



WCCTAC

West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee
West Contra Costa Transit Enhancement Strategic Plan
&
West Contra Costa/Albany Transit Wayfinding Plan

Working Group Meeting

Thursday, September 9, 2010
10:30 a.m.

AGENDA

- I. Introductions
- II. August 26 Working Group Meeting Notes
- III. Meeting Objectives
- IV. Final Project Management Plans
- V. Data Needs
- VI. Select Final "TESP" Study Location
- VII. Overview of Outreach Process (Detailed Discussion on October 14)
- VIII. Next Working Group Meeting – October 14
- IX. Adjourn



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WORKING GROUP

NAME	AGENCY	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Christina Atienza	WCCTAC	ChristinaA@ci.san-pablo.ca.us
John Rudolph	WCCTAC	johnr@ci.san-pablo.ca.us
Linda Young	WCCTAC	linday@ci.san-pablo.ca.us
Yvetteh Ortiz	City of El Cerrito	yortiz@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us
Hector Rojas	City of Richmond	hector_rojas@ci.richmond.ca.us
Steven Tam	City of Richmond	steven_tam@ci.richmond.ca.us
Winston Rhodes	City of Pinole	wrhodes@ci.pinole.ca.us
Jamar Stamps	Contra Costa County	jstam@cd.cccounty.us
Nathan Landau	AC Transit	nlandau@actransit.org
Rob Thompson	WestCAT	rob@westcat.org
Deidre Heitman	BART	dheitma@bart.gov
Aleida Andrino-Chavez	City of Albany	achavez@albanyca.org

CONSULTANT TEAM

NAME	FIRM – ROLE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Bob Grandy	Fehr & Peers – Project Manager	b.grandy@fehrandpeers.com
Matthew Ridgway	Fehr & Peers – Principal	m.ridgway@fehrandpeers.com
Linda Rhine	Nelson/Nygaard – Enhancement Plan	lrhine@nelsonnygaard.com
Sue Lavouvie	Studio L'Image – Wayfinding Plan	slabouvie@studiolimage.com
Niko Letunic	Eisen-Letunic - Outreach	niko@eisenletunic.com



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Working Group Meeting

Thursday, August 26, 2010
9:00 a.m.

MEETING NOTES

Attendees: Christina Atienza, John Rudolph, Linda Young (WCCTAC); Yvetteh Ortiz (City of El Cerrito); Hector Rojas (City of Richmond); Winston Rhodes (City of Pinole); Jamar Stamps (Contra Costa County); Nathan Landau (AC Transit); Rob Thompson (WestCAT); Deidre Heitman (BART); Aleida Andrino-Chavez (City of Albany); Bob Grandy (Fehr & Peers); Linda Rhine (Nelson/Nygaard); Sue Labouvie (Studio L'Image)

I. Introductions

Christina welcomed the Working Group. Bob noted that Working Group members had the option of either leaving the project binder or taking it with them each month.

II. Meeting Objectives

Bob noted the following three meeting objectives.

- Obtain input on the study purpose
- Receive comments on the two Draft Project Management Plans
- Review "TESP" Study Location materials, discuss candidate study locations, and provide direction to the consultant team on next steps



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III. Study Purpose

Bob noted the following overall goal of the two projects is to increase transit ridership in West County. This will be accomplished as follows for the two individual projects.

- Transit Enhancement Strategic Plan – establish a prioritized list of transportation improvement projects, TDM and parking programs, and a transit enhancement toolbox.
- Transit Wayfinding Plan – develop a wayfinding concept and roadway sign plan that directs pedestrians and bicyclists to and from major transit facilities in West County and the City of Albany.

Bob asked if the Working Group members had any specific objectives that they'd like to see accomplished that are not explicitly identified above.

- The goal of the Transit Enhancement Strategic Plan should be to maintain and improve bus transit access as well as pedestrian/bike access.
- The Wayfinding Plan should include provisions for signing to AC Transit Rapid Bus stops along San Pablo Avenue.
- The wayfinding concept should take into account urban design efforts in the study areas. Sue talked about the challenge of providing some level of countywide consistency in signing vs. recognizing the individual identities of each city.
- Outreach should include bike advocacy groups.

IV. Draft Project Management Plans

The Working Group provided the following comments on the Draft PMP for the Transit Enhancement Strategic Plan.

- It was noted that MTC has two parking efforts under way and the project team should obtain that data as available.
- It was noted that BART surveyed patrons in 2008.



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- Requested Revisions to Draft PMP for “TESP”:
 - Agency Data Request (p. 3) – provide one combined list for both projects.
 - Bicycling Audits (p. 5) – in addition to route gaps, look at bike parking and other possible bike amenities at stations (i.e., bikesharing).
 - Typology (p. 6) – identify top 10 desired/optimal amenities for stations.

The Working Group provided the following comments on the Draft PMP for the Transit Wayfinding Plan.

- The list of cities in Task 3 came from an initial discussion by the Working Group and alternative/additional cities such as Seattle and Chicago should be considered.
- It was noted that the County has signing standards for bicycle facilities and that this standardization has been a big help.
- Deidre noted that BART has funding to do wayfinding for the 3 BART stations in West County. They have a \$900k grant to do street level information kiosks in areas around stations that will direct pedestrians to the station and other key area destinations.
- Be mindful that electronic technology is an alternative way to disseminate information.

There were no requested revisions to the Draft PMP for the Transit Wayfinding Plan.

V. Data Needs

The consultant team will provide an Agency Data Request list at the September Working Group meeting.

VI. Discuss Outreach Process

The consultant team will provide an initial overview of the Outreach Process at the September Working Group meeting. Additional details, particularly as they relate to project stakeholders, will be discussed at the October Working Group meeting.



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VII. Discuss "TESP" Study Locations

The Working Group selected the Hercules Intermodal Station as the planned transit center for further study.

The Working Group selected the following four Priority Development Areas (PDAs) for further study.

- Central Richmond
- Hercules Waterfront
- San Pablo Corridor (El Cerrito north to McDonald)
- Old Town Pinole

The Working Group asked the consultant team to bring back additional details on the remaining four PDAs for discussion at the September Working Group meeting.

VIII. Set Date for Next Working Group Meeting

All future Working Group meetings will be held at 10:30 am, immediately after the standing monthly TAC meeting that starts at 9:00 am.



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CONSOLIDATED LIST OF DATA NEEDS

Electronic versions of the following documents are preferred where available.

Existing Conditions

1. Aerial photos of Transit Centers and Priority Development Areas
 - Buchanan Transit Center
 - Central Richmond
 - Hercules Waterfront
 - Old Town Pinole
 - San Pablo Avenue Corridor (El Cerrito north to McDonald)
 - 5th Priority Development Area location to be determined
2. Description and GIS layer of existing and proposed bus routes and stops, roadways, sidewalks, bikeways (including trails), parcels, and buildings (as available).
3. Major employer information, including locations, number of employers, participation in Countywide and West County TDM programs

Transit Center Plans

4. Plans and/or any studies prepared for Buchanan Transit Center

(note: the project team has copies of recent plans prepared for the remaining transit centers)

Development Plans

5. Updated plans, descriptions, and status of Priority Development Areas
6. Recent Specific Plans, Corridor Plans, Streetscape Master Plans, Complete Streets Plans, or other relevant documents

Policy Documents

7. Zoning & Muni Code language for all PDAs to be evaluated, related to:
 - Shared parking
 - Bicycle parking
 - TDM requirements for new and/or existing development
 - Parking permit districts



CONSOLIDATED LIST OF DATA NEEDS

8. Agency wayfinding standards and/or related guidance documents

Transit Ridership Data

9. Transit/shuttle access information for:

- Contra Costa College Hub
- Richmond Parkway Transit Center
- Hercules Transit Center
- Any major employment centers that we'd like to investigate

10. Average Weekday Boardings (and Peak Period Boardings if available) for all connecting bus operators that serve the existing transit centers

- a) El Cerrito del Norte BART Station
 - Golden Gate Transit
 - Fairfield-Suisun Transit
 - WestCAT
 - Vallejo Transit
 - AC Transit
- b) El Cerrito Plaza BART Station
 - AC Transit
- c) Richmond BART Station
 - Golden Gate Transit
 - AC Transit
 - Connects with AMTRAK capital Corridor
- d) Richmond Parkway Transit Center
 - WestCAT
 - AC Transit
- e) Hercules Transit Center
 - WestCAT
- f) Contra Costa College Transit Hub
 - WestCAT
 - AC Transit

Parking Data

11. Parking inventory and occupancy counts + bike parking supply/inventory for park-and-ride facilities at (and parking pricing, time limit information if available):

- Contra Costa College Hub



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CONSOLIDATED LIST OF DATA NEEDS

- Richmond Parkway Transit Center
- Hercules Transit Center
- Any major employment centers that we'd like to investigate Parking requirements for all PDAs to be evaluated

12. If available, any recent parking inventory/occupancy counts for the PDAs or parts of PDAs

TDM Information

13. Description of WCCTAC 511 program elements (in addition to what is available on the 511 website)

Accident Data

14. Bicycle and pedestrian-related collision data (2007 to 2009)

Programmed Improvements

15. Planned or programmed capital improvements (including wayfinding) at the transit centers

16. List of programmed roadway improvements (CIPs)

Outreach Meeting Information

17. List of local organizations (i.e., transit, bicycle, pedestrian, environmental, etc.) with contact information as available

18. List of local community groups (i.e., neighborhood groups, business groups, churches, etc.) with contact information as available

19. List of regular employer TDM meetings

20. List of BPAC meeting dates



TRANSIT ENHANCEMENT AND WAYFINDING PLANS



BACKGROUND INFORMATION – PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT AREAS

	CENTRAL HERCULES	EL SOBRANTE	NORTH RICHMOND	SOUTH RICHMOND
PDA OVERVIEW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Crossroads of I-80 and State Route 4 ▪ New Town Center District ▪ Hilltown District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 145-acre district ▪ 4 block section of San Pablo Dam Road ▪ 10 block section of Appian Way ▪ Commercial & retail corridor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1,200 acre ▪ Served by 2 AC Transit lines ▪ Access to Richmond Parkway ▪ Significant infrastructure deficiencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1,350 acre redevelopment area ▪ Reuse of Ford Assembly Plan and Cannery Facility ▪ Existing railroad, port and warehouse facilities ▪ 2,200 units built in last few decades
PDA VISION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transit-oriented urban center in suburban sub-region ▪ New Town Center – 35 acres in 3 phases (Market Town, Cinema Town, Transit Town) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2,290 added residential units ▪ 1,500 additional jobs ▪ Hilltown District – 40 acres hillside site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 640 residential units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pedestrian-oriented, mixed-use commercial district ▪ 487 added residential units ▪ 400,000 s.f. added commercial space (retail, entertainment, office) ▪ Village Center along San Pablo Dam Road – pedestrian core ▪ Streetscape enhancements along Appian Way 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create Main Street along the Filbert/3rd Street corridor ▪ 1,200 new housing units ▪ Creation and rehabilitation of affordable housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planned Richmond Ferry Terminal ▪ Mixed-use revitalization of former Kaiser Shipyard ▪ Nystrom Village – redevelopment as mixed-use TOD ▪ Improve connectivity
OVERLAP WITH STUDY TRANSIT CENTERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hercules Transit Center 			
OTHER STUDY LOCATION IN COMMUNITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hercules Intermodal Station 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Richmond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Richmond
COMPARABLE PDA STUDY LOCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Old Town Pinole 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Old Town Pinole 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ South Richmond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ North Richmond
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF PHYSICAL TRANSIT ACCESS NEEDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expanded express bus and park-and-ride terminal ▪ Pedestrian and bicycle access improvements to transit center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Village Center along San Pablo Dam Road – new pedestrian facilities and crossing treatments ▪ Appian Way – Streetscape improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pedestrian and bicycle facilities ▪ Transit center ▪ Pedestrian and bicycle access improvements to new transit center ▪ Improved area connectivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New roadways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New ferry terminal ▪ Pedestrian and bicycle access improvements to planned ferry terminal ▪ Improved area connectivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New roadways ▪ Railroad grade separation
LEVEL OF PREVIOUS PLANNING WORK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2001 Central Hercules Plan ▪ 2008 Community Update event ▪ New Town Center planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2001 Downtown El Sobrante Transportation and Land Use Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ County North Richmond Redevelopment Plan ▪ Urban Third Street Transportation Plan ▪ North Richmond Specific Plan ▪ North Richmond Plan Amendment Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Knox-Cutting Specific Area Plan
OTHER FACTORS				