy condemnation process on one property. A R/W certification is expected in June, without condemnation. The final design plan has been submitted to Caltrans for review and then sent to Sacramento. Work on the project is on track to start 2010.

Palm Drive/ Gene Autry Trail – Escrow has closed on the single parcel involved. The final plans have been submitted to Caltrans for review. Utility relocation agreements are in progress. The county has already put out the RFP and the project should move forward by the end of 2009.

Date Palm Drive – The RTIP Amendment has been approved by SCAG, Caltrans and FHWA. The final design will be submitted to Caltrans for the retaining wall. The county is in the process of getting appraisals on eight properties and Tribal land. A discussion and negotiations are underway with the utilities. An MOU is also being prepared between the City, County and Caltrans. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2011.

Ramon Road/ Bob Hope – Settlement agreement with “Flying J” has been reached. Environmental Re-evaluation must be revised and approved following the “Flying J” agreement. Final approval for Edison utility relocation is needed. Agreements have been reached with 5 of the 8 property owners. Caltrans will move forward with unsettled properties including tribal lands and railroad for right-of ways. Caltrans may consider condemnation for the railroad crossing. The Bureau of Indian Affairs and Caltrans will need to resubmit documentation for approval. Construction is scheduled to start September 2009.

Jefferson Street – The preliminary design is completed. Environmental study has been submitted to Caltrans for final review along with the ADL report. The cultural MOA is under review. The Air Quality Conformity is on hold by FHWA. The Modified Access Report (MAR) has been approved by Caltrans, but rejected by FHWA. Other project reports have been approved or have been submitted for review. At the present time, the City of Indio is submitting a detailed Action Plan through Caltrans for FHWA in order to request that Federal funding be re-instated.

CONSENSUS AGREED TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE INFORMATION REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE FIVE INTERCHANGE PROJECTS ON INTERSATE 10.

11. INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS (ITE) TRIP GENERAL RATE MANUAL 8TH EDITION ANALYSIS

Carol Clapper, CVAG’s Associate Regional Planner, stated the Daily Trip Generation Rates (DTGR) used in the adopted TUMF Handbook were taken primarily from the ITE Trip Generation Manual, 7th Edition. These rates have been in effect since July 1, 2004. ITE has recently published its 8th Edition manual. CVAG staff has reviewed the manual and compared the rates adopted in the TUMF Handbook with this 8th Edition.

There was no change in the DTGR in the majority of the 39 TUMF land use categories. However, there were three categories that decrease in the DTGR. (1) Multi-Family dwellings - It does appear to be within the typical range of fluctuation in the land use category. (2) Hospitals - Again it is within the typical range for that category. (3) Financial institutions - This is the most significant decrease. The majority of Financial institutions are now being constructed within shopping centers not in stand-alone facilities. Despite the decrease in the DTGR in the Financial land use category, it is concluded that this will not significantly impact TUMF revenues.

There is minimal change between the 7th and 8th edition DTGR's. An increase or decrease in TUMF revenue generated will depend primarily on the level of valley wide development in subsequent years.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR GARCIA AND SECONDED BY MAYOR FESMIRE THAT THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

1. REVIEW THE CAMPARISON IN DAILY TRIP GENERATION RATES BETWEEN THE ADOPTED TUMF HANDBOOK AND THE ITE TRIP GENERATION MANUAL, EIGHTH EDITION, AND
2. RECOMMEND ADOPTION OF THE EIGHTH EDITION ITE RATES FOR IMPLEMENTATION BEGINNING JULY 1, 2009.

12. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

APPROVAL

12A February 9, 2009 Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR GARCIA AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MATAS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2009.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH EIGHT AYES, THE CITIES OF INDIO AND PALM SPRINGS ABSTAINING AND TWO MEMBERS ABSENT.

RECEIVE AND FILE

12B TUMF/Measure "A" Collections Report 2008/09 FY December 31, 2008.

12C Regional Arterial Program – Project Status Report.

12D Transportation Committee Attendance Roster FY 2008/09.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR GARCIA AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MATAS TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE INFORMATION PROVIDED.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH TEN AYES AND TWO MEMBERS ABSENT.

13. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next regularly scheduled meeting date for CVAG's **Transportation Committee** will be at **12:00 p.m. on Monday, April 13, 2009**

The next meeting of CVAG's **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 13, 2009.**

The next meeting of CVAG's **Transportation Technical Advisory Sub-Committee (TTAS)** will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 27, 2009.**

The next meeting of CVAG's **Executive Committee** will be held at **6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 23, 2009.**

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Rayner
Senior Assistant