

**WCCTAC**  
**West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes, 30 October 2009**

**Members Present:** Maria Viramontes, Chair (Richmond); Tom Butt (Richmond); Ed Balico (Hercules); Genoveva Calloway (San Pablo); Jeff Ritterman (Richmond); Roy Swearingen, Vice-Chair (Pinole); Joe Wallace\* (AC Transit). Absent: John Gioia (Contra Costa County); Aleida Andrino-Chavez (WestCAT); Joel Keller (BART). Attending Rail~Volution: Janet Abelson (El Cerrito).  
\*arrived after roll call.

**Staff Present:** Christina Atienza, Nancy Cuneo, Valerie Lipscomb, Joanna Pallock, John Rudolph, Linda Young; Hisham Noeimi, CCTA; Michael Rodriguez, Meyers Nave.

**Location:** San Pablo Council Chambers, 13831 San Pablo Avenue, San Pablo, CA 94806

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**1. Call to Order Self-Introductions.** *Chair Viramontes* convened the meeting at 8:06 a.m.

**2. Public Comment.** There were no comments from the public.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**ACTION:** *Director Ritterman* moved to adopt all items of the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by *Director Balico*, and passed unanimously.

- 3. Approved Minutes and Summary of September 11, 2009 Board Meeting.**
- 4. Received Staff Reports.**
- 5. Approved 2009 Holiday and 2010 Meeting Schedule.**
- 6. Approved Rules for Ad Hoc Subcommittee Formation.**
- 7. Approved El Cerrito's FY08-09 and FY 09-10 Claims for Additional Transportation for Seniors and People with Disabilities (Measure J Program 20b).**
- 8. Low-Income Student Bus Pass Program:**
  - 8a. Approved Amendment No. 2 to Memorandum of Understanding with AC Transit.**
  - 8b. Approved Cooperative Agreement with John Swett Unified School District.**
  - 8c. Approved Subcommittee's Recommendations Regarding Use of Remaining Lifeline Funds.**
  - 8d. Approved Subcommittee's Recommendations Regarding Inclusion of Charter School Students in West Contra Costa Unified School District's Boundaries.**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 9. Formation of Paratransit Study Subcommittee.**

**ACTION:** *Director Wallace* moved to create a subcommittee of *Directors Abelson, Balico, Calloway, Ritterman, and Wallace* to provide oversight of the paratransit study; seconded by *Director Calloway*, and passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION:** *Chair Viramontes* stated that the subcommittee would be formed to provide policy oversight and direction to technical studies performed by staff and consultants. *Director Wallace* suggested that the subcommittee examine previous paratransit studies in the course of its work. *Director Swearingen* suggested that just as revenues are down countywide and expenditures are down accordingly, staff and consultants should remain aware that bids on a \$200,000 paratransit study appropriately reflect the subregion's limited resources.

**10. Formation of I-80 Integrated Corridor Mobility (I-80 ICM) Subcommittee.**

**ACTION:** *Director Swearingen* moved to create a subcommittee of *Directors Balico, Butt, Calloway, Swearingen,* and a transit representative or *Chair Viramontes*, to the I-80 ICM Project; seconded by *Director Balico*, and passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION:** *Chair Viramontes* described the need for local elected officials to monitor current and proposed improvements to I-80 and major arterials. *Ms. Christina Atienza, Executive Director*, suggested the subcommittee could also provide policy oversight, receive detailed briefings, and consider O&M funding issues.

**11. Greenprint Request for Transfer of Funds.**

**ACTION:** *Director Ritterman* moved to approve Greenprint's request to transfer remaining grant balance from EAH Housing to Greenprint Project Corporation, with a friendly amendment by *Director Swearingen* to the effect that the Greenprint Project reimburse WCCTAC for the \$8,000 grant it is receiving; seconded by *Director Balico*, and passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION:** Prior to Mr. Rogers' presentation, *Chair Viramontes* asked WCCTAC Counsel *Mr. Michael Rodriquez* to clarify potential conflicts to the WCCTAC Board's receiving a presentation and request from *Mr. Jim Rogers*, a member of the Richmond City Council. *Mr. Rodriquez* stated that there should not be any conflicts because *Mr. Rogers* is not presenting a request to the Richmond City Council, the Greenprint Project Corporation which *Mr. Rogers* represents is a non-profit organization, and the interests of WCCTAC and the Richmond City Council are different.

