

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 11, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Transportation Committee meeting was called to order on Monday, May 11, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. by Chairman Tom Kirk.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Henderson 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
Supervisor Roy Wilson
Councilmember Joseph DeConinck (Video-Conferencing)
Councilmember Alan Seman
Mayor Eduardo Garcia
Councilmember Lee Weigel
Mayor Melanie Fesmire
Councilmember Scott Matas
Councilmember Greg Pettis
Tribal Secretary/ Treasurer, Karen Welmas

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
City of Cathedral City
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla
Indians

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

C. Mikel Oglesby

AGENCY

SunLine Transit

MEMBERS VACANT

Cabazon Band of Mission Indians

ALSO PRESENT

Joe Shaw
Ben Godfrey
Margaret Park

Toni Eggebraaten
Robert Manning

AGENCY

Harris & Associates
City of Indio
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla
Indians
CVAG General Council
Southwest Rail Passenger Asso.

STAFF PRESENT

Larry Parrish
Allyn Waggle
Mike Shoberg
Carol Clapper
Gary Leong
Lance Albrecht

Carol Rayner

4. **FINALIZATION OF AGENDA**

Chairman Kirk stated that Item 11 has been removed from the agenda per the request of the City of La Quinta staff.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

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

None.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

8. **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FORBEARANCE AGREEMENT WITH DONALD WEEKS, DOING BUSINESS AS RANCHO CALIFORNIA CONSULTANTS**

This item was tabled at the April meeting and brought back for consideration and having CVAG General Council Toni Eggebraaten in attendance to answer questions.

Ms. Eggebraaten gave a background on the item and the previous agreement. A discussion ensued. With comments and suggestions from the committee members, Ms. Eggebraaten will revise the Agreement to include:

1. Mr. Weeks, upon the execution of the Agreement, will pay to CVAG the sum of \$25,000. Mr. Weeks will make the installment payments to CVAG until all sums owing pursuant to the Judgment, including interest accruing at the rate of 10% has been paid in full.
2. Beginning on the first day of July, 2009, and the first day of each month thereafter, Mr. Weeks will pay monthly installments in the amount of \$300.00.
3. Beginning on January 1, 2010, and every six months thereafter, Mr. Weeks will pay bi-annual installments in the amount of \$20,000.
4. In consideration of the scheduled payments CVAG will deliver a release of the Abstract of Judgment previously recorded. After the loan has been obtained, CVAG again record an Abstract of Judgment to satisfy of the Judgment in full.
5. Mr. Weeks will obtain an insurance policy in the amount of \$200,000 insuring the life of Weeks and naming CVAG as the beneficiary.

Ms. Eggebraaten stated she feels Mr. Weeks will pay off the Judgment prior to the due date.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER MATAS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PETTIS

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH NINE AYES AND THE CITIES OF INDIAN WELLS, INDIO AND LA QUINTA VOTING NAY.

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

Allyn Waggle provided an update of the Interchange projects. Consultant Joe Shaw was in

attendance to answer any questions.

Indian Avenue – The negotiations with the Shell gas station are in progress. All but 2 of the 16 ownership agreements have been completed or are being finalized. The County is preparing new appraisals on the last two. The PS&E has been submitted to Caltrans for review. There is Coop amendment to an agreement with the County of Riverside and Caltrans. Work on the project is on track to start 2010.

Palm Drive/ Gene Autry Trail – PS&E has received conditional approval from Caltrans. Environmental re-evaluation in progress. A Coop agreement is ready for execution by CVAG and the County. Allocation “package” to be submitted to District Local Assistance on May 1, with a submittal to Caltrans to follow. Allocation on track for FHWA approval on June 15. An AT&T easement negotiation is in progress. All other utility easements are secured. 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 County is in the process of getting appraisals on eight properties and Tribal land. An MOU is being prepared between the City, County and Caltrans. There could be a possible R/W issue with the UP Railroad. MAR- updated traffic projections- have been approved by the District and submitted to FHWA. A meeting is scheduled for next week regarding the utility relocations with SCE and CVWD to resolve pole locations and utility easements in NE quadrant. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2011.

Ramon Road/ Bob Hope – Caltrans will move forward with unsettled properties including tribal lands. Caltrans is at an impasse with UP Railroad regarding accommodation for future third track. Now seeking a R/W Cert 3W, to allow project to proceed with “work-around” RR bridge area. Ready to list date set back to June 15. CVAG and RCTD Coop agreements are expected by April 27. Construction is scheduled to start early in 2010.

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 has been approved by FHWA. MAR- updated traffic projections- has been approved by Caltrans, but rejected by FHWA. Other project reports have been approved or have been submitted for review. The City of Indio is waiting for approval of the detailed Action Plan submitted through Caltrans for FHWA in order to request that Federal funding be re-instated.

CONSENSUS AGREED TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE INFORMATION PROVIDED.

10. CONSIDER LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE INTO THE COACHELLA VALLEY

Allyn Waggle stated Toni Eggebraaten has made minor language revisions to the letter of understanding with Mr. Manning.

Mr. Manning stated that a meeting was held on May 2, 2009 regarding the rail service. The Convention and Visitor Authority along with the City of Palm Springs were in attendance. The general purpose of all meetings is to educate the public about the Sunset Limited, which at the present time, runs from Los Angeles through the Coachella Valley to New Orleans three days a week.

