

MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2002

Time: 3:00 P.M.

Place: Madera County Government Center,
Board of Supervisor Chambers

Members Present: Gordon Skeels - Councilman, City of Madera
Alfred Ginsburg - Councilman, City of Chowchilla
M.J. Nabors – Councilman, City of Madera
Alt. John Silva – Supervisor, Madera County
Alt. Ron Dominici – Supervisor, Madera County

Members Absent: Vice Chair Frank Bigelow - Supervisor, Madera County
Gary Gilbert - Supervisor, Madera County
Chairman Vern Moss - Supervisor, Madera County

Policy Advisory Committee: Above Members present and Caltrans Representatives:
Alan McCuen

MCTC Staff Present: Patricia S. Taylor-Maley, Executive Director
Elizabeth Levine, Project Coordinator
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 MCTC on items within their jurisdiction but not on this agenda.

There were no public comments.

II. Meeting Minutes of February 20, 2002

Upon motion by Commissioner Ginsburg, seconded by Commissioner Silva, to approve the January 23, 2002 Executive Minutes as written. A vote was called and the motion carried.

III. Transportation Items

A. 2002 State Transportation Improvement Program Status

The California Transportation Commission staff has informed the CTC that most 2002 STIP proposals were heavily front-loaded in comparison with available STIP capacity. About 90% of the new STIP capacity is available only for the three new years being added by the 2002 STIP – FY 04/05 through FY 06/07. However, about 60% of the proposals made in the regional transportation improvement programs (RTIPs) and the Caltrans Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) added new project funding for FY 02/03 and FY 03/04. Nearly \$2.5 billion is already programmed for those two years in the 2000 STIP. The RTIPs and ITIP proposed to add more than \$2.4 billion for the same years, while the capacity remaining for those years is less than \$400 million. With the STIP amendments and allocations approved since the Fund Estimate, the capacity remaining for FY –2/03 now stands at less than \$10 million.

By law, the total amount programmed in each fiscal year of the STIP may not exceed the capacity identified in the STIP Fund Estimate. For the 1998 and 2000 STIPs, this was never an issue because extraordinary circumstances meant that new capacity was available even in the STIP's earliest years. With the 2002 STIP, however, we are returning to what was once the norm, that new programming is added primarily in the new years being added to the STIP. (This issue is discussed in the Commission's 2001 Annual Report, Volume I, Chapter B, 2002 STIP Outlook ---- Item III. D of MCTC Agenda).

The two issues facing the regional transportation planning agencies and Caltrans are:

1. There are more projects proposed than capacity
2. Each agency will need to respread its proposed projects

Important Timeframes:

- February 25, 2002 – MCTC staff is required to notify CTC of projects that will not meet currently proposed delivery schedules.
- February 25, 2002 – MCTC staff is also required to notify CTC of projects that will be respread over the 2002 STIP cycle.
- March 13, 2002 CTC staff recommendations to Commission.
- April 4, 2002 – STIP Adoption.
- June 13, 2002 – STIP Amendment Notices for substitutions, corrections and technical changes.
- July 18, 2002 – Adoption of STIP Amendments for substitution, corrections and technical changes.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Ginsburg, seconded by Commissioner Nabors to direct staff to respond through a letter to the CTC staff. A vote was called and the motion passed.

B. Amendment to the 2000 Federal Transportation Improvement Program. Resolution 00-10 Amendment No. 7

The County of Madera is requesting to amend the 2000 FTIP to amend and program new Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program projects. The amendment is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Requested Change
<u>PRIOR YEARS</u>	<u>Delete:</u> Purchase CNG Fueling Facility. Total: \$250,000 (\$221,300 CMAQ; \$28,800 Local)
<u>FY01/02</u>	<p><u>Add:</u> Pedestrian Facilities-Rd 26 (north to Ave 17) Total: \$135,000 (\$119,475 CMAQ; \$15,525 Local)</p> <p><u>Amend:</u> Pedestrian Facilities-SR41–Oakhurst (Ph1-Con) Reprogram from FY00/01 to FY01/02. Total:\$518,800 (\$459,100 CMAQ; \$59,700 Local)</p> <p><u>Amend:</u> Rename “Purchase Bi-Fuel Vehicle 4x4” to “Purchase Bi-Fuel Support Vehicle” & reprogram from FY00/01 to FY01/02. Total: \$35,000 (\$30,975 CMAQ; \$4,025 State)</p> <p><u>Delete:</u> Purchase CNG Vehicles-4 Pickups Total: \$94,000 (\$83,200 CMAQ; \$10,800 Local)</p>
<u>FY02/03</u>	<u>Add:</u> Signal-Road 36 12 / Rd 36. Total: \$500,000 (\$442,500 CMAQ; \$57,500 Local)

Add: Bicycle Facilities- Road 36 between Avenue 12/ Avenue 121/2. Total: \$150,000 (\$132,750 CMAQ; \$17,250 Local)

Add: Pedestrian Facilities-SR41-Oakhurst (Ph2-PE)

Total: \$150,000 (\$132,750 CMAQ; \$17,250 Local)

Amend: Purchase CNG Vehicles-1 10-Yd, Dump Truck, 2 Sedans, 4 Pickups, 1 12-Passenger Van. Total: \$305,000 (\$269,900 – CMAQ; \$35,100 State)

FY03/04

Add: Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities-Rd 222 (Bass Lake)

Total: \$585,000 (\$518,000 CMAQ; \$67,000 Local)

Add: Pedestrian Facilities-SR41-Oakhurst (Ph2-ROW)

Total: \$300,000 (\$265,500 CMAQ; \$34,500 Local)

Amend: Purchase CNG Vehicles: 1 10-Yd. Dump Truck, 2 Sedans, 8 Pickups (Increase 4 pickups to 8 pickups). Total: \$388,000 (\$343,400 CMAQ; \$44,600 State)

FY04/05

Add: Pedestrian Facilities-SR41-Oakhurst (Ph2-Con)

Total: \$500,000 (\$424,400 CMAQ; \$75,600 Local)

The City of Chowchilla is requesting to amend the 2000 FTIP to amend and program new Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program projects. The amendment is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Requested Change
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FY02/03

Add: Purchase one new (expanded service) 16-21 Passenger Bus. Total: \$65,000 (\$57,525 CMAQ; \$7,475 Local)

Add: Pedestrian Facilities – 1st Street (Riverside/Kings to Sonoma Avenue). Total:\$55,000 (\$48,675 CMAQ; \$6,325 Local)

FY04/05

Amend: Pedestrian Facilities – High School (various locations. Total: \$240,000 (\$175,000 CMAQ; \$65,000 Local)

The City of Madera is requesting to amend the 2000 FTIP to program new Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program projects. The amendment is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Requested Change
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FY02/03

Add: Bicycle / Pedestrian – Fresno River Trail. Total: \$146,000 (\$129,210 CMAQ; \$16,790Local)

Add: Purchase Dial-A-Ride Replacement Vehicle. Total:\$65,000 (\$57,525 CMAQ; \$7,475 Local)

The City of Madera and the City of Chowchilla are also requesting to amend the 2000 FTIP to reflect an increase in FY 2001/02 Section 5311 funding. The amendment is as follows:

1. FY 2002/03 – Madera Area Express/Dial-A-Ride operating assistance – Total Project Cost: \$783,100 (\$138,735 Section 5311; \$644,365 Local). Section 5311 increased \$3,210.

2. FY 2002/03 – Chowchilla Area Express operating assistance – Total Project Cost: \$137,900 (\$8,995 Section 5311; \$128,905 Local). Section 5311 increased \$220.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Nabors, seconded by Commissioner Dominici to approve amendment to the 2000 Federal Transportation Improvement Program by Resolution 00-10 Amendment No. 7. A vote was called and the motion carried.

C. Air Quality – Status Report

As reported previously, a number of concurrent issues related to air quality have the potential to impact transportation funding and the ability to move projects forward. A brief summary and update of each issue presented last month is shown below. A new development brings the issue of the “Air Resources Board’s vehicle inventory” to the forefront.

Air Resources Board (ARB) Emission Models Vehicle Inventory

On January 30, 2002, the Federal Highway Administration announced that conformity determinations currently pending federal approval may not receive approval. FHWA has taken the position that the emissions models used for conformity determinations (EMFAC 7f/7g) do not comply with EPA/FHWA 5-year planning assumption guidance. The vehicle inventory data in the models is greater than five years old. EMFAC 7f/7g is the only model approved for use by the ARB and EPA. Transportation Planning Agencies must utilize an approved emissions model for conformity purposes. As a result of this situation, TPAs do not have the tools that are needed to comply with conformity requirements. Until this matter is resolved, FHWA will not approve any conformity determinations for Regional Transportation Plans nor Federal Transportation Improvement Plans. The 2001 RTP for Madera County is pending FHWA approval and is among those RTPs that will not be approved.

Without resolution of the problem, several TPAs will go into conformity lapses in the near future. The first agency to lapse will be Fresno COG upon expiration of their current RTP on February 24, 2002. Merced and San Joaquin counties would lapse in March, 2002 and Tulare would lapse in June, 2002. The earlier version of Madera’s RTP will not expire until June 16, 2003. However, without a resolution, Madera projects will be affected much earlier due to expiration of the 2000 FTIP and the inability to obtain approval for a 2002 FTIP.

Efforts to resolve this particular air quality issue are proceeding on two fronts. The first is active pursuit of a legislative solution (an administrative solution is not possible). However, this plan is unlikely to be successful as it would presently require an emergency bill and a 2/3 vote. The second temporary approach is the expediting of funding allocations for projects that are already programmed. This would allow a number of projects to move forward after the conformity lapses are in place.

Severe Area Ozone Plan (SAOP)

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (Air District) is required to submit a SAOP by May 31, 2002. The plan may be considered incomplete as it may not contain a rate of progress plan and will not contain an attainment demonstration plan. The Air District continues to evaluate the potential to bump-up to Extreme status.

PM-10 Lawsuit

The EPA is proceeding with agreements that were negotiated as a result of the PM-10 lawsuit. It is still expected that a conformity freeze will occur in September, 2002 when the EPA takes final action on the PM-10 plan (disapproval of the plan).

Air District Rules

Approximately 14 Air District rules have sanction clocks running. The Air District believes the rule deficiencies will be corrected and approved prior to the expiration of any sanction clock.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

D. California Transportation Commission 2001 Annual Report

Included in the package was a copy of the Executive Summary of the California Transportation Commission 2001 Annual Report to the Legislature. This report was prepared pursuant to Government Code Sections 14535-14536.

Volume I of the report discusses key transportation issues for the coming year 2002. The following are issues identified by the CTC for FY 2002:

1. Transportation Finance – ACA 4
2. 2002 State Transportation Improvement Program Outlook
3. Traffic Congestion Relief Program – Outlook for 2002
4. Transportation System Security
5. Implementing “SCR 96” Global Gateways Program
6. Federal Transportation Equity Act Legislation Reauthorization for 2003-09
7. Revisiting SB 45 State Transportation Improvement Program Reform
8. Financing Storm Water Runoff
9. Continued Efforts Toward Environmental Streamlining
10. Aviation Issues – The State’s Role in Aviation
11. Intercity Rail Issues

Volume II of the report reviews activity and accomplishments during the year just ended 2001. The following is addressed in Volume II:

1. Traffic Congestion Relief Program – 2001 Accomplishments
2. 2002 State Transportation Improvement Program Guidelines and Fund Estimate
3. 2001 Report on County and Interregional Share Balances
4. State Highway Operation and Protection Program Issues
5. FY 2000-01 Caltrans Delivery
6. Local Program Delivery – Second Annual Report
7. Rural Counties Report – Annual Report
8. Innovative Financing: AB 1012 Loan Program, GARVEE Bonds, and TIFIA
9. Rural Transit System Grant Program
10. Seismic Safety Retrofit Program Annual Report/Status of Proposition 192
11. Federal Transportation Enhancement Activities Program
12. FY 2001-02 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program
13. Retrofit Soundwall Program
14. Proposition 116 Programs Implementation
15. FY 2001-02 Elderly and Disabled Persons Transit Program
16. Aeronautics Issues

A copy of the full report is available at the MCTC offices.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

E. Initiation of FY 2002/03 Unmet Transit Needs Process

The MCTC Policy Board must determine that public transportation needs within Madera County will be reasonably met in FY 2002/03 prior to approving claims of Local Transportation Funds for streets and roads. The MCTC's Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) is responsible for evaluating unmet transit needs. Each year the SSTAC begins the process of soliciting comments from the public by sending letters to agencies and individuals interested in providing feedback on their public transportation needs within Madera County. The request for comments letters were mailed on February 11, 2002. A copy of this letter was included in the package.

MCTC's Unmet Transit Needs public hearing/workshops are scheduled as follows:

- WORKSHOP - Monday, April 8, 2002 at 5:00pm
MCTC - 1816 Howard Road, Suite 8 - Madera ,CA 93637
- WORKSHOP - Thursday, April 11, 2002 at 5:00pm
Sierra Senior Center - 49111 Cinder Lane - Oakhurst, CA 93644
- PUBLIC HEARING - Wednesday, April 17, 2002 at 3:00pm
Board of Supervisor's Chambers - 209 West Yosemite Ave - Madera, CA 93637

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

IV. Administrative/Fiscal Items

A. *FY 2000/01 Local Transportation Fund Amendment – Resolution 00-08 Amendment No. 4*

The City of Madera requested to amend its FY 2000/01 Local Transportation Fund application to reflect the following:

- Fixed Route Transit System - \$135,002 (decrease \$26,026)
- Dial-A-Ride - \$46,026 (increase \$26,026)

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Silva, seconded by Commissioner Ginsburg to approve FY 2000/01 Local Transportation Fund Amendment – Resolution 00-08 Amendment No. 4. A vote was called and the motion passed.

B. *2002-03 Transportation Development Act (TDA): Local Transportation Fund (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA) Estimates*

Summary: Local Transportation Fund (LTF): Prior to February 1, of each year, the county auditor provides MCTC an estimate of monies to be available for apportionment and allocation during the ensuing fiscal year. The estimate for FY 2002-03 is **\$2,383,820** (increased \$138,827 from FY 2001/02). The estimate includes monies anticipated to be deposited in the fund during the ensuing fiscal year and the unrestricted balance anticipated to be available in the fund at the end of the current fiscal year. The unrestricted balance is the balance that is neither allocated, reserved, nor retained in the fund as an unallocated apportionment pursuant to Section 6655.1. The county auditor makes an estimate from such data including those which may be furnished by the State Board of Equalization. The county auditor will furnish a revised or updated estimate of funds available when requested by MCTC staff.

State Transit Assistance (STA):

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 99312.7, the State Controller is directed to send a preliminary estimate of STA Funds to each transportation planning agency. For fiscal year 2002-03, there is \$115,267,613 budgeted according to the most current information from the Department of

Finance. STA allocation estimate for Madera County is **\$214,192** (decreased \$108,298 from FY 2001/02).

MCTC will advise prospective LTF claimants of the estimated area apportionment's within Madera County. Applicants must file LTF and STA applications with MCTC by April 1, 2002.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

V. Miscellaneous

A. Items From Caltrans

Alan McCuen gave the board a brief status report on projects in Madera County.

B. Items From Staff

Staff requested information from Caltrans regarding the ITIP.

C. Items From Commissioner

Commissioner Nabors directed staff to prepare individual staff reports for the agenda items. Commissioner Nabors requested staff to prepare a status report on the Madera County Connection Transit Service funded by Prop.10 for the next Board meeting.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Next meeting set for Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Respectfully Submitted,

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