*Mr. Rogers*, representing the Greenprint Project Corporation, thanked the Board for its \$25,000 grant for Greenprint project planning in April 2008; stated that the recipient of the funding, EAH Housing, was amenable to transferring the balance of the grant to the Greenprint Project Corporation now that the corporation has finalized its 501(c)3 non-profit status; and described the utilization of the grant funding thus far in producing a plan to reduce local VMT. *Mr. Rogers* stated that Greenprint's next steps include using the balance of the grant to achieve implementation of the Greenprint Project on a modest scale in West County, with potential federal support after the re-authorization of the next federal transportation bill. *Chair Viramontes* suggested that sustainability for visionary projects such as Greenprint may not be achievable in low-income areas without continued financial assistance from federal programs, as is done in housing and health care.

**12. Update on Draft Measure J 2009 Strategic Plan and Bond Financing Actions.**

**ACTION:** WCCTAC received the update, which includes \$13.2 million in deferred WCCTAC projects as approved by the Board in April 2009.

**DISCUSSION:** *Mr. Hisham Noeimi* reviewed the Draft 2009 Plan. Projects that had been capped at 90% are now capped at 66% because sales tax revenues have fallen 23% below 2007 projections. *Chair Viramontes* noted that in the event of a recovery from the current economic recession, project caps may be amended to a higher amount in future strategic plans. *Chair Viramontes* and *Mr. Noeimi* reviewed the differences between project and program funding in Measure J. Funding for individual programs is pegged to a percentage of overall revenues collected: the decline in overall revenues means that each program will experience a proportional decline in funding.

**13. Street Smarts and Safe Routes to Schools.**

**ACTION:** *Director Ritterman* moved to express WCCTAC's support for the County's application for federal funding to support physical activity; seconded by *Director Butt*, and passed unanimously. *Chair Viramontes* appointed *Directors Ritterman, Calloway, and Gioia*, plus staff from Hercules and Richmond, to an ad hoc subcommittee to assist the county in completing the application.

**DISCUSSION:** *Ms. Nancy Baer*, County Health Services, provided an overview of the Street Smarts campaign to promote pedestrian and bicycle safety. *Ms. Baer* also presented an overview of the county's application to a federal program located within the American Recovery and Relief Act (ARRA) to support nutrition and physical activity, and asked for letters of support from West County jurisdictions. *Ms. Baer* further noted that a central coordinator in place to administer the Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan would help jurisdictions to implement Measure J-related improvements to bicycle and pedestrian facilities. *Director Wallace* remarked that pedestrians in West County face danger, including vicious dogs, drug dealers, and diseased dead animals. *Director Swearingen* noted the necessity of combining warnings about unsafe conditions with efforts to make conditions safer. *Director Butt* observed that the federal program has identified funding opportunities to address the issues *Director Wallace* raised.

#### **STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

**14. Correspondence/Other Information:** Received. No comments.

**15. WCCTAC Board and Staff Comments:** *Ms. Atienza* announced that the Safe Routes to Transit Program had awarded WCCTAC \$69,000 for the planning portion only of the West County and Albany Wayfinding Signage Project. *Chair Viramontes* announced the Regional Pedestrian Safety Summit in January 2010.

**16. Other Business:** None.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

**14. Adjourn to Closed Session: Executive Director's Performance Evaluation, Work Plan, and Contract Renewal.** The Board adjourned to closed session at 9:25 a.m.

#### **OPEN SESSION**

**15. Adjourn.** The Board reopened to open session and adjourned until December 11, 2009 at 8:00 a.m.