

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jim Cullem

Harris & Associates

Randy Smith

Belle Smith

Chairman Clif Price, County of Monterey, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was confirmed.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Environmental Mitigation Enhancement Act Grant due in December from the State Resources Board.

3. BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C R. Deal/N. Hudson/unanimous
Approved consent items 3.1 - 3.5.

3.1 Approved minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee meeting of August 7, 2008.

3.2 Received the call for nominations for the seventh annual Transportation Agency Excellence awards to honor individuals, businesses, groups or projects for their efforts to improve the transportation system in Monterey County.

3.3 Recommended Board approve City of Monterey reallocation request for \$200,000 in Transportation for Livable Communities funds.

3.4 Received schedule of 2009 Technical Advisory Committee meetings.

3.5 Received call for nominations for APWA Monterey Bay Chapter – 2009 Awards.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. 2009 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

The Committee reviewed and commented on the draft 2009 Legislative Program.

Christina Watson, Senior Transportation Planner reported the purpose of the legislative program is to set general principles to guide staff and Board responses to proposed legislative or budgetary issues. The program also notifies state representatives of the Transportation Agency's position on issues of key importance to the agency. She also noted the 2008 TAMC Legislative Program focused on maintaining and augmenting transportation funding. The federal program included TAMC's requests for federal appropriations earmarks for high priority projects. The draft 2009 legislative program continues this focus on transportation funding. The Transportation Agency Board will consider adoption of the program at its December 3, 2008 meeting. After the presentation, Jim Feeney, FORA, recommended that the Federal government should be approached with "local relief" for federal infrastructure funds (no matching funding required) to help start projects and create jobs.

5. REGIONAL IMPACT FEES AND BELOW-MARKET RATE HOUSING

M/S/C R. Deal/J. Feeney/unanimous

The Committee recommended approval to the Transportation Agency Board of Directors of the proposed methodology for addressing below-market rate housing developments within a ½-mile radius of transit routes in the regional fee program.

Mike Zeller, Transportation Planner reported following discussion at the August 27, 2008 Board meeting regarding affordable housing discounts in the regional fee program, staff presented to the Executive Committee and met with CHISPA to discuss accommodating affordable housing in the fee program through reduced trip rates. Staff will update the Implementation Guidelines accordingly. He noted based on the new housing development projections utilized in the regional fee program, staff estimates that the inclusion of discounts to the regional fee for below-market rate housing would result in an approximate loss of \$32 million in revenues that would need to be made up from others sources to fund the fee program transportation improvements.

6. USE OF ELECTRIC BICYCLES ON BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

M/S/C R. Deal/N. Hudson/unanimous

The Committee recommended adding a change to vehicle code section 406-B from “motorized” to “electric”.

The Committee received presentation from Mr. Randy Smith on electric bicycles and their use on pathways; considered the implications of electric bicycles on bicycle facilities, and adopted a strategy for follow-up.

Mr. Smith reported with the recent increase in gasoline prices, many choose to commute using alternative modes of transportation, such as bicycling. There has been discussion of the use of electric bicycles on bicycle facilities. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee has requested that Technical Advisory Committee members consider this issue for potential implementation. The issue presented by Mr. Smith is that electric bikes, per the vehicle codes listed on signs used on the bike path, are currently prohibited. Rich Deal, City of Monterey, stated that the signs were developed to prohibit the usage of motorized scooters and mopeds, but the vehicle code definition for these uses also includes “e-bikes”. Mr. Deal stated that “e-bikes” should be allowed on the path and recommended that the proper action would be to revise the vehicle code to separate motorized vehicles from “e-bikes”.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS

Debbie Hale, Executive Director, announced that voter turn-out for Measure Z was not as high as predicted, possibly due to early results from East coast polls depressing turn-out. She stated that the only transportation-related sales tax measures that passed were renewals and that the Transportation Agency will take a poll in the next six months to gauge support. Cliff Price, City of Soledad, asked if there had been any movement to lower the voter threshold required for sales tax measures. Ms. Hale responded that the success of other measures across the State would make it difficult to argue that the threshold should be lowered at this point.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Clif Price adjourned the meeting at 11:01 a.m.