

Napa County Transportation Planning Agency (NCTPA)

Board of Directors

MINUTES

Wednesday October 18, 2006

ITEMS

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Leon Garcia called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

Vice Chair Garcia led the salute to the flag.

2. Roll Call

Voting Members Present:

Kevin Block	City of Napa
Jim Krider	City of Napa
Diane Dillon	County of Napa (@2:10 p.m.)
Bill Dodd	County of Napa (@ 2:10 p.m.)
Karen Slusser	City of Calistoga
Leon Garcia	City of American Canyon
Steve Rosa	Town of Yountville
Joe Potter	City of St. Helena (@2:07p.m.)

Voting Members Absent: None

Non-Voting Member Present:

Doug Weir	Paratransit Coordinating Council
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3. Chairperson, Board Members' and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Update

No Reports Given

4. Directors Update

John Ponte, Acting Executive Director

Reviewed various handouts distributed at the meeting.

Reported that NCTPA expects the re-recruitment process for the Transportation Program Manager – Transit to begin on November 7th.

Reported the cooperative agreements with Caltrans on Park and Ride lot, the Trancas/29 right of way and sale, and the joint Caltrans/NCTPA/Solano Transportation Authority Jamieson Canyon project have been delayed until approximately November.

Reported that the consultants have begun work on appraising the proposed downtown transit center site. Staff expects to have a report of the results available at either the December 2006 or January 2007 meeting.

5. Caltrans Update

Doanh Ngyuen, Caltrans, provided an update on the status of various projects located through out the county. Further reported that the rumble strip installation project on Jamieson Canyon was re-advertised in September. Bids, if any are received, will be opened in October.

6. Public Comment

Muriel Fagiani, City of Napa resident, requested (1) that meetings be equipped with listening devices for the hearing impaired and (2) the numbers on the VINE buses be made bigger for the sight impaired.

Member Dodd requested a staff report be presented at the November meeting regarding the planned improvements, including the installation of larger numbers, on the buses.

7. Approval of Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2006

MS DODD / KRIDER, with **DUTTON** and **SLUSSER** abstaining, to **APPROVE** the meeting minutes of September 20, 2006.

CONSENT ITEMS (8-10)

At the request of Member Dillon, Item 9 was pulled from consent for further discussion.

MSC* KRIDER / DODD to **APPROVE** Consent Items 8 and 10.

8. Taxi Scrip Program Agreement with American Canyon

Board action approved an agreement with American Canyon to continue their demonstration taxi scrip program which began in FY 04/05.

9. NCTPA Strategic Transportation Plan – Update

Information Only / No Action Taken

At the request of Board Member Dillon, staff reviewed changes to the Scope of Work, as well as, provided an update on the start-up activities for the 2008 Plan.

10. Approval for NCTPA to Join Montebello Hybrid Bus Purchase Consortium and Enter into Contract with Selected Vendor

Board action authorized the agency to enter into a consortium to issue request for bids to purchase 8 hybrid buses and authorize the Executive Director to enter into contract with the selected vendor.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

11. Public Hearing - Review of the VINE and VINE Go Fare Structures

Information Only / No Action Taken

Transit agencies that receive operating funds in accordance with the Transportation Development Act (TDA) are required to maintain a minimum farebox return on operating costs. Staff reviewed these requirements with Board members. At the September meeting the Board adopted a timeline for the review of the VINE and VINE Go fare structures which included a public hearing at the October Board meeting. Public Meetings were held in St. Helena and the City of Napa in early October. Board Member Slusser requested that a public meeting also be held in Calistoga.

Vice Chair Garcia opened the Public Hearing at 2:40 p.m.

Muriel Fagiani, Napa Resident, stated that (1) the fare analysis for the VINE Day Pass should have been included in the agenda report or at least provided at the Public Hearing meeting, (2) she opposes the fare increase stating that it hasn't been earned. There are a lot of improvements needing to be made to the bus system before a fare increase is warranted.

Being no further Public Comments, Vice Chair Garcia closed the Public Hearing at 2:45 p.m.

Board member Dodd requested a bi-annual review of all VINE/VINE Go fares.

Vice Chair Garcia also supports a analysis of VINE/VINE Go services on a more frequent basis.

12. Request from NCLOG to the NCTPA to Integrate the Functions of the NCLOG CDS Task Force into NCTPA

Eliot Hurwitz, staff, reviewed the request from NCLOG to integrate the functions for the NCLOG Community Development Strategy (CDS) Task Force into NCTPA.

Board Member Dodd state he fully supports the recommendation from NCLOG.

Board Member Krider also supports the recommendation from NCLOG however asked to defer the recommendation until the new Napa City Manager is updated on the process.

Vice Chair Garcia stated that there are finer details still needing to be worked out but that he is encouraged by how the NCLOG recommendation is going forward. Feels it (integrating NCLOG with NCTPA) is very important for all jurisdictions.

Board Member Block stated that there are multiple steps to be taken in the process to integrate NCLOG into NCTPA and suggested the Board should approve moving forward to begin the process. Further, stated the importance of maintaining the weighted voting structure on all transportation issues.

Member Block also stated that there has been discussion on expanding the membership of NCTPA which will also require an amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) and approval by all jurisdictions and requested that the Board also approve moving forward on expanding the membership.

Staff was directed to work with legal counsel to craft draft amendment language to the JPA and bring back for Board review at the November 2006 meeting.

MSC* BLOCK / DODD to APPROVE the NCLOG recommendation that the NCTPA Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) be amended to reflect an expansion of the Board's membership and role to consider providing a forum for discussion of land use, planning, and other interjurisdictional matters as may be necessary. Such an amendment to the JPA governing the NCTPA would require affirmative action by each of the six members. Additional, the Board might find it helpful to amend its by-laws to address protocol and policies to provide clarity to its role in land use topic discussions to make clear that the Board has no policy-making authority in this regard.

13. Propositions 1A and 1B

Staff reported that these Propositions would increase funding available for transportation projects in the Napa communities. Board action would direct staff to pursue Proposition 1B Corridor Mobility Improvement Account funding for the Jameson Canyon project.

MSC* DODD / ROSA to APPROVE directing staff to pursuer funding for the Jamieson Canyon project from Proposition 1B Corridor Mobility Improvement Account funds.

14. Trancas/SR 29 Landscaping – Cost Estimates

Staff from both NCTPA and Caltrans reviewed the Trancas/SR 29 Landscaping project cost estimates increase. Caltrans estimates an increase of approximately \$342,000 in capital and support costs (bringing the total up from \$808k to \$ 1.15M) due to project delays and errors in project cost estimates. Per Caltrans construction capital costs increased 10% while the support costs have almost tripled. Caltrans stated that the project wasn't updated properly and timely when they did the STIP estimate last year and that they should have engaged in conversation earlier with NCTPA, as well as, the City of Napa on the status and progress of the project.

Board Member Dodd stated he understands the increase in capital costs due to project delays, however, has difficulty believing the increase in support costs from Caltrans is justified. Feels it is wrong to ask NCTPA to cover the cost f Caltrans' error and asked if there is an appeal process for NCTPA that will require Caltrans to at least share the cost? What are the options?

John Ponte, NCTPA Acting Executive Director, responded that since the environmental document for the project (to build the interchange) says that one of the mitigations is the landscaping project he doesn't feel that Caltrans or the California Transportation Commission (CTC) has a choice but to complete project even if the NCTPA Board were to say no.

Board Member Dodd motioned to move forward with the project (endorse the additional funds from the surplus entitlement), however, requested a letter be written to the Director of Caltrans stating NCTPA's dissatisfaction with the process to date.

Vice Chair Garcia suggested that when going into these types of projects, a project update check points list should be required so that there is constant communications between Caltrans and NCTPA on how projects are/are not progressing.

Board Member Dillon endorses the suggestion made by Vice Chair Garcia.

MSC* DODD / KRIDER to APPROVE endorsing the additional funds from the surplus entitlement. Further, that Chair write a letter to the Director of Caltrans stating NCTPA's dissatisfaction with the process to date.

15. Recommendation from the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) on the Napa Valley Bike Path Feasibility Study

Staff reviewed for Board members both the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) recommendations for proceeding with the Napa Valley Bike Path Feasibility Study. The BAC wants to accelerate some activities to potentially advance the feasibility study into the current year from the Board adopted TDA 3 priority list for FY 08/09. However, the TAC considered the BAC proposed acceleration and, due to the expected release of the County General Plan environmental document, is requesting the that the Board defer any action on the BAC request for six months.

Dieter Diess, BAC Member, feels that by all working together in supporting the feasibility study will help to accelerate completion of the Napa Valley Bike Path. Encouraged Board members to support the BAC recommendation

Sandy Houck, BAC Member, feels bicyclists need better access to the Napa Valley, support the BAC recommendation, and encouraged Board members to do the same.

MSC* DODD / DILLON to APPROVE the Bicycle Advisory Committees recommendation to (1) Support the general idea of the Napa Valley Bike path, recognizing the portions already constructed and the portions planned; (2) support the idea of accelerating one or more segments of the feasibility study into the current fiscal year; (3) offer the trade funding option to interested Member Agencies to accelerate the feasibility study; and (4) authorize staff and the BAC to seek private support for the feasibility study.

**16. Closed Session –
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT**
(Government Code Section 54957)
Title: Executive Director

and

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Government Code 54957.6)
Agency Designated Representative:
Mark Gregersen
Unrepresented Employee: Executive Director

Rob Paul, Legal Council, reported that there were no reportable actions taken during closed session

17. Approval of Next Meeting Date of November 15, 2006 and Adjournment

The next meeting will held in the NCTPA Conference Room on Wednesday November 15, 2006 at 2:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Garcia at 4:10pm.

