



SWAT

Danville • Lafayette • Moraga • Orinda • San Ramon & the County of Contra Costa

SUMMARY MINUTES
February 6, 2012 – 3:00 p.m.
Town of Moraga
Hacienda de las Flores
2100 Donald Drive
Moraga, California

Committee Members Present: Michael Metcalf (Chair), Town of Moraga; Don Tatzin, City of Lafayette; Karen Stepper, Town of Danville; Gayle Uilkema, Contra Costa County; Amy Worth City of Orinda. Absent: David Hudson, City of San Ramon (Vice Chair).

Staff members present: John Cunningham, Contra Costa County; Chuck Swanson, City of Orinda; Shawna Brekke-Read, Town of Moraga; Tai Williams, Town of Danville; Lisa Bobadilla, City of San Ramon; Leah Greenblat, City of Lafayette; Andy Dillard, Town of Danville.

Others present: Mary Halle, Contra Costa County; Chris Lau, Contra Costa County; Martin Engelmann, CCTA; Deidre Heitman, BART; John Fazel (Orinda), CBPAC Citizen Representative.

- 1. CONVENE MEETING/SELF INTRODUCTIONS:** Meeting called to order by Chair Metcalf at 3:10 p.m.
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT:** John Fazel spoke in regards to the termination of the Federal Safe Routes to School Program, and asked how it might affect the Lamorinda, SWAT subregion, and County. Martin Engelmann responded that the Authority is closely following activity at the Federal level regarding potential reauthorizations of the program, in some form, that may be included in future bills in the House and/or Senate.
- 3. BOARD MEMBER COMMENT:** Chair Metcalf granted Supervisor Uilkema's requested to move Item 6.C up on the agenda prior to agenda items 6.A and 6.B.
- 4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:** Andy Dillard recorded the minutes. Extra agenda packets were made available.

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

5.A **Approval of Minutes:** SWAT minutes of January 9, 2012

ACTION: Tatzin/Stepper/unanimous

End of Consent Calendar

6. **REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:**

- 6.C **Consider a Recommendation of Approval for Contra Costa Transportation for Livable Communities (CC-TLC) Program Funds for Projects within the SWAT Subregion:** Andy Dillard presented this item. The SWAT TAC reviewed nine projects submitted from the Southwest region, and recommended that all projects be considered for approval and funding. The total funding allocation for the SWAT region is \$3.582M, and the total project funding requests came in at \$3.964M. Of the nine projects, it was noted that the Olympic Corridor Trail Connector Study submitted by Contra Costa County lies within both TRANSPAC and SWAT. The SWAT TAC, in concurrence with TRANSPAC TAC, agreed that the project responsibility and funding should be split equally between the two RTPCs. It was also noted that the Orinda-Lafayette BART Wayfinding and Lighting Improvement Project had also been submitted for identical funding through the Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Trails Facilities (PBTF) Program. It was explained that PBTF projects were scheduled to be reviewed by the Authority's Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (CBPAC) in the coming weeks, and that funding recommendations for this program would not be immediately known.

After a lengthy discussion, and with the information at hand, a motion was made to approve the nine projects submitted from the SWAT sub region for the CC-TLC Program. The motion included a preliminary approval to allocate funds to eight of the nine submitted projects, with funding for the Orinda-Lafayette BART Project contingent upon potential funding via the PBTF program. Once funding for the Orinda/BART project was further determined, SWAT will forward a final allocation recommendation for the subregion's CC-TLC projects.

ACTION: Stepper/Tatzin/unanimous

6.A **Status Update on Sustainable Community Strategies (SCS):**

Martin Engelmann, CCTA staff provided an in-depth update on the SCS developments. A draft letter developed by the Authority to ABAG and MTC commenting on the five SCS alternative scenarios was presented and discussed. As part of SB 375, it was explained that the Air Resources Board has established greenhouse emissions reduction targets (GHG) of 7% by 2020, and a 15% reduction by 2035. In regards to the five scenarios, all five meet the 2020 7% target reduction, and none of the scenarios meet the 2035 15% target reduction. As such, MTC developed policy initiatives attempting to address a means in which to meet the 2035 target reductions. The crux of the Authority's comment letter focuses on the concerns regarding the alternative scenarios, policy initiatives, and

objectives that are being proposed by MTC, and incorporates many of the core concerns that have been expressed by many of the local jurisdictions throughout the County.

