

MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Date: Wednesday March 26, 2003
Time: 2:34 p.m.
Place: Madera County Government Center,
Board of Supervisor Chambers

Members Present: Chairman Frank Bigelow, Supervisor - Madera County
Vice Chair Gordon Skeels, Councilman – City of Madera
Al Ginsburg, Councilman - City of Chowchilla
Gary Gilbert, Supervisor - Madera County
Ronn Dominici, Supervisor – Madera County
Harlen Rippetoe - Unincorporated Valley
Darwin Shebelut, Incorporated Area
Jon Norby, Eastern Madera County
Alt. Gary Svanda, Councilman – City of Madera

Members Absent: M.J. Nabors, Mayor - City of Madera

MCTA Staff: Patricia S. Taylor-Maley, Executive Director
Sheila Kingsley, Administrative Assistant
Derek Winning, Planner I
Tricia Stone, Receptionist

I. Public Comment

This portion of the meeting is reserved for person(s) wishing to address the MCTA on items within the jurisdiction but not on this agenda.

There was no Public Comment.

II. Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2003

Upon motion by Director Dominici, and seconded by Director Skeels, to approve the January 22, 2003 Executive Minutes as written. A vote was called and the motion carried.

III. Administration

A. Draft 2003-2004 Annual Work Program

The draft 2003/04 Annual Work Program was included in the package. Per Authority policy the AWP is prepared annually and serves as the funding authority for projects advanced by the agencies. The program recognizes funds available for projects to include carryover of prior year balances, surplus revenues and interest. It also provides a line item, not to exceed budget for each project being advanced by one of the agencies.

Action: Initiate review of 2003/04 Annual Work Program.

B. 2002-03 Annual Work Program – Amendment #02/03-5

The City of Madera requested to amend the 2002-03 Annual Work Program. The amendment is as follows:

- MA-CLE-05 – Cleveland Avenue: increase Right of Way by \$10,000 (from \$140,000 to \$150,000) and decrease Construction Engineering by \$10,000 (from \$75,000 to \$65,000).
- MA-CLE-07 – Cleveland Avenue: increase Construction by \$20,000 (from \$100,000 to \$120,000) and decrease unprogrammed balance by \$20,000 (from \$50,905 to \$30,905).

Action: Upon motion by Director Dominici, seconded by Director Skeels to approve 2002-2003 Annual Work Program – Amendment #02/03-5. A vote was called and the motion carried.

C. Plans and Specifications: MA-CLE-07 and MA-LAK-02

The City of Madera requested Authority approval for plans and specification on the Cleveland Avenue – Granada to Schnoor project and Lake Street – Roosevelt to Moore project for completion of median improvements. City staff was available to address any questions from the Authority. Plans & Specifications are available for review at the MCTC.

Action: Upon motion by Director Svanda, seconded by Director Dominici to approve Plans & Specifications: MA-CLE-07 and MA-LAK-02. A vote was called and the motion carried.

D. Legislation affecting Transportation Sales Tax Measures

Three bills of interest have been introduced in the State Legislature during the current 2002-2003 legislative session. The three bills propose to reduce the vote threshold required to pass transportation sales tax measures, like Measure A, throughout the State. Currently, in order for a local transportation sales tax measure to pass, the measure needs 2/3 of the voters in a city or county voting in favor of the measure.

A brief description of the bills is as follows:

1. ACA 7: introduced by Assemblyman John Dutra (D) from the Bay Area, proposes a Constitutional amendment to reduce the voter-approval requirements for local sales tax measures used exclusively for transportation purposes to 55%.
2. ACA 9: introduced by Assemblyman Lloyd Levine (D) from Southern California, proposes a Constitutional amendment to change voter-approval requirements for special taxes and general taxes. Currently, special taxes require the approval of 2/3 of the voters of the city or county to pass and general taxes only require a simple majority of the voters to pass. This bill proposes to reduce the voter-approval requirement for special taxes, like Measure A, to a simple majority and increase the voter-approval requirement for general taxes to 2/3.
3. SCA 2: introduced by Senator Tom Torlakson (D) from the Bay Area, proposes to amend the State Constitution to reduce the vote threshold required for transportation sales tax measures to a majority with the caveat that 25% of the revenues be dedicated to smart-growth planning (land use planning that conserves open space, reduces air pollution, and provides housing close to population and employment centers).

There are two steps involved in making these bills a reality. First, since each of the bills proposes Constitutional Amendments, they will need to receive 2/3 of the State Legislature's votes in favor of the bills for them to pass. Secondly, if one of the bills passes in the State Legislature and is signed by the Governor, it will then need to be placed on a ballot to go before the voters in California and will pass if a majority of the voters vote in favor of the measure.

Action: Upon motion by Director Gilbert, seconded by Director Dominici directed staff to write a letter of support for ACA 7 and ACA 9 and a letter of support for SCA 2, but oppose the mandatory

25% set aside for smart growth planning. A vote was called and the motion carried. Directors Skeels and Rippetoe voted no.

IV. Miscellaneous

A. Items from Staff

Staff gave a report on the status of the Commission website.

B. Directors Reports

No items from Directors.

V. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Next meeting set for May 21, 2003.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia S. Taylor-Maley, Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Authority