



MEETING SUMMARY

SOUTH COAST MEASURE D POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE November 7, 2007

1. CALL TO ORDER AND COMMITTEE INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Carbajal called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. and asked for a roll call.

South Coast Subregional Planning Committee Members Present: Salud Carbajal, Supervisor First District; Janet Wolf, Supervisor Second District; Marty Blum, Mayor, City of Santa Barbara; Jonny Wallis, Councilmember, City of Goleta.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Pat Mickelson, Caltrans District 5; Richard Weinberg, SBMTD Board of Directors

Advisory committee members proceeded with self-introductions. Policy Development Committee members in attendance included: Ralph Fertig, Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition; Eva Inbar, Coalition for Sustainable Transportation; Hamid Bahadori, Automobile Club of Southern California; Jan Evans, Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association; Dennis Story, Coastal Rail Now; Steve Greig, Carpinteria Valley Chamber; Dave Pritchett, PUEBLO; Paula Perotte, SB 15th District PTA; and Tom Blabey, Goleta Valley Chamber.

SBCAG Staff Members Present: Jim Kemp, Executive Director; Gregg Hart, Public Information Officer; and Brittany Odermann, Transportation Planner.

Per Supervisor Carbajal's request, Jim Kemp summarized the North County's consensus investment plan reached earlier that morning. Mr. Kemp then turned the meeting over to facilitator, Pat Saley.

2. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND MEETING OBJECTIVES

Pat Saley briefly reviewed the agenda and meeting objectives including agreeing on a draft investment plan for consideration by the SBCAG Board.

Dennis Story introduced Jonathan Hutchison, Director of Government Affairs-Amtrak West.

3. OCTOBER 24 MEETING REVIEW

The committee received the October 24 meeting summary, noting that a second public comment by Jan Atkins was omitted from the summary.

Jim Kemp summarized the hand out of responses to committee questions submitted at or since the October 24 meeting.

Ralph Fertig presented a handout and summarized the Bicycle Coalition's position regarding the Safe Routes to School and Regional Bike/Pedestrian Programs, asking the committee to consider omitting pedestrian projects and reduce the funding allocation to the latter program; arguing that historically Safe Routes to School programs funded mainly pedestrian facility projects. Committee members expressed concern about the proposal stating that pedestrians are equally as important and pedestrian facilities need to be specifically included in the plan.

4. RECEIVE PRESENTATION OF ON-TRAC PLAN

Rob Dayton, City of Santa Barbara presented the City's On-TRAC rail transit plan highlighting steps toward implementing passenger rail service that better serves Ventura-Santa Barbara commuters. Committee members asked how the plan would be implemented. Mr. Dayton replied that the proposal includes rearranging Amtrak schedules to meet the needs of commuters. Pat Saley called on Jonathan Hutchison to comment. Mr. Hutchison provided information about the current Surfliner service and issues involved with rescheduling. Hutchison recommended that the issue be studied further. He noted that Amtrak is under contract with Caltrans to operate the Pacific Surfliner service. The committee discussed operating costs, schedule changes and other issues related to Amtrak.

Eva Inbar stated that the Coalition for a Fair Measure D supports the On-TRAC plan for a pilot project and proposes funding the Commuter & Passenger Rail Planning and Service Improvements at \$40 Million. The committee discussed other funding sources including Ventura County contributions. Supervisor Wolf suggested that studies be added to the project description. Dennis Story indicated that he believed that \$40 Million would cover the cost of a 5-year, 2 train pilot program. Jim Kemp noted that a secure local source of long term funding would be required to provide the operating subsidies and matching funds for capital improvements to implement a dedicated commuter rail system. Steve Greig asked where the additional funding would come from.

5. MEASURE D 2008 DRAFT INVESTMENT PLAN

Discussions from item 4 led into a general discussion of the Measure D 2008 Draft Investment Plan. Supervisor Carbajal asked that each committee member state their position on the draft investment plan "as is" versus increasing the commuter rail item from \$15 M to \$40 M. Several committee members expressed support for increased funding to the commuter rail program. Supervisor Carbajal proposed an additional \$10 M to commuter rail through small reductions to various programs. Committee members agreed that in the spirit of compromise this revision was acceptable.

The committee agreed to increase funding for Commuter and Passenger Rail Planning and Service Improvements to \$25 million (from \$15 million) and reduce funding for Local Flexible program to \$273.15 million (from \$277.15 million), Traffic Demand Reduction to \$7 million (from \$8 million), Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian program to \$13 million (from \$14 million), Safe Routes to School Regional program to \$13 million (from \$14 million), Transit Capital Program to \$27

million (from \$28 million) and Interregional Transit program to \$25.35 million (from \$27.35 million).

With the changes noted above, the committee reached consensus on the draft South Coast Investment Plan.

Gregg Hart discussed next steps for the Measure D renewal process: polling on the plan in January; reconvening the development committee to make changes if necessary; and proposing SBCAG Board approval of the final plan in July 2008.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Alex Pujo asked when details regarding the ordinance oversight committee would be available and Gregg Hart responded that the ordinance would be drafted and brought back to the development committee in February 2008.

7. ADJOURN SOUTH COAST MEASURE D RENEWAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Supervisor Carbajal adjourned the Policy Development Committee by thanking all committee members and facilitator, Pat Saley for their work and commitment to the renewal effort.

8. CALL TO ORDER SBCAG SOUTH COAST SUBREGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

South Coast Subregional Planning Committee Members Present: Salud Carbajal, Supervisor First District; Janet Wolf, Supervisor Second District; Marty Blum, Mayor, City of Santa Barbara; Jonny Wallis, Councilmember, City of Goleta.

Members Absent: Brooks Firestone, Supervisor Third District and Joe Armendariz, City of Carpinteria.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Pat Mickelson, Caltrans District 5; Richard Weinberg, SBMTD Board of Directors

A motion to recommend that the SBCAG board approve the draft investment plan by Supervisor Wolf, seconded by Mayor Blum was approved by a unanimous vote.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.