The Committee provided the following comments related to the alternative scenarios and SCS, and as it relates to the SWAT subregion in general:

- The Committee all concurred that the Authority's draft letter was well written, but should be produced in full color to be most effective;
- ABAG's aggressive housing projections are unrealistic where communities are physically unable to absorb that level of growth;
- Job growth numbers are forecasted unrealistically high, and in turn this further exacerbates and inflates population and housing numbers;
- The SCS alternatives proposed do not include a "no build" base case scenario that reflects that of current regional plans. Further, without a "no build" alternative scenario, it would not be possible to meeting the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);
- Develop a scenario that is reflective of the Current Regional Plans (CRP) and that is coupled with policy initiatives that can still achieve desired greenhouse gas emissions;
- The SCS alternatives do not address the diversity of Contra Costa's urban/suburban landscapes. Further, an alternative scenario should be considered that creates a jobs - housing balance, and that still achieves the GHG emission reduction targets for 2020 and 2035;
- It was suggested that the Authority draft its comment letter on this subject in a format such that it is formulated from the standpoint of a "grassroots" level, and that it is a cumulative effort that represents the input of all the local jurisdictions within the County.

Comment letters from all six SWAT jurisdictions will be submitted to the Authority, and will also be included as part of the Authority comment letter package to be forwarded to MTC and ABAG. The Committee expressed their appreciation to Authority staff for their efforts in representing the positions of the Contra Costa County jurisdictions, and concurred and supported all points contained in the Authority's draft letter.

ACTION: none

6.B Status Update and Discussion on OneBayArea Grant Proposal:

Martin Engelmann, CCTA presented this item. It was explained that the OneBayArea is a grant proposal released by MTC for allocating approximately \$36 million in Cycle 2 Surface Transportation (STP) and Congestion Management-Air Quality (CMAQ) program funds. In 2011, MTC and ABAG first released a draft approach for the allocation, which included a requirement that 70% of funds were to be allocated within Priority Development Areas (PDAs). The Authority and other Bay Area CMAs submitted comment letters shortly after the draft release, which included strong concerns regarding this requirement, amongst others. Early in 2012, MTC released the second draft of the grant proposal. The revised proposal addressed some of the Authority's comments, but rejected many of them. Amongst

others, the 70% allocation within PDA requirement went unchanged. However, on the positive side, although not ideal, the second draft release did expand the requirement to include projects that “connects” or provides approximate access to” PDAs. Other objectionable components included local roadway dollars being tied to the 70%/PDA criteria, does not recognize past CMA commitments, and requires housing elements to meet current RHNA numbers (2007-14).

Leah Greenblat noted that it seemed that the Counties of Sonoma, Marin, and Napa, where the PDA requirement criteria was reduced to 50%, seemed to be very active in submitting letters and voicing their concerns regarding this requirement.

Chair Metcalf expressed that, in many jurisdictions, local streets and road funding is needed primarily outside of highly developed areas, and that tying this funding to PDAs would be illogical. Amy Worth concurred, and questioned as to why maintenance dollars would be included in this proposal, and that it is not intended to be a streets and roads program.

Overarching concerns expressed by the Committee regarding OneBayArea, despite whether or not a jurisdiction has a PDA, or is in the development of a PDA, is not being able to utilize and control funding such as streets and roads dollars outside of its PDA. This is crucial when considering the fact that most PDAs are, or would be, fairly small in comparison to a jurisdiction’s overall roadway network and maintenance responsibilities. It was repeatedly suggested that the language regarding the 70% PDA requirement be, at the very least, revised to have flexibility, and to include roadways that connect, or provide access to, PDAs. Further, provide flexibility in the definition of “proximate access” to a PDA, and allow “proximate” to be defined at the discretion and control of the local jurisdiction.

Martin Engelmann referenced a draft comment letter on the revised OneBayArea grant program that will be taken to the Authority Board in February. SWAT reviewed the letter and provided several specific comments in regards to language, and requested that it be incorporated within.

ACTION: none

7. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: The following written communication items were made available:

- Comment Letters from City of Lafayette, City of San Pablo, and City of Oakley to MTC and ABAG regarding the Alternative Scenarios for the SCS
- Comment Letter from City of Lafayette to MTC regarding the proposed OneBayArea Grant Program
- CCTA summary of actions from Board meetings of 12/21/11 and 1/18/12
- TRANSPPLAN summary of actions from Committee meeting of 1/12/12
- WCCTAC summary of actions from Committee meeting of 1/27/12
- City of San Ramon – Notice of Public Hearing and Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration

ACTION: None

8. **DISCUSSION:** The next SWAT meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 5, 2012 at the Town of Moraga, Hacienda de las Flores building. The agenda is to include a final recommendation of CC-TLC program allocations for the SWAT sub region.

ACTION: None

9. **ADJOURNMENT:** The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, March 5th, 2012** at Town of Moraga, Hacienda de las Flores, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, CA.

ACTION: Meeting adjourned by Chair Metcalf at 4:55 p.m

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Agendas, minutes and other information regarding this committee can be found at: www.cccounty.us/SWAT