

Transportation Committee
of the
Southern California Association of Governments

March 1, 2012

Minutes

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Transportation Committee (TC) held its meeting at SCAG's office in downtown Los Angeles. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Hon. Keith Millhouse, City of Moorpark. There was a quorum.

Members Present:

Hon. Jerry Amante, Tustin	OCTA
Hon. Bruce Barrows, Cerritos	District 23
Hon. Glen Becerra, Simi Valley	District 46
Hon. Russell Betts, Desert Hot Springs	CVAG
Hon. Stan Carroll, La Habra Heights	District 31
Hon. Mary Craton, Canyon Lake	RCTC
Hon. Gene Daniels, Paramount	District 24
Hon. Judy Dunlap, Inglewood	District 28
Hon. Paul Eaton, Montclair	District 9
Hon. Mario Guerra, Downey	GCCOG
Hon. Frank Gurulé, Cudahy	District 27
Hon. Bert Hack, Laguna Woods	OCCOG
Hon. Carol Herrera, Diamond Bar	District 37
Hon. Jim Hyatt, Calimesa	District 3
Hon. Michele Martinez, Santa Ana	District 16
Hon. Ryan McEachron, Victorville	SANBAG
Hon. Marsha McLean, Santa Clarita	District 67
Hon. Barbara Messina, Alhambra	District 34
Hon. Keith Millhouse, Moorpark (Vice-Chair)	VCTC
Hon. Leroy Mills, Cypress	District 18
Hon. Shawn Nelson	Orange County
Hon. Pam O'Connor, Santa Monica	District 41
Hon. Gary Ovitt	San Bernardino County
Hon. Greg Pettis, Cathedral City	District 2
Hon. Frank Quintero, Glendale	District 42
Hon. Sharon Quirk-Silva, Fullerton	District 21
Hon. Ron Roberts, Temecula	District 5
Hon. David Spence, La Cañada-Flintridge	Arroyo Verdugo Cities
Hon. Karen Spiegel, Corona	WRCOG
Hon. Tim Spohn, City of Industry	SGVCOG
Hon. Jeff Stone	Riverside County
Hon. Jess Talamantes, Burbank	SFVCOG
Hon. Don Voss, City of La Cañada-Flintridge	District 36
Hon. Alan Wapner, City of Ontario	SANBAG

Members Not Present:

Hon. Mike Antonovich	Los Angeles County
Hon. Jeff Cooper, Culver City	WCCOG
Hon. Steve Diels, Redondo Beach	SBCCOG
Hon. Glenn Duncan, Chino	District 10
Hon. James Gazeley, Lomita	District 39
Hon. Paul Glaab, Laguna Niguel (Chair)	District 12
Hon. Thomas Glancy, Thousand Oaks	VCOG
Hon. Matthew Harper, Huntington Beach	District 64
Hon. Jose Huizar, Los Angeles	District 61
Hon. Ryan Kelley, Brawley	ICTC
Hon. Trish Kelley, Mission Viejo	OCCOG
Hon. Steven Ly, Rosemead	SGVCOG
Hon. Brian McDonald	Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Hon. Brett Murdock, Brea	District 22
Hon. Steven Neal, Long Beach	District 29
Hon. Bernard C. Parks, Los Angeles	District 55
Hon. Don Robinson, Banning	WRCOG
Hon. Mark Rutherford, Westlake Village	LVMCOG
Hon. Damon Sandoval	Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Voting Members, Non-Elected Officials:

McCarthy, James (<i>Not Present</i>)	Caltrans – District 7
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CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Keith Millhouse, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Hon. Ron Roberts, City of Temecula, led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no reprioritization of the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Item

1. Minutes of February 2, 2012 Meeting

A MOTION was made (Voss) to approve the Consent Calendar. The MOTION was SECONDED (Messina) and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. Motion passed.

Receive and File

2. Imperial County Highway Sanctions Update

ACTION ITEMS

3. High Desert Corridor Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Ryan Kuo, SCAG staff, provided a brief overview on the High Desert Corridor Partnership's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Mr. Kuo stated that there has been significant progress made by many stakeholders and agencies across the region to advance the high desert corridor project between the high desert areas of Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. This effort is underway with the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) / Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and is expected to be completed later this year. Mr. Kuo explained that the MOU is merely a formalization of the ongoing partnership by the various cities and agencies along the corridor. SCAG is not committing any funding and is only providing support.

A MOTION was made (Hack) to recommend to the Regional Council that SCAG's Executive Director be given authorization to sign the High Desert Corridor Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOTION was SECONDED (Messina) and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. Motion passed.

INFORMATION ITEMS

4. Draft 2012 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) Summary of Comments Received

Item was deferred to the Joint Policy Committee meeting.

5. Update on the State Route 241 (SR-241) Extension Project

Due to time constraints, this item was postponed to a future meeting.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

6. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Subcommittee Report

Due to time constraints, this item was postponed to the March 21st meeting.

HIGH-SPEED RAIL (HSR) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

7. High-Speed Rail (HSR) Update

Mr. Hasan Ikhata, SCAG's Executive Director, provided a status update on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA). Mr. Ikhata reported that the majority of the signatories have signed the MOU with the exception of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA). OCTA deferred the item to be further discussed at its March 13, 2012 board meeting. Mr. Ikhata opened the floor for additional comments from the OCTA representatives.

Hon. Shawn Nelson, Orange County, explained that the language within CHSRA's Business Plan specifically states that the signing agency will agree to defend its Business Plan. Hon. Nelson added that signing the MOU will compromise OCTA's position on the Business Plan by forcing them to support a plan that has been deemed as flawed by the independent agencies that reviewed it. Additionally, comments have been made that if the MOU is altered to remove this language, it would need to be recirculated to all of the signing agencies and there doesn't seem to be a desire for this to happen.

Mr. Ikhata reminded members that at the February 21, 2012 Joint Policy Committee meeting, several Regional Council (RC) members requested that language revisions be made to the MOU which would then require that the MOU be recirculated to the various boards. Mr. Ikhata noted that recirculating the MOU would set a precedent for additional revisions to be made by the remaining boards.

Hon. Bert Hack, City of Laguna Woods, questioned the legalities of the MOU and how binding it would be upon the signatories. Mr. Ikhata explained that every party had the right to withdraw from the MOU. Hon. Millhouse added that the MOU is a legally binding document and suggested that the discussion be deferred to SCAG's legal counsel.

Hon. Jerry Amante, City of Tustin, stated that there is language specifically within the MOU which requires OCTA to agree under all circumstances to advocate for, support and defend CHSRA in exchange for the blended approach. Hon. Amante added that he understands that modifying the language in the MOU can be cumbersome; however, the OCTA board has suggested other vehicles be used such as a resolution or the like. Hon. Nelson clarified that supporting High-Speed Rail (HSR) is not an issue rather the issue is the language within the MOU that calls for complete support of the Business Plan.

Hon. Alan Wapner, SANBAG stated that the action that was taken was to include the California High-Speed Rail Phase I (CHSR) in the Constrained Plan contingent upon an MOU being executed between CHSRA and the various agencies. Hon. Wapner asked if the MOU can still go forward and be included in the Constrained Plan. Mr. Ikhata responded that the overarching goal of the MOU was to ensure that the agencies

received funding for their current systems. Unfortunately, the MOU will move forward without the final signature but Mr. Ikhata stated that he remains hopeful that OCTA will be the final signatory to the MOU.

Discussion ensued regarding OCTA's position on the MOU and the suggested revisions. Ms. Joann Africa, SCAG's Chief Legal Counsel, clarified that the MOU is a legal agreement and any party to the agreement is allowed to withdraw or terminate from the agreement. The concerns regarding the language can also be amended as with any agreement.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Due to time constraints, no Chair's Report was provided.

STAFF REPORT

Due to time constraints, no Staff Report was provided.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Due to time constraints, no Future Agenda Items were provided.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Due to time constraints, no Announcements were made.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am. The next meeting of the Transportation Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at the SCAG Los Angeles office.



Jonathan Nadler, Manager
Transportation Modeling, Air Quality and Conformity