The City of Palm Springs is interested in improving their station on Indian Canyon. Councilmember Kelly reminded the committee members that CVAG owns property, that was intended for a Park and Ride site, at the Agua Caliente Casino. The City of Indio is planning

a ride along to Los Angeles. Councilmember Mullany thanked Mr. Manning for his continued

efforts regarding Amtrak service to the valley. CVAG staff will continue to work with Mr. Manning towards that effort.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER MULLANY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MATAS THAT THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:

1. **RECEIVE AND FILE THE UPDATED INFORMATION REGARDING PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE INTO THE COACHELLA VALLEY AND**
 2. **APPROVE THE LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ROBERT MANNING TO REPRESENT CVAG REGARDING PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE INTO THE COACHELLA VALLEY AS AMENDED.**
12. **RECEIVE AND FILE INFORMATION REGARDING CONTRACT SCHEDULES AND MANAGEMENT FOR I-10 INTERCHANGES**

Allyn Waggle reported that this item is a result of a meeting held at CVAG on March 13, 2009 with the Cities of Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs, Palm Springs and the County of Riverside. There are concerns regarding the potential of having four I-10 interchange projects under construction at the same time.

Bill Bayne, City of Cathedral City, stated a particular concern is the potential cost savings and efficiencies for bundling construction contracts for more than one interchange and the management of potentially multiple interchange constructions so that there is efficient communication and coordination.

Hugh Smith, Dennis Green and Patty Romo representatives of the Riverside County Transportation Department (RCTD) were in attendance at the TTAS meeting and outlined their approach to the project management. The County is the lead agency for Indian Avenue, Palm Drive/ Gene Autry Trail and Date Palm. The State is the lead agency for Ramon/ Bob Hope and Indio is the lead agency for Jefferson Street.

Prior to the award of any contracts, projects will be reviewed for their constructability. A project management plan will be prepared and reviewed by the County. The County has hired Dennis Green to coordinate construction activities and to implement a public awareness program. Mr. Green will also be the project coordinator for the Caltrans interchange project at Bob Hope Drive/ Ramon Road. Therefore, there will be only one point of contact for four interchanges. Jefferson Street is excluded at this time. Mr. Green will hold monthly meetings with contractors and jurisdictions. The public will have an opportunity to discuss matters of concern and will be kept informed of pending stages of construction. All contracts will have a clause that requires coordination with the other projects.

CONSENSUS AGREED TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE INFORMATION PROVIDED.

13. **CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCES**

Gary Leong, Director of Administrative Services, provided the committee members with CVAG's Cash Flow Projections through the end of FY 2012/ 2013. Mr. Leong stated the cash flow projections on the impacts of future arterial projects has always shown a positive

number. However, the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) recently revised their Measure "A" revenue numbers. These revisions have significantly impacted the cash flow because the future projections are based on current numbers. In light of that, current projected Measure "A" revenues for the next five years are down \$31.2 million from the original projects.

Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) has been monitored for the past seven months and reflect a 41% decrease in collected amounts. Forecasting future TUMF revenues are reduced by a total of \$12.4 million for the next four years. Also compounding the problem is the loss of about \$56.6 million of State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funds and \$10.0 million of Transportation Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) funds. The low interest rates have also been included in the projected decline of \$3.5 million over the original projections for the next five-year period, FY08/09 through FY 12/13.

CVAG has, however, receive American Recovery and Reinvestment ACT (ARRA) funds of \$34.9 million for the Ramon Rd./ I-10 Interchange and \$4.6 million for the Palm/ I-10 Interchange bringing the total amount receive to \$39.5 million.

CVAG will continue to move forward and seek bond funding for any shortfalls. Councilmember Kelly stated that CVAG should not be reluctant to use bonds as it is the best value now and will continue to provide jobs and tourism for the valley.

CONSENSUS AGREED TO RECEIVE AND THE FILE INFORMATION PROVIDED.

14. CONSENT CALENDAR

APPROVAL

14A April 13, 2009 Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER MATAS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MULLANY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2009.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH TEN AYES, THE CITY OF PALM DESERT AND THE AGUA CALIENTE BAND OF CAHUILLA INDIANS ABSTAINING FROM THE VOTE.

RECEIVE AND FILE

14B TUMF/Measure "A" Collections Report 2008/09 FY February 28, 2009.

14C Regional Arterial Program – Project Status Report as of April 30, 2009.

14D Transportation Committee Attendance Roster FY 2008/09.

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

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH TWELVE AYES.

15. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next regularly scheduled meeting date for CVAG's **Transportation Committee** will be at **12:00 p.m. on Monday, June 8, 2009**

The next meeting of CVAG's **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 12, 2009.**

The next meeting of CVAG's **Transportation Technical Advisory Sub-Committee (TTAS)** will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 22, 2009.**

The next meeting of CVAG's **Executive Committee** will be held at **6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2009.**

The next meeting of the CVAG's **General Assembly** will be held at **6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 29, 2009** at the Spotlight 29 Casino, 46-200 Harrison Place, Coachella, CA.

16. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Rayner
Senior Assistant