

MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Time: 3:05 P.M.

Place: City of Madera Council Chambers

Members Present: Vice Chairman Sam Armentrout – Councilman, City of Madera
Robert Poythress – Councilman, City of Madera
Max Rodriguez – Supervisor, Madera County
Vern Moss – Supervisor, Madera County
Justin White – Councilman, City of Chowchilla

Members Absent: Chairman Frank Bigelow – Supervisor, Madera County

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

MCTC Staff Present: Patricia S. Taylor, Executive Director
Derek Winning, Deputy Director
Troy McNeil, Planner I
Richard Poythress, 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. *Safe Routes to School (SR2S) – Cycle 7 Call for Projects*

The guidelines and application forms have been released for Cycle 7 of the Safe Routes to School Program (SR2S). Cycle 7 of the State SR2S program has \$52 million available statewide and Cycle 2 of the Federal SRTS program will have \$46 million available statewide, for a combined total of \$98 million for both programs this coming fiscal year. School districts are eligible to apply for funds under the Federal SRTS program. James Perrault, Caltrans District 6 Local Assistance Engineer, has asked that local jurisdictions spread the word to all school districts within their jurisdiction. The application deadline is November 16, 2007. The following website link provides program updates; guidelines and application forms:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/saferoute2.htm>

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

B. Prop 1B Local Streets and Roads Fund

Included in Commissioner's packet was a copy of the Proposition 1B allocation estimates for local streets and roads fund. Guidance to access the local streets and roads monies from Proposition 1B can be found at the following website:

<http://www.officeofrustyselix.org/email/CALCOG/CDAC%20Meetings/Final%20Guide%20to%20LSR%20mp.doc>

Estimate of what each county will receive:

[http://www.officeofrustyselix.org/email/CALCOG/CDAC%20Meetings/Prop%201B%20allocation%20of%20\\$400%20M.xls](http://www.officeofrustyselix.org/email/CALCOG/CDAC%20Meetings/Prop%201B%20allocation%20of%20$400%20M.xls)

The adopted budget includes a \$950 million appropriation from the \$2 billion that was included in the transportation bond. Counties will receive \$400 million and cities \$550 million for FY 2007-08.

The document provides critical information needed to access these funds as well as information regarding accountability provisions enacted in budget trailer bill language.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

C. 2008-09 Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) program – Call for Projects

Caltrans has announced the call for project for the 2008-09 Bicycle Transportation Account program. All applications are due to Caltrans by Monday December 3, 2007.

The 2007/08 BTA cycle will provide \$7.2 million statewide. Attached is a letter that outlines program details. Program details and applications are also available at the Caltrans website below. Additionally, please see the attached memo from Terry Abbott regarding eligibility criteria for agencies with an outstanding Cooperative Work Agreement (CWA) for a BTA project awarded in a previous cycle.

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/bta/btaweb%20page.htm>

Caltrans has received several inquiries regarding 2007/08 BTA program. At this date, the list of successful candidates has still not yet been released. Once the list is announced, Caltrans will send out a broadcast email and letters will be sent out to the successful applicants.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

D. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint – Support 3rd Year Grant Proposal – Resolution 07-13

The California Regional Blueprint Planning Program is a new planning grant opportunity. This program will provide grants to help California's regions plan for future growth and quality of life through the integration of transportation, housing, land use, economic development and environmental protection. This integration will result in a more efficient and effective transportation system and land use pattern, one aimed at achieving three elements that help to define quality of life:

1. a prosperous economy;
2. quality environment; and
3. social equity for all Californians.

Governor Schwarzenegger has made \$5 million available annually in both FY 2005-06 and FY 2006-07 for the voluntary preparation of Regional Blueprints. The program is administered by the Department of Transportation's Division of Transportation Planning, in cooperation with the Department of Housing and Community Development. The State has made additional funding available in FY 2007/08.

California Regional Blueprint Grant Awards

San Joaquin Valley

FY 2005/06 - \$2,000,000
FY 2006/07 - \$1,950,000

Madera County

FY 2005/06 - \$188,000
FY 2006/07 - \$184,000

Action: Approve Resolution 07-13 in support of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint 3rd Year Grant Proposal

Transportation Consent Calendar Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner White to approved the Transportation Consent Calendar (Item III A-D). A vote was called and the motion carried.

IV. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. PUBLIC HEARING: 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program – Resolution 06-12 Amendment No. 5

The Federal Transportation Improvement Program is a listing of capital improvements, and operational expenditures utilizing federal and state monies anticipated to be used in Madera County during the next four years.

The Madera County 2007 FTIP Amendment No. 5 was requested by Caltrans to advance a Highway Bridge Project from FY 2010/11 to FY 2007/08. The Highway Bridge Program (HBP) is a Caltrans administered lump sum program and the corresponding back up project listing is included in the FTIP Amendment No. 5 package. Unanticipated HBP allocations capacity became available for FY 2007/08 which enabled Bridge No. 41C0158, Avenue 15, Over Little Dry Creek – Replace 2 lane bridge with new 2 lane bridge to advance to construction. The FTIP Amendment No. 5 changes are as follows:

Caltrans

MAD410001 – Highway Bridge Program – Lump Sum Program– (increase to \$839,000 in FY2007/08; decrease to \$1,972,000 in FY2010/11)

Vice Chairman Armentrout opened the floor at 3:10 p.m. for public comments. Being no public comments, Vice Chairman Armentrout closed the floor at 3:11 p.m.

Action: The Commission unanimously approved the 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program – Resolution 06-12 Amendment No. 5. A vote was called and the motion carried.

B. Presentation – Metro Rural Loop

The Metro Rural Loop is a hundred year vision and strategy to build out our hard infrastructure based upon the values and goals laid out in the Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. The Metro Rural Loop will create the context that will leverage the other strands of the Partnership insuring that the economy, equity, environment, and engagement are addressed simultaneously and highly leveraged. The Loop is considered an innovative regional development approach envisioning a Multi-Modal, Multi-City, and Multi-County Transit-Oriented Transportation Corridor System that would directly and efficiently link the development between incorporated cities, and define one of the most significant, sustainable, effective, and attractive Smart Growth oriented regional metropolitan areas for the future of California.

Study of the Metro Rural Loop is to involve measurable regional collaboration involving all levels of government, foster greater public-private collaboration, engage citizenry and mobilize volunteers by bringing together cities, counties, COGs and county transportation commissions and authorities, state agencies,

regional districts, and numerous business, agricultural, environmental, community and civic association leaders for shared regional planning and feasibility tasks, while laying a solid foundation for high priority goal implementation. The Metro Rural Loop has its seeds in successful integrated strategies that have been implemented in other regions of the country and can be used as a prototype for the other larger cities in the San Joaquin Valley. It sets the stage for connecting the major cities and the smaller communities along the 99 corridor using multimodal options.

Since this study is just beginning, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, and Kings Counties are invited discuss various alternative conceptual alignments of the Metro Rural Loop and how each of the four counties could benefit from development of the Loop connecting the counties from a regional perspective.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

C. 2008 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Fund Estimate and Schedule

The following are important dates concerning the Draft 2008 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Schedule:

- a. October 18, 2008 – the California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopts the 2008 STIP Fund Estimate;
- b. February 19, 2008 – Regions – Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) and Caltrans – Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) submit Final RTIP and ITIP to the CTC and HQ Transportation Programming, including final Project Programming Requests with PPNOs;
- c. March 12, 2008 – CTC – South STIP Hearings in Los Angeles;
- d. March 18, 2008 – CTC – North STIP Hearings in Sacramento;
- e. May 9, 2008 – CTC staff releases CTC Staff Recommendations; and
- f. May 29, 2008 – CTC adopts the 2008 STIP.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

D. Fall Policy Conference – November 1 and 2, 2007

This year's Fall Policy Conference will be held in Stockton at the new Sheraton Hotel on the waterfront. The dates are November 1 and 2, 2007.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

E. Draft – San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Action Plan

The San Joaquin Valley (SJV) Goods Movement Action Plan will set the state for a Corridor Plan, which will be required to identify projects that may be eligible for the State Bond's \$2 billion Trade Corridors Improvement Fund (TCIF) monies.

The most recent version of Senate Bill 9 (SB 9), the legislative implementation bill for the TCIF, calls for the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to adopt final guidelines and funding criteria for funds allocation by April 1, 2008. Much before this deadline, eligible projects competitively seeking TCIF monies must be identified in adopted Corridor Plans.

To meet this pressing need, staff from the Council of Fresno County Governments has compiled inputs from the SJV counties and developed a Draft SJV Goods Movement Action Plan (included in the Commissioner's packet).

Comments on the Draft SJV Goods Movement Action Plan will be submitted to Fresno COG staff to incorporate. The Final Action Plan will come back to every Policy Board for adoption once finalized.

Action: Review and comment.

F. Madera County Traffic Monitoring Program – 2007 Annual Report

Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of the 2007 Annual Madera County Traffic Monitoring Report. This report has been developed as part of the MCTC FY 2006/07 Overall Work Program.

The report provides current traffic count information for planning and engineering projects. Traffic count information contained in this report is from selected sites from 2002 through July 2007. Section 1 contains counts for outlying County locations; Section 2 contains counts for the City of Madera; Section 3 contains counts for the City of Chowchilla; and Section 4 contains Caltrans' State Highway traffic volumes.

The traffic monitoring information collected assists in the following activities and programs:

1. Air Quality Monitoring
2. Traffic Modeling
3. Identify Signal Priorities and Capital Improvement Programs
4. Private Use
5. Other benefits include: identifies traffic volume growth rates, traffic accident rates, signal and stop sign warrants, signal timing, and traffic noise levels

Action: The Commission unanimously approved to accept the Madera County Traffic Monitoring Program – 2007 Annual Report. A vote was called and the motion carried.

G. High Speed Rail Update and San Joaquin Valley Position on High Speed Rail

The approved State budget includes \$20.7 million for the California High Speed Rail Authority to continue engineering and environmental work on the high-speed rail project. The \$9.95 billion bond measure remains scheduled for the November 2008 ballot.

A meeting of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Policy Council was convened via teleconference on August 22, 2007. Representing Madera County were City of Madera, Mayor Steve Mindt; Madera County Board of Supervisor Chairman, Vern Moss; and MCTC staff (Derek Winning and Richard Poythress). The Policy Council adopted a high-speed rail policy position consisting of several elements noted in the enclosure for this item. The Policy Council policy position is nearly identical to the policy position adopted by the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley on August 10, 2007. Positions of particular note are:

- That the High Speed Rail needs to serve the entire San Joaquin Valley (Bakersfield to Sacramento) and the region must stay together as it works towards implementation of the initiative.
- That Amtrak would remain as a complimentary service to high-speed rail.
- That \$15.5 million must stay in the 2007-08 budget as a minimum funding level.
- That the high-speed rail ballot measure must stay on the November 2008 ballot
- That a letter be submitted to the High-Speed Rail Authority supporting connection for the whole Valley from Bakersfield to Sacramento recommending that the Altamont corridor is the preferred alternative route.

These positions were personally communicated at various public hearings held during August 23-30 on the Bay Area to Central Valley Draft Program EIR/EIS. The High Speed Rail Authority and the Federal Railroad Administration will make the final decision on the route between the San Joaquin Valley and the Bay Area in October or November of this year.

The San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Director's Committee will convene its Fall Conference on November 1 and 2 in Stockton. At that meeting a report will be presented that discusses the importance and possible impacts of high-speed rail to the eight counties comprising the San Joaquin Valley. The report will summarize valleywide, county, community and environmental issues; recommendations on project mitigation; valley expectations for high-speed rail; and each COG's position on a high-speed rail bond proposal.

More information concerning high speed rail can be found online at www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov.

Action: The Commission unanimously approved to reaffirm action taken by the SJV Policy Advisory Council. 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 25, 2007

Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of the July 25, 2007 Executive Minutes for review.

Action: Approve Executive Minutes of July 25, 2007.

B. Proposal for Fiscal Audits and Claimant Audits for FY 2006/07

The firm of Dedekian, George & Small Accountancy Corporation has submitted a proposal, included in the Commissioner's packet, to perform Fiscal Audits and Claimant Audits for FY 2006/07. The proposal is for a not to exceed amount of \$24,900 with work to be completed by December 31, 2007.

Action: The Commission unanimously approved the Proposal for Fiscal Audits and Claimant Audits for FY 2006/07. A vote was called and the motion carried.

C. Contract Between MCTC and VRPA Technologies, Inc. for SJ Valley Blueprint Professional Facilitator/Community Outreach/UPLAN Modeling Services

The Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) selected VRPA Technologies for professional facilitator/community outreach services to assist MCTC in its efforts to identify community values and a vision for an enhanced quality of life in Madera County. These outreach activities consistent with the MCTC Blueprint Citizens Participation Plan are necessary to enhance the legitimacy of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Planning Process.

The Facilitator will assist the MCTC to develop an outreach strategy and facilitate several community meetings in order to identify values, and develop a vision, goals/objectives and performance measures for the Blueprint process. Activities will also include soliciting feedback on Blueprint scenarios that emerge.

A new contract would be developed that would incorporate additional tasks (in bold) required to complete the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Study utilizing a portion of the 2nd year grant funding for FY 2007/08.

CONTRACT SUMMARY

FY 2006/07

VRPA Services.....	\$150,000
Expended.....	\$86,241
Balance.....	\$63,759

FY 2007/08

VRPA Services.....	\$183,759
Carryover.....	\$63,759
Additional Services.....	\$120,000
Public Meeting Advertising	
UPLAN modeling services	

SCOPE OF WORK

- 1) Facilitate Community Outreach Meetings
- 2) Meet with MCTC Staff and the Blueprint Roundtable
- 3) Schedule and Arrange Public Outreach Meetings
- 4) Provide Public Outreach Meeting advertising**
- 5) Prepare Summary Notes of Outreach Meetings
- 6) Gathering and Updating GIS Base Data
- 7) Develop Vision and Values with Stakeholders for Madera County
- 8) Prepare GIS Data input for Base Scenario for UPLAN and Convert UPLAN outputs for the Traffic Model
- 9) Establish Goals, Objectives and Evaluation Indicators/Parameters for Scenarios
- 10) Develop and run UPLAN modeling Base Case and Alternative Scenarios**
- 11) Evaluate and Discuss UPLAN Run and Traffic Modeling Results for Base Scenario
- 12) Present and Develop Consensus on Alternatives with Stakeholders and Local Agencies
- 13) Prepare Alternatives Inputs for UPLAN and Traffic Model Runs
- 14) Evaluate and Present Alternative Results to Stakeholders and Select Preferred Alternative for Blueprint Scenario

Action: The Commission unanimously approved the FY 2007/08 contract with VRPA Technologies not to exceed \$185,000 for San Joaquin Valley Blueprint study. A vote was called and the motion carried.

Administrative Consent Calendar Action

The Commission unanimously approved the Administrative Consent Calendar. A vote was called and the motion carried.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2007-08 Overall Work Program – Amendment No. 1

Provided to Commissioner's as a handout was a memorandum; copy of the amended budget, amended OWP spreadsheet and amended work elements. The amendment reflects carryover balances from FY 2006-07.

Action: The Commission unanimously approved 2007-08 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 1. A vote was called and the motion carried.

MCTC Sitting as the Madera County 2006 Transportation Authority

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Final Measure "T" – ½ Cent Transportation Sales Tax Program-2007 Strategic Plan and presentation by KNN on Financing Alternatives

Included in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of the Final Measure "T" – ½ Cent Transportation Sales Tax Program - 2007 Strategic Plan. The Measure "T" 2007 Strategic Plan was developed in consultation with the local agencies staffs. The Strategic Plan provides a 5-year review of how Measure "T" tax revenues will be spent (2007-April 1 through June 20, 2007 and 2007/08 through 2011/12). The plan does cover slightly more than 5 years since Measure "T" proceeds will be collected beginning in the 4th quarter of FY 2006/07. The plan is particularly important because it identifies how the funds will be allocated to each of the local agencies or jurisdictions and how or if the Authority intends to issue debt in order to meet the accelerated needs of the Regional Streets and Highways Program. The Strategic Plan is intended to present to the financial community and the Authority's stakeholders at large a clear sense of the agency's strategy in managing its revenues and expenditures responsibly and cost effectively. It provides the best available understanding of when revenue will be available and how that revenue will be spent. The resulting assignment of dollars to programs and projects is a commitment to sponsors that the funds will be available.

The Strategic Plan itself does not constitute a final funding commitment. Commitments to individual projects and programs are secured through actual allocation actions by the Authority Board of Directors in the Measure “T” Annual Work Program.

The Strategic Plan makes provisions for the expenses associated with Board of Equalization sales tax collection fees as well as for project management oversight, administration, and overhead necessary to oversee the program. The Plan also accounts for the necessary reserves that take into account the fluctuations in sales tax revenue seen over the last several years of shifting economic trends. It may program funds for debt capacity within the Measure “T” regional Streets and Highway Program so that those projects can be delivered earlier and take advantage of leveraged funding that may be available over time. This Plan in essence, programs funds according to realistic project and program schedules and provides the overall structure for the management of the sales tax revenues. Finally, guidance is provided for the local agencies on requesting, utilizing, and reporting on sales tax allocated for Local Transportation Revenue Programs.

In short, the Strategic Plan, which will be updated every two years, provides the overall roadmap for the programming of Measure “T” funds consistent with voter’s expectations.

MCTC retained KNN Financial Services as Finance Advisor (FA) to provide services needed to formulate financial policies associated with the funding of capital projects with various transportation funding programs, including Measure “T”.

Primarily, KNN developed a MCTC Sales Tax Cash Flow Model and provided staff with preliminary analysis regarding the amount of bonds and associated size of capital projects that can be supported by Measure “T” under various scenarios. KNN also has provided guidance regarding the general bond offering process (i.e., pros and cons) as well as general financial and strategic planning support.

Mark Li, Assistant Vice President, KNN Financial Public Finance presented Financing Alternatives for Measure “T”.

Action: Information and Discussion only.

B. 2007-08 Measure “T” Annual Work Program

The Measure “T” 2007-08 Annual Work Program was included in the Commissioner’s packet. 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.

Action: The Commission unanimously approved the 2007-08 Measure “T” Annual Work Program. A vote was called and the motion carried.

C. Citizens’ Oversight Committee – Measure “T”

The MCTC Policy Board, sitting as the Madera County 2006 Transportation Authority, at its June 20, 2007 meeting selected three Policy Board members to represent the Commission as the selection committee to review applications received for the Citizens’ Oversight Committee. The selection committee met on September 12, 2007, reviewed the twenty applications received by the Authority and chose seven members for consideration by the full Authority board.

There are to be 7 members of the Citizens’ Oversight Committee representing the geographically diverse population of Madera County. In addition to the eligibility and residency requirements established in Appendix C of the Measure “T” Investment Plan, the 7 members of the COC must include the following:

- Two (2) at-large public members
- Five (5) representatives; one (1) from each of the Madera County Supervisorial Districts

A Quorum shall consist of no less than four (4) members of the Committee. Although the standard term of

membership for will be for four (4) years, the initial terms will be staggered during the first four years of the Committee. Three (3) of the members shall serve a four-year term and four (4) of the members shall serve a two (2) year term.

The selection committee made the following recommendations for the inaugural membership of the Citizens' Oversight Committee:

- *District 1: Jon Basila*
- *District 2: Jim Kopshever*
- *District 3: Cynthia Ortegón*
- *District 4: Cathie Bustos*
- *District 5: Russell Shaw*
- *At Large: Tom Swire*
- *At Large: Dennis Holschlag*

The Authority board has discretion to choose which four members will initially sit for an abbreviated two-year term and which three will sit for the full four-year term.

Action: The Commission unanimously approved to appoint the following members to the Citizens' Oversight Committee:

- *District 1: Jon Basila - 4 year*
- *District 2: Jim Kopshever - 2 year*
- *District 3: Cynthia Ortegón - 4 year*
- *District 4: Cathie Bustos -4 year*
- *District 5: Russell Shaw - 2 year*
- *At Large: Tom Swire - 2 year*
- *At Large: Dennis Holschlag - 2 year*

A vote was called and the motion carried.

C. *The Self-Help Counties – “Focus on the Future 2007” Conference*

The Self-Help Counties – “Focus on the Future 2007” Conference will be held this year in San Francisco from October 21, 2007 (evening) through the afternoon of October 23, 2007. There will be a reception on Sunday, October 21st to kick-off the conference. Conference topics are as follows:

- Bridging the Funding Gap;
- Delivering the Promise: Implementing Prop 1B;
- New Caltrans NEPA Role;
- Alternative Deliver Methods;
- Getting the Public on Your Side;
- Attracting the Workforce;
- Public Private Partnerships;
- Sustainable Transportation/Climate Change;
- Nuts and Bolts of Climate Change;
- The Senior Tsunami: Are you ready for the aging baby boomers?;
- Deliver Better Together: Working Cooperatively with Caltrans; and
- Disaster Preparedness.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

IX. Miscellaneous

A. *Items From Caltrans*

No Items from Caltrans.

B. Items from Staff

No Items from Staff.

C. Items from Commissioners

No Items from Commissioners.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Next meeting set for Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia S. Taylor, Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission