

FINAL MINUTES

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

*Members are: Frank Sollecito. (Chair),
Lou Calcagno (1st Vice Chair), Steve Villegas (2nd Vice Chair),
Dave Potter (Past Chair), Simón Salinas (County representative),
Sue Kleber (City representative)*

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

*****9:00 a.m.*****

Transportation Agency Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Sollecito called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Board members present: Alternate Lee for Potter, Calcagno, Kleber, Salinas, and Villegas. Staff present: Bachman, Goel, Hale, Muck, Rodriguez, Watson and Agency Counsel Blankenship.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Board member Salinas and second by Board member Kleber the committee voted 4 – 0 to approve the consent items as follows:

3.1 **APPROVED** minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of January 7, 2009.

END OF CONSENT

4. **COMMITTEE PHOTO.**

This item was postponed to a future date.

5. **RECEIVED** state legislative and budget update.

Christina Watson, Senior Transportation Planner, reported that there is still no state budget. The Governor's proposal includes suspending State Transportation Assistance allocations for this year and next year and eliminating the program in future years. She highlighted three bills of interest: defining electric bikes as different from mopeds with regards to usage of trails; lowering the voter threshold for transportation sales taxes to 55%, sponsored by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission; and adding \$5 to DMV vehicle registration fee to support the Freeway Service Patrol and the 511 program. The Executive Committee requested more information on the vehicle registration fee legislation and asked for input from the County's legislative committee.

In conclusion, Ms. Watson announced that Board Chairman Sollecito, Past Chairman Potter and Executive Director Hale would attend the CalCOG legislative day on February 11, 2009 in Sacramento.

6. Draft fiscal year 2009/10 Work Program

On a motion by Board member Salinas and second by Board member Villegas the committee voted 6 –0 to approve the following:

RECOMMENDED that the Board **AUTHORIZE** Executive Director to submit the draft fiscal year 2009/10 Work Program to Federal and State funding agencies for initial review.

Don Bachman, Deputy Executive Director, presented the Agency fiscal year 2009/10 draft work program. He noted authorization to submit the Draft Work Program for fiscal year 2009/10 in February of this year is necessary to meet deadlines of Federal and State funding agencies to review the Transportation Agency work plan. The Work Program describes the activities that the Agency will undertake during the next fiscal year, and provides the basis for the 2009/10 Agency budget.

Mr. Bachman reported that the Transportation Agency has issued a call for federal stimulus projects for the federal stimulus funds, due to the Agency on Monday, February 09, 2009, by noon. These projects need to be ready to go Monterey County's share of a stimulus package is likely to be about \$8.4 million, but could be up to \$20 million. Transportation Agency staff recommends that a ranked and prioritized list of \$20 million worth of stimulus projects be adopted. He noted that a Special Executive meeting has been scheduled on February 20, 2009 to review the proposals. Executive Director Debbie Hale reported two projects that are ready to go and will hopefully get stimulus funds are the Salinas Road Highway 1 project and the Spreckles/ Salinas River bike and pedestrian bridge.

In conclusion, Mr. Bachman announced at its March 2009 meeting, the Agency Board will conduct a visioning session at which time the goals and objectives will be reviewed. Any adjustments to the Agency's direction that may result from the discussion will be included in the Final 2009/10 Work Program, which will be presented for Board adoption in May 2009.

7. Three-Year Budget (FY09/10 – FY 11/12)

On a motion by Board member Salinas and second by Board member Calcagno the committee voted 6 – 0 to approve the following:

RECOMMENDED that the Board **AUTHORIZE** Executive Director to submit draft fiscal year 09/10 budget to federal and state funding agencies for initial review; and

RECOMMENDED that the Board **PROVIDE** direction and guidance to staff on the three-year budget for fiscal years 09/10 through 11/12, and **DIRECT** Executive Director to bring the final three-year budget back to the Board on May 27, 2009 for approval.

Rita Goel, Director of Finance & Administration, presented the draft Agency 3-year budget for fiscal years 09/12, mostly focusing on the direct budget as the operating budget was covered in depth in January. She noted that the Agency continues to control expenditures to stay within budget, and currently has approximately a 9-month cash reserve.

Vice Chairman Calcagno asked if the funds for the 3-year budget are secure. Executive Director Hale replied no funds have been cut at this time and noted that the Agency will depend on its reserve to carry it through any transition time. She also noted that after the state budget is adopted, the Agency will have time to readjust its budget in May. Mr. Calcagno asked that the Agency carefully negotiate the upcoming Freeway Service Patrol contract noting the cost of gas has gone down.

Ms. Goel reported that in order to minimize potential cash flow problems the Agency will take an internal look at consultant invoices for specific projects. Executive Director Hale noted that the Agency might need to stop work on projects if state reimbursements are suspended for a lengthy time period.

In conclusion, Ms. Goel noted that the draft budget would go to the full Board in February and the Executive Committee in May prior to final adoption by the Board.

8. **RECEIVED** report on draft agenda for TAMC Board meeting of February 25, 2009.

Executive Director Hale reviewed the draft agenda. She noted that staff would be asking the Board to approve a new methodology for addressing fast food restaurants in the regional fee program. The Board will be taking a group photo.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**
Vice Chairman Calcagno adjourned the meeting at 10:17 a.m. The next meeting will not be held on its regular date of March 4 but will be rescheduled due to a conflict with the County's budget workshop on that date.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elouise Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant