

Measure T Citizens' Oversight Committee Executive Minutes

Date: Monday, December 13, 2010
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: Madera County Transportation Commission Conference Room
2001 Howard Road, Suite 201, Madera, CA 93637

Members Present: Vice Chairman Tom Swire, Member At Large
William Bunnell, Member At Large
Cynthia Ortegón, District 3
Cathie C. Bustos, District 4
Chris Baker, District 5

Members Absent: Chairman Jon Basila, District 1
Dennis Holschlag, District 2

Local Agency Staff: Ellen Bitter, City of Madera
Johannes Hoevertsz, County of Madera

MCTA Staff: Derek Winning, Deputy Director
Troy McNeil, Fiscal Supervisor
Richard Poythress, Transportation Planner II
Dylan Stone, Transportation Planner I

Other Staff: Jeff Markarian, MCTA Auditor

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Vice Chairman Swire called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. Newly appointed member at large William Bunnell introduced himself to the Committee.

I. Public Comment

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on items within its jurisdiction but not on the agenda. Note: Prior to action by the Committee on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item.

There were no public comments.

II. Minutes of September 16, 2010 Citizens' Oversight Committee Meeting

Upon motion by Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. Bunnell, the September 16, 2010 Executive Minutes were approved as written.

III. FY 2008/09 Measure T Compliance Audits

Staff presented the remaining FY 2008/09 Measure T compliance audits for the City of Chowchilla and County of Madera. The planned timeframe for the completion of future audits is within 12 months of the end of a fiscal year. Staff distributed a handout showing the historical trend of Measure T revenues and expenditures over the past three years. Staff also briefly discussed the status of the Chowchilla interprogram loan.

Mr. Markarian provided an explanation of the Measure T compliance audit process and explained the contents of the audit documents. The Measure T audits rely on the findings of the local agency audits, which can cause a delay if local agencies do not complete their audits in a timely manner.

Mr. Bunnell asked for a clarification on MCTA's role in monitoring local agency expenditures. Staff explained that funds for regional projects are held by MCTA and distributed upon proper invoicing. Other funds are passed through to the local agencies, however, if an audit finds that funds have been used improperly, MCTA can withhold future allocations until a resolution is reached.

Mr. Markarian explained the importance of the End of Year Reporting section in the Annual Work Program (AWP) for monitoring local agency expenditures.

Mr. Bunnell asked about the use of bonding during economic downturn to get additional funds at low interest rates. Staff explained that MCTA has aggressively bonded to fund all capital projects that are ready for construction.

No adverse findings were reported in the FY 2008/09 Measure T compliance audits.

IV. FY 2008/09 Annual Report to the Public

Staff presented a draft letter to be signed by the Oversight Committee chair that summarizes the Committee's review of MCTA's financial reports and audits. The letter will be distributed to the public in a Measure T newsletter, tentatively scheduled for released in January 2011. MCTA will conduct a media blitz to accompany the released of the newsletter, including web links, email, print distribution, and newspaper advertising.

Upon motion by Ms. Ortegón, seconded by Ms. Bustos, the FY 2008/09 Report to the Public was approved as written with instruction to distribute as suggested by staff.

V. FY 2010/11 Draft Annual Work Program

County of Madera

County staff provided an update on a Committee member concern from the September 16 meeting regarding the Ave 12 sidewalk project using Measure T/SLPP funds. The project cannot be completed as designed due to a property acquisition issue. County staff is working on a solution.

Mr. Bunnell asked about

County staff outlined its program of planned chip seals and overlays for FY 2010/11. Road 222, Ave 12, Robertson Blvd., Ave 18 ½, and Ave 13 are all candidates for chip seal. Construction will commence in Spring when the temperature rises.

County staff noted the use of Measure T funds on a road widening project that was part of the new Amtrak station construction.

Regional Program

Staff provided an update on regional projects. Ave 12 overcrossing is scheduled for construction in 2012. The 4th Street overcrossing is moving at a record pace to begin construction in 2011.

City staff provided an update on the Ellis St. project. Phase I is under construction now. Phase II will go to bid in January 2011. The MCTA board approved an allocation of Measure T funds for Phase II in December.

VI. Other Items

The next meeting of the Oversight Committee will be scheduled in Summer 2011 once the FY 2009/10 Measure T compliance audits are completed.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.