

**FINAL MINUTES**

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

*Members are: Lou Calcagno. (Chair),  
Steve Villegas (1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair), Simón Salinas (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair),  
Frank Sollecito (Past Chair), Jane Parker (County representative),  
Maria Orozco (City representative)*

**Wednesday, June 2, 2010**

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

Transportation Agency Conference Room  
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Calcagno called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Board members present: Calcagno, Orozco, Salinas, Villegas and alternate Deal for Sollecito. Staff present: Goel, Hale, Rodriguez, Watson and Zeller. Others present: Carl Sedoryk, Monterey-Salinas Transit, Ruth Bernstein and Sara LaBatt, EMC Research.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Board member Salinas and second by Board member Orozco the committee voted 5 – 0 to approve consent item 3.1 as follows:

**3.1 APPROVED** enclosed minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of May 5, 2010. – Rodriguez

**END OF CONSENT**

**4. FISCAL YEAR 2010-11 UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS FINDING:**

On a motion by Board member Salinas and second by Board member Villegas, the Committee voted 5 – 0 as follows:

**RECOMMENDED** fiscal year 2010-11 unmet transit need finding for action by the Board of Directors.

Debbie Hale, Executive Director, reported that State law requires the Transportation Agency to make a finding on unmet transit needs prior to allocating Local Transportation Funds to any jurisdiction for streets and roads projects or other eligible purposes. The finding being considered consistent with Caltrans' interpretation of the unmet transit needs statutes will likely significantly reduce or eliminate County streets and roads funding allocation for 2010-11.

Carl Sedoryk, MST, reported that the MST Board is projecting the FY 2011 budget at \$25.8 million. He noted their Local Transportation Funds (LTF) and federal fund revenues aren't keeping pace with costs and that MST is reevaluating all discretionary spending. Without the LTF funding, staff would be proposing cutting service on Line 9 and 10, Seaside/Monterey; Line 41-42, East Salinas routes and Pacific Grove's Line 1 mid-day service. He noted that these cuts would all have to go through a public hearing process before being instated. Mr. Sedoryk noted that the purpose of the LTF is first for transit, then for streets and roads, noting it is the law. He also noted that this is not an easy decision, the MST Board is asking for a balanced approach.

Debbie Hale, Executive Director, reported that the SSTAC will review this proposal next week and to the TAMC Board in June for the final decision.

**5. VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE- POTENTIAL FOR BALLOT MEASURE:**

**RECEIVED** a presentation on poll results for the \$10 per vehicle registration fee increase proposed for the November 2010 ballot in the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties; and, provided direction to staff on a possible Monterey County measure.

Ruth Bernstein and Sara LaBatt, EMC Research, summarized the new law that allows countywide transportation planning agencies to levy a \$10 per registered vehicle fee for transportation-related programs and projects that have a relationship or benefit to the persons who pay the fee subject to approval of over 50% of the voters.

Ms. LaBatt gave an overview of the results of the polling in the San Francisco Bay Area. She noted that in all counties polled Democrats are more supportive of the fee measure than Republicans. She noted that the governing board of the agency must adopt an expenditure plan that details the programs and projects that would result from the vehicle registration fee. Ms. Bernstein noted that with the gubernatorial election and nearly all the counties in the SF Bay Area likely go have a measure on the ballot that November 2010 would be a good time to consider taking this proposal to Monterey County voters.

After much discussion, the Committee agreed that this is not the time to ask for voter approval of a \$10 per vehicle registration fee for local road improvements or other purposes. They expressed concerns that voters are still experiencing economic hard times and are not supportive of new taxes or fees, at \$3.25 million per year (compared to \$23 million per year for a ½ cent sales tax) the measure would not raise a great amount of funds, and it is too short of time to place this measure on the November 2010 ballot.

Chairman Calcagno reported that asking for this fee would jeopardize the future of a half-cent transportation sales tax measure. He noted that the sales tax is needed to relief the congestion on Highway 156 and the US 101 corridor.

**6. QUORUM-REVISION TO BYLAWS:**

**CONSIDERED** whether to recommend possible revision to the quorum requirement for a Transportation Agency Board meeting as defined in the Agency Bylaws.

Agency Counsel Blankenship reported that the Transportation Agency Bylaws require a quorum of 9 voting members, including a minimum of 7 city representatives and 1 county representative. Occasionally, a quorum has not been met or retained due to the lack of 7 city representatives or their alternates. He noted that staff recommends the Executive Committee consider whether to recommend to the Board that the requirements for a quorum be changed. He highlighted the potential options: 1) to change quorum to a simple majority, 2) decrease the number of city representatives required while maintaining the majority requirements or 3) leave status quo.

Chairman Calcagno reported that because a quorum was lost only one time, staff should continue to monitor the issue and bring back to the Committee if further instances occur. The Committee concurred with Chairman Calcagno.

7. **RECEIVED** report on draft agenda for TAMC Board meeting of June 23, 2010.

Executive Director Hale reviewed the June 24, 2010 draft agenda. Ms. Hale reported that the major item on the agenda is the adoption of the Unmet Transit Needs finding for fiscal year 2010-11. She announced that the Board would be receiving a report on the 2010 Monterey County Bike Week events and update on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program, including the Carmel Hill Bike trail, Castroville under-crossing, and the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail. In conclusion, Ms. Hale noted that the Board would receive an update on the Commuter Rail Extension to Monterey County project.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Calcagno adjourned the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Elouise Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant