

# MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## EXECUTIVE MINUTES

**Date:** Wednesday, September 22, 2010

**Time:** 3:00 p.m.

**Place:** MCTC Board Chambers

**Members Present:** Chairman Jim Kopshever– Councilman, City of Chowchilla  
Vice Chairman Robert Poythress – Councilman, City of Madera  
Max Rodriguez – Supervisor, Madera County  
Tom Wheeler – Supervisor, Madera County  
Alt. Ronn Dominici - Supervisor, Madera County

**Members Absent:** Frank Bigelow – Supervisor, Madera County  
Sam Armentrout – Councilman, City of Madera

**Policy Advisory Committee:** Above Members present and Caltrans Representatives:  
Paul Marquez

**MCTC Staff Present:** Patricia Taylor, Executive Director  
Derek Winning, Deputy Director  
Richard Poythress, Planner II  
Troy McNeil, Fiscal Supervisor  
Dylan Stone, Planner I  
Sheila Kingsley, Administrative Asst.

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MCTC sitting as the Transportation Policy Committee.

### **I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

Patricia Taylor introduced Michael Sigala to the Board. Mr. Sigala is the Valley Wide Coordinator working with the Valley COG Directors and San Joaquin Valley Policy Council.

### **III. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS**

#### **A. *Madera County Traffic Monitoring Program -2010 Traffic Volumes Report***

The Madera County Traffic Monitoring Program – Traffic Volumes Report was developed as part of MCTC's FY 2009/10 Overall Work Program (OWP). The report is published annually and provides current traffic count information for planning and engineering projects.

Included in the Commissioner's packet was a summary of the 2010 Traffic Volumes Report containing a list of traffic counts sorted by jurisdiction. The full report, included all supporting data, is available on the Madera County Transportation Commission web site at <http://www.maderactc.org/>.

**Action:** Accept the 2010 Traffic Volumes Report.

**B. 2010 Fall Policy Conference - October 6-7, 2010**

Included in the Commissioner's packet was the agenda and registration information for the Fall Policy Conference in October. The conference will be on October 6 & 7, 2010 at the Doubletree Hotel Ballroom in Modesto. Additional conference information can be found at [www.stancog.org/fall-conference-reg.shtm](http://www.stancog.org/fall-conference-reg.shtm)

**Action:** Information and Discussion Only.

**C. Prop 84 Planning Grant Application - Letter of Support**

On August 31, 2010, Fresno COG submitted an application to the California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) for a Valley wide \$2.5 million Prop 84 planning grant. A copy of the MCTC letter of support submitted to SGC with the grant proposal was included in the Commissioner's packet.

Through this collaborative grant submittal for Proposition 84 funding, the eight San Joaquin Valley COGs (San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern) intend to build upon the successful San Joaquin Valley Blueprint effort in the development of tools and products to meet the requirements of SB 375 including Sustainable Communities Strategies and a Greenprint addressing natural resources, agricultural lands and open space.

The Madera County Transportation Commission fully supports the joint submittal of this application and intends to work cooperatively the other seven Valley Councils of Governments to produce outcomes that will not only aid us in meeting our SB 375 requirements, but also provide tools and products that will assist city and county governments in the regions to develop and implement innovative local plans designed to support AB 32 GHG emissions reduction targets and implementation of SB 375 and the Regional Blueprint.

**Action:** Information and Discussion Only.

**D. 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendments No. 16 & 17 (Admin Modifications)**

Enclosed for the Commissioner's review was a copy of Amendments No. 16 & No. 17 (Type 1 Administrative) to the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program (Interim FTIP). Amendment No. 16 revised several CMAQ projects to be programmed at 100% federal funds reimbursement and also increased CMAQ funding level for several projects to take advantage of a one-time CMAQ apportionment restoration. Amendment No. 17 shifts funds (\$2 million) from the CON Phase to the Right-of-way Phase consistent with the approved State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Amendments No. 16 & No. 17 meet all applicable transportation planning requirements per 23 CFR Part 450 and 40 CFR Part 93. These projects and/or project phases are consistent with the 2007 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), which was adopted by the Madera County Transportation Commission on May 23, 2007 and approved by FHWA/FTA on June 29, 2007.

The MCTC Public Participation Plan does not require a public review and comment period for Type 1 Administrative Amendments. The MCTC Policy Board has delegated MPO approval of Type 1 Administrative Amendments to its Executive Director. State approval is required.

**Action:** Ratify 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendments No. 16 & No. 17 (Admin Modifications)

**E. California High Speed Rail Authority - Public Information Meeting**

Staff reported that the California High Speed Rail Authority will be conducting a public information meeting in Madera on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 from 4:00pm-7:00pm at the Madera County Fairgrounds – Home Arts Building. The public meeting will provide information concerning the Merced to Fresno section of the California High Speed Train project and the Environmental Impact Report/Statement (EIR/EIS) that is being prepared. A public meeting will also be held in Merced on October 5, 2010. Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of the notice for the public meetings.

**Action:** Information and Discussion Only.

**Transportation Consent Calendar Action:** Upon motion by Commissioner Wheeler, seconded by Commissioner Dominici to approve the Transportation Consent Calendar (Item III A to E. ). A vote was called and the motion carried.

**IV. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. SB 375 Target Setting - Follow-up Report**

On August 9, 2010, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) released a staff report with proposed greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets for the 18 MPOs in the State of California. ARB will consider the targets for adoption at its September 23, 2010 meeting. Included in the Commissioner's packet was excerpts from the ARB staff report. A copy of the full staff report can be downloaded from the ARB web site: [http://arb.ca.gov/cc/sb375/staffreport\\_sb375080910.pdf](http://arb.ca.gov/cc/sb375/staffreport_sb375080910.pdf).

The report recommends a GHG reduction target of 5% by 2020 and 10% by 2035 for the 8 San Joaquin Valley MPOs. This is a Valley wide, placeholder target that would be subject to revision in 2012 once the SJV MPOs have implemented their Model Improvement Plan (MIP) and completed additional scenario development. The 2012 informational update should include a report by the Valley MPOs on how they intend to address the statutory option to work together in the development of multi-county Sustainable Community Strategies (SCS).

The SJV COG Directors have reached a consensus that the proposed ARB targets are not realistic or achievable given the overall rural character of the San Joaquin Valley. Fresno COG, for example, reports that the maximum achievable 2035 GHG reduction is only 6% in Fresno County. The MPOs are pursuing an effort to request less onerous targets prior to ARB adoption on September 23.

MCTC staff are preparing to host a regional workshop for elected officials, local agency staff, and other stakeholders to discuss the issues related to SB 375, the SCS, and valley-wide coordination. The time and date of the workshop have yet to be determined.

**Action:** Information and Discussion Only.

**B. Request for Proposals: Traffic Model Update**

Staff reported that MCTC is soliciting proposals from qualified firms to prepare an update to the Madera County Transportation Model. The MCTC Transportation Model will be updated to a 2010 base year and updated with several model improvements to more accurately forecast travel in Madera County. The MCTC 2010/11 Overall Work Program and Budget identifies \$140,000 for the completion of this project. Included in your package is a copy of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the MCTC Transportation Model Update. All proposals are due by October 22, 2010. MCTC staff will recommend a proposal for approval at the December Board meeting.

**Action:** Upon motion by Commissioner Wheeler, seconded by Commission Dominici to authorize the circulation of the Madera County Transportation Model Update RFP. A vote was called and the motion carried.

**C. *Options for Regional Organization in the Valley***

On March 26, 2010, the San Joaquin Valley Policy Council met at the offices of Fresno COG for a Development Workshop designed to determine the priority work plan and organizational structure for the Policy Council over the coming year, and to better define the relationship between the Policy Council and the San Joaquin Valley Partnership. A report was developed from the workshop. The report summarizes discussions and decisions from the Workshop, and makes recommendations for next steps based on those decisions including an appendix item that includes a discussion of alternative structures for regional governance bodies using the following case studies: King County Subarea Transportation Boards (Enhanced Authority); Sacramento Area Council of Governments (Super COG/MPO); and Portland Metro (Authoritative Agency).

The SJ Valley Policy Council also directed the COG Directors at its June 25, 2010 meeting to continue to explore alternative structures for the Policy Council in order to better position the San Joaquin Valley to speak as one voice to obtain a significant share of state and federal resources and to potentially consolidate the planning activities of 8 separate organizations.

**Action:** Direction may be provided.

**D. *San Joaquin Valley California Partnership Nomination***

The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley was established by executive order from the Governor in 2005 and extended indefinitely in July 2010. The Partnership is an eight-county public-private partnership focused on improving the region's economic vitality and quality of life for the San Joaquin Valley.

Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of the letter from the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley requesting the Commission to contribute to the process of appointing a new Partnership Board Member. The Board composition includes eight local elected officials, designed to each represent one county in the San Joaquin Valley. In Madera County, the current Board Member is Supervisor Frank Bigelow. The Partnership is requesting the Commission recommend to the Partnership Executive Committee either 1) reappoint Supervisor Frank Bigelow, or 2) appoint three nominees in ranking order for the board membership to fill the seat that has been held by Supervisor Bigelow. This will become effective January 1, 2011.

Commission staff has discussed the reappointment with Supervisor Bigelow and Supervisor Bigelow has expressed willingness to continue his appointment as a Partnership Board Member.

**Action:** Upon motion by Commissioner Dominici, seconded by Director Wheeler to direct staff to execute a letter to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, indicating the Commission's supports, to reappointment Supervisor Bigelow as a Partnership Board Member, effective January 1, 2011. A vote was called and the motion carried.

**E. *San Joaquin Valley California Partnership - Request for Funding***

The Madera County Transportation Commission (as have each of the eight San Joaquin Valley COGs), received a request (letter included in package) from the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley requesting funding for continued operations of the SJV Partnership in FY 2010/11. Valley wide, the total request for funding comes to \$142,000; MCTC's proportional share of that amount is **\$5,400**. This funding would be used by the Partnership to continue operations in FY 2010/11. The Partnership was established by executive order of the Governor in 2006 and extended indefinitely in July 2010. However, the extension does not include any funding in addition to the initial \$5 million provided in 2006, which expired in June 2009.

Unfortunately, there are no MCTC Federal or State funding sources that can be utilized to support the Partnership effort, as these funds are generally restricted to "transportation specific" uses. With that in mind, any funding to support the Partnership would have to come from the MCTC member agencies.

**Action:** Upon motion by Commissioner Wheeler, seconded by Commissioner Dominici to direct staff to inform the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley that the Commission recommends the Partnership contact the Madera County local jurisdictions for funding as the Commission's planning funds is not eligible. A vote was called and the motion carried.

**V. REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Action:** The Commission unanimously approved to reaffirm all actions taken while sitting as the Transportation Policy Committee.

**VI. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS**

**A. Executive Minutes of July 21, 2010**

Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of the July 21, 2010 Executive Minutes.

**Action:** Approve Executive Minutes of July 21, 2010.

**Administrative Consent Calendar Action**

**Action:** Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, seconded by Commissioner Wheeler to approve the Administrative Consent Calendar. A vote was called and the motion carried.

**VII. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Draft MCTC Financial Management Policies and Procedures**

The MCTC's draft accounting and financial policies and procedures manual was handed out to the Commissioners for review. A recent audit from Caltrans recommended that we formalize in written form MCTC's policies and procedures in relation to accounting and financial management to ensure compliance with federal regulations. Staff is requesting comments at this time and is planning to present these policies and procedures to the Board for approval at its October meeting.

**Action:** Upon motion by Commissioner Wheeler, seconded by Commissioner Dominici to authorize circulation of MCTC's Financial and Accounting Policies and Procedures manual for review and comments. A vote was called and the motion carried.

**MCTC Sitting as the Madera County 2006 Transportation Authority**

**VIII. AUTHORITY - ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS**

**A. Measure "T" Compliance Audit Report: City of Chowchilla**

MCTA has received the Measure "T" Compliance Audit Report for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2009 for the City of Chowchilla. This report was done in accordance with Section 99245 of the Public Utilities Code by Dedekian, George, Small & Markarian Accountancy Corporation.

Staff was pleased to report that there are no adverse findings.

**Action:** Accept the Measure "T" Compliance Audit for the City of Chowchilla.

**Authority Administrative Consent Calendar Action**

Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, seconded by Commissioner Wheeler to approve the Authority Administrative Consent Calendar. A vote was called and the motion carried.

**IX. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. 2010-2011 Annual Work Program**

Included in the Commissioner's packet was the Measure "T" 2010-11 Annual Work Program. Per Authority policy the AWP is prepared annually and serves as the annual funding authority for the Measure "T" program. The Annual Work Program recognizes funds available for projects according to the Measure "T" Investment Plan and outlines each local jurisdiction's Annual Expenditure Plan with respect to the available funds. Also, staff is asking for approval to release and disburse any interest earned through June 30, 2010.

**Action:** Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, seconded by Commissioner Wheeler to approve the 2010-11 Measure "T" Annual Work Program and the disbursement of interest earned through June 30, 2010. A vote was called and the motion carried.

**B. 2010 Focus on the Future Conference**

Staff reported that the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Self-Help Counties Focus on the Future Conference will be held at the La Quinta Resort and Club in La Quinta, November 14-16. Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of the registration form and agenda. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sheila Kingsley, Administrative Assistant, at 675-0721 extension or [sheila@maderactc.org](mailto:sheila@maderactc.org)

**Action:** Information and Discussion Only.

**X. Miscellaneous**

**A. Items From Caltrans**

Paul Marquez, Caltrans, updated the Board on local projects in Madera City/County.

**B. Items from Staff**

Patricia Taylor, Executive Director, noted that the November meeting may move to the first week in December (Wed., December 1, 2010).

**C. Items from Commissioners**

No Items from the Commissioners.

**XI. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Next MCTC meeting set for Wednesday, October 20, 2010

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia S. Taylor, Executive Director  
Madera County Transportation Commission