## West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee Board of Directors Meeting Mooting Minutes: May 24, 2019

Meeting Minutes: May 24, 2019

**MEMBERS PRESENT**: Chris Kelley: Chair (Hercules); Roy Swearingen: Vice-Chair (Pinole); Janet Abelson, (El Cerrito); Tom Butt, (Richmond); Chris Peeples (AC Transit); Maureen Powers, (WestCat); Rita Xavier (San Pablo); John Gioia (County).

**STAFF PRESENT:** John Nemeth, Joanna Pallock, Valerie Jenkins, Coire Reilly, Leah Greenblat, Kris Kokotaylo (Legal Counsel)

**ACTIONS LISTED BY: Valerie Jenkins** 

Meeting Called to Order: 8:02 am

Public Comment: None.

**Consent Calendar:** Motion by *Director Swearingen;* seconded by *Director Abelson;* motion passed.

- Item # 3. Minutes of April 26, 2019 Board Meeting, Approved.
- Item # 4. Monthly Update on WCCTAC Activities, Information only.
- Item # 5. Financial Reports for April 2019, Information only.
- **Item # 6.** Payment of Invoices over \$10,000. Information only: \$71,501 to Kimley-Horn for consulting services for the West County Express Bus Implementation Plan.
- Item # 7. 2019 STMP Nexus Study Update and Authorization to Use STMP Funds for Legal Services, Approved allocation of \$8,941 of STMP funds.
- Item # 8. Fiscal Audit and Memorandum of Internal Control for Fiscal Year 2018,

  Approved audit.

ITEM/DISCUSSION	ACTION
Item #9	Information Only
Richmond Area Community Based	Martin Engelmann (CCTA) gave an overview of
Transportation Plan (CBTP)	the CBTP, whose study area covers parts of
	Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, and
	Unincorporated County. He noted that the overall purpose of the plan was to determine what kind of projects could be developed to improve transportation choices for low income residents.

## Item #10

Draft Fiscal Year 2020 Work Program, Budget, and Dues.

John Nemeth (WCCTAC Executive Director) presented the Draft Fiscal Year 2020 Work Program, Budget, and Dues and sought approval to release these to member agencies.

**Director Abelson** motioned to release the Draft Fiscal Year 2020 Work Program, Budget, and Dues to the member agencies; seconded by

**Director Peeples** 

Yes- Chair C. Kelley, Vice-Chair Swearingen, M. Powers, C. Peeples, J. Abelson, T. Butt, R. Xavier, J. Gioia

No- None Abstention-None Motion passed unanimously

## Item #11

New Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP).

## **Information Only**

John Nemeth (WCCTAC Executive Director) provided an overview of public opinion research presented by EMC Research at the Authority meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup>. He also provided the Board with a draft concept for allocating funding for a future TEP and sought Board feedback.

**Public Comment:** Dave Campbell (Bike East Bay) stated that he would like to see an additional 3.5% added to the Bike and Pedestrian allocation in the TEP to make it an even 10%. He added that the Local Streets and Road category needs should be zeroed out. He also suggested that a new measure should tell a compelling story to voters.

Director Gioia noted that he was uncertain about the prospects for a new measure given that there is already an existing transportation sales tax in place. He expressed support for a category that allows for contemporary shared mobility solutions and noted that for transit to be effective and accessible, the first and last mile must be easy. He also expressed support for a category that would fund grade separations. Lastly, he expressed a willingness to have a modest amount in local street and road maintenance, given the availability of other

sources for that activity and given the need to fund other priorities.

Director Butt stated that mobility has worsened in West County since Measure X. He also argued that West County should make sure that it gets its fair share and its priorities included in a measure. He also highlighted the importance of including funding in the TEP to address problems near the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge and Richmond Parkway, despite the fact that there were some funds included in RM3.

**Vice-Chair Swearingen** shared his concern about the prospect of competing tax measure being on the ballot at the same time.

Director Abelson argued that West County is distinct and that its priorities can and should be different than the rest of the County. She advocated for strong funding to go to mobility services for the senior and disabled population, since they are chronically underfunded. She also advocated for additional transit funding. She agreed with Dave Campbell (Bike East Bay) and other Directors about the need for a compelling story for voters about the transportation needs of West County.

Chair Kelley stated that people want congestion relief in the I-80 corridor and that more funding needed to go into the transit categories. She noted that ridership was growing on commuter-oriented transit services and that express buses could be popular and effective. She agreed with other Board members that flexibility was important in the measure and that the categories should not be too rigidly defined.

**Rita Xavier** echoed Director Gioia about the need to have a category that could fund grade separations.

**Director Peeples** stated that transit has been a focus of recent tax measures and is popular. He

argued for additional funding in the senior and disabled category. He noted that there were other pots of funding for innovative transit and technology.

\*\*Director Powers\*\* felt that marketing and public information was going to be critical for the measure to garner public support. She also argued that a future measure needed to be flexible to deal with future contingencies.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:50am