

MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2005
Time: 3:00 P.M.
Place: Madera County Government Center,
Board of Supervisor Chambers

Members Present:

Chairman Gordon Skeels - Councilman, City of Madera
Vice Chair Gary Gilbert – Supervisor, Madera County
Robert Poythress - Councilman, City of Madera
Max Rodriguez – Supervisor, Madera County
Alt. Al Lucchesi – Councilman, City of Chowchilla

Members Absent:

Frank Bigelow – Supervisor, Madera County
Alfred Ginsburg - Councilman, City of Chowchilla

Policy Advisory Committee:

Above Members present and Caltrans Representatives:
Caltrans was not present

MCTC Staff Present:

Patricia S. Taylor-Maley, Executive Director
Sheila Kingsley, Administrative Assistant
Derek Winning, Planner II
Lester Koga, Planner I

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 were no public comments.

III. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

A. *Administrative Amendment – 2004 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No. 4 – Resolution 04-13 Amendment No. 4*

Madera County requested to amend projects in the 2004/05-2009/10 FTIP as follows:

MAD102038 – CMAQ Program; Traffic Signal @ SR41/Road 200
(program \$34,000 PE in 2004/05; \$166,000 CON in 2004/05)

MAD102039 – CMAQ Program; Traffic Signal @ SR41/Yosemite Springs Parkway
(program \$36,000 PE in 2004/05; \$164,000 CON in 2004/05)

Action: To approve Administrative Amendment - 2004 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No. 4 – Resolution 04-13 Amendment No. 4.

B. *Draft 8-Hour Conformity Analysis for the Federally Approved 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) & 2004 Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP)*

The U.S. EPA designated the San Joaquin Valley a Serious Nonattainment area for the new 8-hour ozone standard, effective June 15, 2004. Conformity for the 8-hour ozone standard applies one year after the effective date (June 15, 2005). EPA issued a final rule on July 1, 2004 that amended the transportation conformity rule to include criteria and procedures for the new 8-hour ozone national ambient air quality standard.

Section 93.109 (e) of the conformity rule addresses regional conformity tests in 8-hour ozone areas that have 1-hour ozone SIPs. The conformity rule indicates that 8-hour areas with adequate or approved 1-hour budgets must use these budgets for 8-hour conformity before 8-hour budgets are available.

An Air Quality Conformity Determination is required in non-attainment areas to ensure that transportation plans and programs are consistent with the state and local air quality plans and do not interfere with the timely implementation of transportation control measures. Results of the air quality emissions analysis show that the 2004 RTP and 2004 FTIP are consistent and conform with provisions of the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Action: Review – Information and Discussion Only.

C. *State Highway Operation & Protection Program (SHOPP) – Status Report*

Per MCTC's agreement with Caltrans, Caltrans on a quarterly basis submits to MCTC a status report on Caltrans' State Highway Operation and Protection Program. Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of the April 2005 status report.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

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

IV. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. *Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) – MCTC Cycle I Regional Program*

Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of the MCTC CMAQ Program Cycle I – Regional Program Award List. Caltrans has provided apportionment estimates in anticipation of the Federal Highway Bill Reauthorization. The Cycle I (FY03-04 – FY05/06) CMAQ apportionment for Madera County is \$4,771,214. The allocation to each agency is as follows:

- City of Chowchilla - \$116,385
- City of Madera - \$682,005
- County of Madera - \$1,110,095
- MCTC Regional Program - \$2,862,728

The primary purpose of the CMAQ Program is to fund transportation programs and projects in air quality non-attainment and maintenance areas which reduce transportation related emissions. Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) requires that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) ensure the timely implementation of transportation control measures (TCMs), and consequently the highest priority for funding under the CMAQ Program is for the implementation of such measures.

The Cycle I Scoring Committee met on February 24, 2005 to review the eligible project applications. The committee recommends the top fifteen projects for CMAQ Funding in the amount of \$2,767,911. Upon

approval of the MCTC Cycle I Regional Program, the awarded projects will be amended into the 2004 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP).

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, second by Commissioner Gilbert to approve MCTC CMAQ Cycle I – Regional Program. A vote was called and the motion carried.

B. *Reauthorization of TEA-21 – Status Report and High Priority Projects*

The House on Thursday, March 10, 2005 approved the \$283.9 billion transportation package called Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (TEA-LU) which is the reauthorization of TEA-21 (Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century). This HR-3 bill still needs Senate action; however, it is progress for legislation that stalled last year. Included in the bill is millions of dollars worth of San Joaquin Valley road projects, called High Priority Projects. Included in Commissioner’s packet was a copy of the High Priority Projects which includes the City of Madera’s SR99 and SR145 Interchange Improvement Project in the amount of \$3,000,000.

Staff will continue to monitor the bill as it makes its way through the Senate.

Commissioner Gilbert directed staff to write a letter to Senator Boxer and Senator Feinstein informing them of Madera’s projects included in the House bill reauthorizing TEA-21.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

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 February 23, 2005*

Included in the Commissioner’s packet was a copy of the February 23, 2005 Executive Minutes for review.

Administrative Consent Calendar Action: The Commission unanimously approved the Administrative Consent Calendar (Item VI.-A). A vote was called and the motion carried.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

No Administrative Action/Discussion Items

VIII. Miscellaneous

A. *Items from Caltrans*

Caltrans was not in attendance.

B. *Items from Staff*

Staff reminded the Board of the upcoming Unmet Transit Needs Hearing scheduled for April 20, 2005 commencing at 1:00 p.m.

C. *Items from Commissioners*

Commissioner Gilbert requested to discuss the rural roads article in the California Chambers of Commerce newsletter at our next meeting.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Next meeting set for Wednesday, April 20, 2005.

Respectfully Submitted,

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