

MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2009

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Place: MCTC Board Chambers

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

Members Absent: Vern Moss – Supervisor, Madera County
Sam Armentrout – Councilman, City of Madera

Policy Advisory Committee: Above Members present and Caltrans Representatives:
Steve Curti

MCTC Staff Present: Patricia Taylor, Executive Director
Troy McNeil, Fiscal Supervisor
Richard Poythress, Planner I
Sheila Kingsley, Administrative Assistant

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.

There was not Public Comment.

III. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

A. California High Speed Rail

Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of three letters written on behalf of the County of Madera, City of Madera and City of Chowchilla to the California High Speed Rail Authority indicating the following support:

1. California High Speed Rail, Heavy Maintenance Facility
2. High Speed Rail Routes through Madera County; and
3. California High Speed Rail, Rail Car Manufacturing

Action: Information and discussion only.

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

IV. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Request to Review/Comment on Draft Joint Powers Agreement - CalVAN, A Public Transit Agency

In 2001, the Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (KCAPTA) initiated its vanpool program with several vanpools transporting State workers to prison facilities in Corcoran and Avenal. The vanpool program expanded in 2002 with the successful funding of the Agricultural Industries Transportation Services (AITS) project. This project focused on farmworkers and was in cooperation with Tulare County.

Five counties and one city—Fresno, Kern, Madera, Tulare and Ventura Counties and the City of Greenfield have now entered in formal agreements with KCAPTA to provide vanpool services. Many other communities have solicited KCAPTA's assistance in establishing vanpools in their regions. In addition to the five Valley counties, Monterey and Sacramento Counties are interested in entering into a formal agreement with the proposed new ridesharing entity. Included in your package is a draft joint powers agreement for the formation of a new regional vanpool agency.

Current Vanpool Operations

KCAPTA provides between 300 - 350 vanpools to those traveling the five-county project area. The number of farmworker vanpools varies between 80 and 140 vans throughout the agricultural season. Support via the main office in Hanford consists of 24-hour roadside assistance, vehicle on-site service, a fuel card provided with van, and GPS monitoring. Random spot inspections are performed, as needed, to insure safe conditions and compliance with all rules and regulations. All driver licenses also are pulled and reviewed monthly.

All vans are insured at \$10 million, with \$1 million uninsured motorist and \$5,000 per person no-fault medical coverage, at a cost of less than \$1,400 per unit per year.

Funding

All capital and operating costs come from fares received from system users, with the exception of the AWTP. Funds from the AWTP are used to purchase equipments and expand the AWTP. Additional grant funds are from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) and Fresno Measure C Program, Congestion Management and Air Quality (CMAQ), and Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC). To date, there has been no expenditure of funds from any county's general fund or Local Transportation Funds supporting the vanpool program. The passage of SB716 (Wolk) in 2009, however, provides greater flexibility for rural cities to use their allocation of Local Transportation Funds for vanpool purposes, including farmworker transportation to and from work.

Vans for non-farmworker vanpools are lease/purchase and paid for over five years by the user of the vans. After five years the cost to the vanpool group is reduced to reflect that the van is paid for and lease/purchase payments are no longer being made. When the van is no longer serviceable, it is replaced with a new lease/purchase van that is again charged to the vanpool group. The fares collected from farmworkers cover the operating but not the capital cost of the vans. Replacement of these vans is anticipated to occur using the funding parameters found in recently passed SB716.

Proposed JPA

For future stability and to provide representation of all participants, it is recommended that the present vanpool operation be transitioned to a new joint powers agency with representation from Councils of Governments

(COGs) served by the program. Since COGs represent both counties and cities, it is suggested that a COG representative serve as a member of the new joint powers agency. Any member agency may withdraw its membership from the agency by written notice 180 days before actual withdrawal.

The current vanpool program does not require outside funding for its operation; and it is not anticipated that any member agency would be obligated to provide funding to the new agency. This would not prevent any COG or agency, however, from providing support if it so chooses.

Once all participating agencies are given a chance to review the proposed JPA, their comments will be incorporated into the final document, which will be submitted to the MCTC board for approval in January 2010. The CalVANS agency will begin official operations on July 1, 2010.

Action: This Item was pulled and will be presented at the next meeting of the Commission.

B. *Final 2009/10 - 2013/14 Short Range Transit Development Plan*

Included in the Commissioners packet was a copy of the Executive Summary of the *Madera County Short-Range Transit Development Plan FY2009/10 – FY2013/14 (SRTDP)*. The SRTDP is a 5-year planning document that is intended to serve as a guide for improving public transit agencies within Madera County. The primary objectives of the SRTDP are to:

- Develop transit goals, objectives, and performance standards.
- Evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the existing transit systems.
- Develop a 5-year service plan to improve transit services based upon community need and public input.
- Provide marketing and outreach strategies to promote ridership.
- Develop financially feasible capital and operating plans that address existing and future transit needs.
- Meet programming requirements for State PTMISEA transit capital funding.

The draft SRTDP was submitted to local agency staff, the Social Service Transportation Advisory Committee (SSTAC), and the general public for review and comment. All comments received were incorporated into the final SRTDP document. Copies of the complete document are available for review at the MCTC offices or online at <http://www.maderactc.org/>.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, seconded by Commissioner Wheeler to approve the Madera County Short-Range Transit Development Plan FY2009/10 – FY2013/14. A vote was called and the motion carried.

C. *Launching of SB 375 Efforts in Madera County*

SB 375 is landmark legislation that addresses passenger vehicle-related greenhouse gas emissions reduction through integrated land use and transportation planning.

The Regional Target Advisory Committee (RTAC) appointed by the Air Resources Board (ARB) under SB 375 has made final recommendations regarding the target-setting process for greenhouse gas emission reductions. The RTAC recommended that draft regional targets be developed by March 1, 2010; ARB staff will recommend draft statewide targets to its Board on June 30, 2010; and final targets will be set on September 30, 2010.

In cooperation with the other seven San Joaquin Valley MPOs, MCTC has joined a regional SB 375 committee, which will meet biweekly through March 2010. This committee will establish a valley wide methodology for quantifying greenhouse gas emissions and provide opportunities to collaborate with other agencies on the best approach to SB 375 target setting.

MCTC will also be formally launching its SB 375 efforts with the local agencies.

MCTC plans to submit its own target recommendation to ARB by the March 1, 2010 deadline. This target will be based on the land use and planning policies contained in the Madera County Blueprint preferred scenario.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

D. San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council's "Valley Voice" Advocacy Trips in 2010

Recognizing the value of the Valley Voice programs, the San Joaquin Valley COGs Policy Council requested the Valley Legislative Affairs Committee to organize legislative visits to Sacramento and Washington D.C. The 2010 Valley Voice trip dates are as follows:

- Sacramento: Wednesday, February 3rd and Thursday, February 4th
- Washington DC: Monday, March 22nd through Thursday, March 25th

San Joaquin COG is taking the lead for logistics on the Sacramento trip (Wednesday, February 3rd and Thursday, February 24th) and Kern COG is taking the lead on the Washington DC trip (Wednesday, March 22nd through Thursday, March 25th).

The Valley Voice delegates will discuss issues of Valley wide interest. The Commission will be able to fund two delegates and two staff members for hotel and meal expenses for the Sacramento legislative visit and one delegate and one staff for the Washington DC trip.

Action: Appoint delegate(s) to attend the Sacramento and Washington DC visits.

Commissioner's Poythress and Kopshever will be attending the Sacramento Valley Voice trip.

Alt. Commissioner Mindt will be attending the Washington DC Valley Voice trip. Commissioner Kopshever also expressed his interest in the Washington trip if Alt. Commissioner Mindt was not able to attend.

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 October 21, 2009

Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of the October 21, 2009 Executive Minutes for review.

Action: Approve Executive Minutes of October 21, 2009.

Administrative Consent Calendar Action

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, seconded by Commissioner Kopshever to approve the Administrative Consent Calendar. Commissioner Mindt abstained from the vote. A vote was called and the motion carried.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

No Administrative Action/Discussion Items.

MCTC Sitting as the Madera County 2006 Transportation Authority

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. *MCTA Sales Tax Revenue Bonds - KNN Contract Amendment*

At its July 22, 2009 meeting, the Board approved a contract with KNN Public Finance to provide financial advisory services for the Ellis overcrossing bond issuance. The contract stated that KNN would be paid out of bond proceeds. It was not anticipated at the time that Build America Bonds (BABs) would be issued. BABs costs of issuance are limited to 2% of the bond proceeds. Taking into account the 1% investor upfront fee and bond counsel costs, there were insufficient funds available to pay the KNN fee. It was then agreed upon to pay KNN out of sales tax proceeds from the regional program. This agreement was included in the bond documents approved by the Board at its last meeting. It was discovered after the fact that the language in the contract would not allow this. Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of a letter detailing the proposed amended contract language that would allow MCTA to pay KNN out of sales tax proceeds.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Wheeler, seconded by Commissioner Poythress to approve contract amendment with KNN Public Finance. A vote was called and the motion carried.

IX. *Miscellaneous*

A. *Items From Caltrans*

Caltrans updated the Commission on the current status on local projects in Madera County.

Caltrans also informed the Board of the High Speed Rail Authority meeting to be held in Sacramento.

B. *Items from Staff*

Patricia Taylor introduced MCTC's newest Transportation Planner 1, Dylan Stone, to the Board.

C. *Items from Commissioners*

No Items from the Commissioners.

X. *Adjournment*

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Next MCTC meeting set for Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia S. Taylor, Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission