

DRAFT

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2, 2009

BOARD MEMBER PRESENT:

Tony Ferrara, City of Arroyo Grande
Bruce Gibson, Second District, County San Luis Obispo
Adam Hill, Third District, County of San Luis Obispo
Jan Howell Marx, City of San Luis Obispo
Frank Mecham, First District, County of San Luis Obispo
James Patterson, Fifth District, County of San Luis Obispo
Janice Peters, City of Morro Bay
Mary Ann Reiss, City of Pismo Beach
John Shoals, City of Grover Beach
Fred Strong, City of Paso Robles

ABSENT: Katcho Achadjian, Fourth District, County of San Luis Obispo
Tom O'Malley, City of Atascadero (Vice President)

STAFF PRESENT: Ronald De Carli, Steve Devencenzi, Richard Murphy, James Worthley, Mike Harmon, Eliane Guillot, Geiska B. Velasquez, Tim Gillham, Jessica Berry, Morgen Marshall, Aida Nicklin, Penelope McCullough, and Rita Neal (Legal Counsel).

The following action minutes are listed as they were acted upon by the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments and as listed on the agenda for the meeting held December 2, 2009, together with staff reports and related documents attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL: **President John Shoals** called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Roll call was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: **Ms. Priscilla Handley**, San Luis Obispo County Representative for the Census Bureau, announced that she would be taking over Ms. Karen Swack's position to do public outreach. The goal of the public outreach is to get accurate data as much as possible as \$400M in funding is at stake.

Mr. Dennis Kemp, Paso Robles, expressed concern regarding the schedule change in the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) southbound express morning route -- RTA changed the 5:50 a.m. southbound express to 5:35 a.m., with the reasoning that it is to facilitate connections to RTA Routes 10 and 12 and San Luis Obispo (SLO) Transit. **Mr. Kemp** noted it has no bus connection for him on SLO Transit to

make it to work on time. **President Shoals** directed SLOCOG staff to pass on Mr. Kemp's concern to RTA.

Mr. Eric Greening, Atascadero, requested that Executive Director Ronald De Carli include in his discussion of the CALCOG Conference update under the Executive Director's report, an update on the prospect of getting the transit funds back from the State (relative to the Appeals Court ruling on a lawsuit against the State by California Transit Association that ruled that the State's diversion of transit funds violated state law). **Mr. Greening** then stressed the need for SLOCOG and staff to participate in the County's Land Use and Circulation Element Update (to help ensure that the circulation element incorporates the latest trip generation information from rural areas) and in the prioritization of trails countywide (to make certain that it is not just a recreation amenity but a circulation that is safe for non-drivers). **Board Member Bruce Gibson** noted that the County Planning staff is setting up meetings with representatives from the cities to explain the consolidation and update of the Land Use and Circulation Elements (documents) of the County General Plan for the unincorporated/rural areas of the county. **Mr. De Carli** indicated that SLOCOG staff is working and coordinating with planning staff from the cities and County Public Works staff to assure that any trip generation is incorporated into the County plan.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: **Mr. Ronald De Carli** reviewed the Executive Director's Report, noting that staff will be updating the Board (Agenda Items C-2 and C-3) on the status of programming of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act [ARRA] Stimulus Funding and the 2010 Surface Transportation Funding Program, including the funding status of the Santa Maria River Bridge. Relative to Mr. Greening's request for an update on the transit funds, **Mr. De Carli** noted that the State is currently holding those transit funds and that the prospect of receiving funding for transit operations is still in jeopardy due to the State budget crisis. The California Transit Association (CTA) is pursuing a legislative initiative to put in the ballot, but that is not until next year. Relative to the SLOCOG budget, **Mr. De Carli** noted that work furlough remains an issue as SLOCOG continues to watch its expenses and revenue.

During a brief discussion that followed, **Board Members Tony Ferrara, Jan Howell Marx and Fred Strong** talked about the benefits of LED-lighted crosswalks (both the cell beam and button-activated crosswalks). Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo, and Paso Robles all have LED-lighted crosswalks in some areas of their cities. Also during the discussion, **Board Member Ferrara** noted that other counties are still struggling with their planning relative to SB 375. He stressed the importance of continuing to lobby to the State as a whole for funding for planning and implementation.

CALTRANS DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR'S REPORT: **Mr. Rich Krumholz**, updated the Board on the major projects under construction, with construction dates subject to the weather this winter:

- Highway 101 Rehabilitation through San Luis Obispo (SLO) -- expected to be completed this month.
- Highway 227 South and Broad Street Rehabilitation – 60% complete; expected completion is May 2010.
- South County on US 101, construction of a series of three (3) auxiliary lanes – 50% complete; expected completion is November or December 2010.
- Atascadero 101/41, third phase of the bridge construction, extensive planting – expected completion is Summer of 2010.

Mr. Krumholz briefly talked about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects, noting that the roadside rest at State Route 46 would be closed for a year for the construction of the project. He then announced that 33 bids will be opened today for the Atascadero/101 Rehabilitation project, a \$40m

major rehabilitation of the U.S. 101 corridor (it includes mainline rehabilitation, widening of three bridges and work on the ramps). He also noted that the Highway 46 widening project (currently a five-mile segment) is in construction; Phase 2 will be reconstructing the westbound lanes.

Board Member James Patterson asked if the Atascadero/101 Rehabilitation project is now funded. **Mr. Krumholz** responded affirmative, noting that it is a huge boost in terms of federal funding.

A. PUBLIC HEARING:

A-1 Unmet Transit Needs Hearing/Unmet Bikeway Needs Hearing: **Mr. Tim Gillham** reviewed the staff report using a PowerPoint presentation. He noted that the unmet transit needs third and fourth criteria were revised this year in light of the economic downturn. He then brought to attention the handout on "Attachment C" – an updated list of Unmet Transit Needs Requests Received by December 1, 2009.

Public Comments:

Ms. Kathleen Bellefontaine, Chair, San Luis Obispo (SLO) County Commission on Aging, spoke on behalf of the Commission, noting that the Commission knows the operations SLOCOG is maintaining and that SLOCOG is doing a good job. She said the Commission supports the continuation of the Senior Shuttle service, indicating that training is currently conducted for seniors to take the bus. She also noted that the Commission wants transit services to be retained. She then announced that a bus pass for seniors over 80 years of age is now available from SLO Regional Rideshare.

Mr. Dan MacKirdy, Cayucos, stated he is a new bus rider, noting that the bus system in this county is very good. He noted some of the barriers that stop people from using transit and some bicycle needs (i.e., cannot coach baseball and ride the bus; the ride from Cayucos to work and back takes a long time; bike lockers and showers are needed; a series of bike trails to Morro Bay is needed).

Mr. Dale Sutliff, San Luis Obispo (SLO) Bicycle Club Advocate, provided a handout that shows a list of needs (by the SLO Bicycle Club) to serve the bicycling community in San Luis Obispo County. He noted he is impressed with what SLOCOG has been doing in this county for the bicycling public. He urged SLOCOG to continue the effort in strategic places, to close the gaps in bike-related services, and to continue and improve on the sweeping of bike lanes (he noted that the Club would help in any way they can).

Mr. Mike Bess, San Luis Obispo, brought to attention a concern about the lack of a bus bench at Orcutt and Johnson (where SLO Transit Route 3 stops). He had written letters to SLO City Transit and was told that no funds are available and that the area of concern is private. **President Shoals** indicated SLOCOG staff would pass that information on to SLO Transit.

Ms. Sheila Baker, Paso Robles, reiterated a concern she presented in past meetings about the need for Regional Transit Authority (RTA) to hire a field manager or project manager, because road supervisors are not trained to do the job.

Mr. Dan Rivoire, San Luis Obispo (SLO) County Bicycle Coalition Executive Director, distributed a handout on the Coalition's list of 35 bicycle improvement requests in the county. He highlighted the need for infrastructure (connectivity and continuity between existing bike trails) and more bike lanes in both city and rural roads.

Mr. Eric Greening, Atascadero, stated he supports Ms. Baker's comments and stressed the need for fair compensation for employees. He urged the Board to continue to support continued weekend and evening transit services, noting that without those services, citizens' involvement at night and on weekends (i.e., attending meetings, etc.) will stop. He himself needs those services to attend SLOCOG advisory committee meetings. He felt first priority of funding should be for regional versus local services especially with the large jobs/housing imbalance.

Board Member Strong announced that a former bike improvement request, South Vine Street, has now been completed with state-of-art Class II bikelanes.

Moved by Board Member Fred Strong and seconded by Board Member Frank Mecham, the motion to approve the staff recommendation as outlined below passed on a voice vote, in the absence of Board Members Katcho Achadjian and Tom O'Malley.

- A) **Direct staff to analyze transit requests using adopted definitions of “unmet transit need” and “reasonable to meet;” forward operational requests and bicycle-related requests to appropriate member jurisdictions for consideration & comments; schedule for action on February 3, 2010.**
- B) **Assess potential near-term service cuts for any prior Unmet Transit Needs; schedule for action on February 3, 2010.**

B. REGIONAL RIDESHARE PROGRAM:

B-1 San Luis Obispo (SLO) Regional Rideshare Program Update: Ms. Morgen Marshall updated the Board on the Rideshare activities using a PowerPoint presentation. She highlighted the region-wide multi-modal campaign called Rideshare Month – Commute for Cash Challenge, and the “SLO Car Free” campaign that was launched last week at SLO Regional Airport. She also mentioned the car sharing services that are now available in San Luis Obispo - FunRide and Zipcar. Ms. Morgen thanked all the sponsors of the Commute for Cash Challenge.

President Shoals called for any comments from the Board and the public. There were no comments.

C. TRANSPORTATION ITEMS:

C-1 2010 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) – Notice of Preparation: Mr. Steve Devencenzi discussed the staff report with a PowerPoint presentation, noting that this is an information item. He further noted that the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared and circulated.

President Shoals inquired if there would be additional opportunities to further develop the alternatives as the EIR is being developed. Mr. Devencenzi responded that comments are accepted until January, with scoping meetings on the RTP and EIR being scheduled in January.

President Shoals asked for any public comments; there were none. He pointed out that this item is for receive and file only.

C-2 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) (Stimulus) Funding – Status of Programming (UPDATE): Mr. Richard Murphy summarized the staff report with a PowerPoint presentation, highlighting Table 1 - ARRA funded Projects Status Report and Table 2 – Final Project Back Up List for Redirected ARRA Funding. He brought to attention that since the City of Morro has met the project delivery milestone and reprogramming deadline of December 8th for ARRA funds committed to the Morro Bay North Main Street Rehab and Bike Lane improvement project, Staff Recommendation #3 be deleted (reprogram Morro Bay funding).

Mr. De Carli briefly talked about the projects and how member jurisdictions and SLOCOG staff worked closely with Caltrans District 5 in trying to move those projects. He thanked District 5 staff for their efforts in assuring the success of the program.

Board Member Patterson asked if the first two projects on Table 2 (Arroyo Grande - West Branch

Street Rehab & Atascadero – Downtown Streetscape Phase IIIb) would be disqualified because of their funding shortfalls. **Mr. Murphy** responded negative, explaining that those two projects can be scaled down and they can work with the funding available.

Referring to San Luis Obispo City's Railroad Safety Trail project (that was deleted from Table 2 per City's request and replaced with the Monterey Street rehabilitation), **Board Member Jan Howell Marx** assured the Board and the public that the City is still going forward with the project, despite of a problem with Union Pacific Railroad. The City will pursue the project in increments. A \$50K donation and a community fund raising effort that raised \$36K will help fund the project.

Public Comments: **Mr. Greening** noted that this is a good plan and asked the following questions: 1) Would local jurisdictions be able to use the funding to replace State funding cuts? 2) On the economic record keeping, will they start to keep track of not just jobs created but also the number of jobs times the duration? **Mr. De Carli** indicated that there are two pots of ARRA funds for transit, noting that there is record keeping for the number of jobs and that staff will provide more information at a future meeting.

Board Member Ferrara requested confirmation that there would be some flexibility in the ARRA funding, that the money can be shifted around. **Mr. Murphy** responded yes, but that it would happen later.

During the short discussion that followed the Board action (below), **Board Member Marx** brought to attention that the City has painted "sharrows" bicycle lanes with a bunch of arrows, which means cars would need to share the lanes with bikes. **President Shoals** asked if the excess ARRA funds could be shifted within the same city. **Mr. Murphy** said that ARRA funds could be shifted only between projects on those tables.

Moved by Board Member Strong and seconded by Board Member Gibson, the motion to approve the staff recommendation as amended and outlined below passed on a voice vote, in the absence of Board Members Achadjian and O'Malley.

1. **Finalize ARRA obligation plan; swap the City of San Luis Obispo project Railroad Safety Trail Phase III to Monterey Street Rehabilitation improvement and submit to Caltrans Headquarters by December 15th deadline.**
2. **Add Santa Maria River Bridge to backup list to potentially free up Regional SHA funds.**

President Shoals recessed the meeting at 9:48 a.m. and reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

C-3 2010 Surface Transportation Funding Program - Update: **Mr. Murphy** updated the Board on the 2010 Surface Transportation Funding Program using a PowerPoint presentation. He noted that a new opportunity for funding is now available as a result of bid savings Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) grant funding. As a result staff added clarification on the funding commitment to the Santa Maria River Bridge Widening project, which is one project in the region that most closely aligns with the grant fund criteria. **Mr. De Carli** clarified the recommendation to delay programming of the Two-Year Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Urban Formula Apportionments (Agenda page C-3-3, Table 1) until congressional action on the federal transportation reauthorization bill. He noted that it is critical that SLOCOG and member jurisdictions and partners - Caltrans and Santa Barbara County Association of Governments) continue to work on the Proposed Santa Maria River Bridge project as there is now a good opportunity to fund it with the CMIA grant funds on a "first-come-first-serve criteria. Staff is working with Caltrans to get the project submission ready by next week.

(Board Members Gibson, Marx, and Mary Ann Reiss returned from recess at 10:06 a.m., 10:02 a.m., and 10:03 a.m. respectively).

Mr. Krumholz said he supports Mr. De Carli's good information and insight, noting the importance of influencing the California Transportation Commission on deciding where the CMA savings will be allocated. It is critical that the partnership and support by SLOCOG and SBCAG be sustained coupled with consistent local support.

Board Member Strong reminded the Board that SLOCOG is a regional body. He stressed the importance of maintaining the current level of funding. **Board Member Marx** concurred and briefly talked about the regional significance of the Los Osos Valley Road (LOVR) Interchange project (i.e., connectivity, etc.).

President Shoals called for any public comments; there were no comments. He then thanked Mr. De Carli for clarifying the short-term delay, noting the need for local support if the delay tends to be longer. He also indicated support on maintaining the level of funding as it shows commitment and SBCAG and SLOCOG partnership.

Board Member Strong moved to adopt the revised funding program policies and schedule and to maintain the existing level of funding pending review in January. **Board Member Adam Hill** seconded, and the motion carried on a voice vote, with **Board Members Achadjian and O'Malley** absent.

C-4 North County 101 Corridor Study: **Mrs. Geiska B. Velasquez** discussed the North County 101 Corridor Study with a PowerPoint presentation, noting that comments on the report are due by December 18, 2009. She then introduced Mr. Nevin Sams, the consultant contracted to update the study. **Mr. Sams** noted that he worked as Caltrans District 5 safety engineer for 14 years. He briefly talked about the contents of the Study, noting that the report emphasizes the data on traffic and segmenting the corridor. He said that the intent is to identify viable options, lay out potential improvements, and to look at the individual, feasible ideas - if they are appropriate in the current funding scenario and then prioritize them.

In the discussion that occurred, the following questions, comments, and responses were given:

- Most priorities seem to be listed relative to cost, would they go up on a higher priority? **Mr. Sams** indicated that those priorities are not listed according to cost, and yes, they may go up to a higher priority, depending on the funding scenario and other projects that are competing at that time.
- Is this within the purview of this Board, and will this item come back in February?
Mr. De Carli noted this will come back in February for adoption, and that this Study is based on the overall system, focused on operations-related improvements. The next steps would be to review prospective projects with member jurisdictions, integrate into SLOCOG's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), conduct scoping studies, identify priorities, etc.
- How do these projects get prioritized? Will there be opportunities before February to discuss member jurisdictions' priorities?
Mrs. Velasquez indicated that SLOCOG staff started and has been working with member jurisdictions since April 2009. Since then, jurisdictions have provided new information and they now have the draft Study. They are reviewing the report and comments are due by December 18th, giving staff enough time to incorporate the comments into the report.

Board Member Mecham requested the proposed extension of Spring Street to South Monterey Street would provide a continuous frontage road that would also take bicyclists off Highway 101. This should be moved up to a high priority.

Board Member Strong noted concerns over the millions of dollars required to widen SR 101 to six lanes (Agenda page C-4-8, under the Table – Long-range Implementation Priorities, Segment 4).

President Shoals directed staff to take note and come back in February with clarification.

- Concern: On Agenda page C-4-5, in the last paragraph where it indicates, “*The overall improvement strategy...to maintain an acceptable Level of Service (LOS D or better)...*” – **Board Member Ferrara** noted he is very troubled that LOS D is acceptable. This sets our target much lower than the norm. The city of Arroyo Grande uses a performance measure of LOS C.

Mr. De Carli noted that the total cost is a critical issue. By federal law, the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) must be fiscally constrained. The importance of this document is the laying out of needs and identification of the projects and programs that SLOCOG can undertake. The fiscal constraint will then identify if it is possible to do the projects with the funding available. This will be a major consideration as we assess capacity increasing projects.

- The Study/Construct Class 1 bikeway connector (Agenda page C-4-7, the first project under Mid-range priorities) should be bumped up to Short-range because opportunities may come along to fund bikeway connector projects in that location, then the Study is already available, ready for the project to construct.
- Where is the prioritization methodology and transit in this study?

Mrs. Velasquez advised looking at the segment more when reviewing the document instead of just looking at the Priorities Table. The segment is divided into smaller portions focusing on Transportation Demand Management (TDM)/Transportation System Management (TSM) strategies and what operational improvements can be done to increase efficiencies. **President Shoals** concurred that there is a need to highlight the methodology on how these projects are prioritized.

Public Comments: **Mr. Greening** commented about the importance of including transit in these priorities because transit is a lot cheaper than building six-lane highways especially when funding is not available. He then noted the following: 1) The Park-and-Ride (PnR) Lot at Highway 58/101 is not a good place for an express transit bus to get on and off the freeway. The bus stops along the El Camino Real corridor should remain even if they are contrary to the consultant’s recommendation because those stops are needed. 2) The Atascadero Transit Stop at Capistrano – the Study listed it as “approved” when in fact the environmental study for this project is funded but not yet completed. Replace the word *approved* with “funded.” 3) The San Miguel Ranch project is on the County Board of Supervisors’ agenda for their December 8th meeting. In closing, **Mr. Greening** urged the Board to robustly support transit. **Mrs. Velasquez** noted that staff agrees with Mr. Greening’s comments regarding the safety issue of the location of the PnR Lot at Highway 58/101. She added that staff is aware of the need to redesign this site if it is to be used as a transit stop.

President Shoals noted this is just for the north county, an unconstrained look at the corridor, and that the staff recommendation is for review and comment and schedule for adoption in February.

The Board went into an extensive discussion on the issue of Level of Service, with some Board members raising concerns about the timeline of bringing this document back for adoption in February without further discussing the issue of LOS D. During the discussion, **Mr. De Carli** clarified that the LOS D is the average annual level of service, not peak/holiday/summer time. **Mr. Sams** added that the LOS D reference in this document came from the adopted LOS in the current SLOCOG RTP and from the Caltrans Transportation Concept Report.

Board Member Gibson also requested more clarification on the priorities. He also questioned whether the projects were consistent with the future vision considering the new requirement to reduce greenhouse gases that is specified in SB 375 (2008). **Mrs. Velasquez** pointed out that on the timeline, the adoption of this document could be pushed to another meeting after February if needed. The important thing is that the information from this document be integrated into the RTP update. **President Shoals** stated he agrees about including in the document the methodology, and suggested

including in the RTP and Community 2050 Blueprint policies and guidelines, the Board's desire and preference to work with something better (i.e., alternative modes of transportation - transit, etc.). **Board Member Ferrara** reiterated his concern with using LOS D preferring the use of LOS C. **Board Member Mecham** agreed with Board member Gibson noting also that if you change the LOS you increase the costs. We cannot achieve six (6) lanes on 101. **President Shoals** questioned the Board if there was interest in changing LOS D to C. No support from other Board Members was raised. **President Shoals** requested staff include a statement in the RTP to work towards improving LOS with transit, ridesharing and other improvements considering the significant financial constraints. **Board Member Mecham** indicated he would like to move a motion to bring this item back in February for the Board to decide whether to adopt or continue. The Board concurred.

Board Member Mecham moved a motion directing staff to bring this item back in February for the Board to make a determination at that point – whether to adopt the North County 101 Corridor Study or continue to another meeting. **Board Member Reiss** seconded, and the motion carried on a voice vote, in the absence of Board Members Achadjian and O'Malley.

C-5 SLO North Coast Scenic Byway Program Update: **Mrs. Velasquez** presented the staff report with a PowerPoint presentation, noting the color copies of the SLO North Coast Scenic Byway report that were handed out to the Board earlier.

(Board Member Reiss temporarily left the boardroom at 11:24 a.m. and returned at 11:29 a.m.)

Board Member Peters remarked that this is a great project, beautiful and informative.

Board Member Mecham agreed with the previous comments, and inquired how the designation of a Scenic Byway project is established. **Mrs. Velasquez** explained the funding is limited to projects on a federally designated Scenic Byway, and that a first requirement for such a designation is a designated State Scenic Highway and a Scenic Byway Management Plan. She noted the North Coast Scenic Byway designation on Highway 1 extended from the City of San Luis Obispo north to the County line. SLOCOG sent out a request for projects from communities along the stretch of that corridor. SLOCOG is also pursuing a State Scenic Highway designation for State Route 46W and may eventually pursue a National Scenic Byway designation for that segment between Highway 1 and 46.

Board Member Marx noted that this is a good plan, congratulating GAIA Graphics for putting together the report. She briefly talked about the history of the National Scenic Byway designation of North Highway 1. **Mr. De Carli** added that it was a long process that started with the Scenic Highway designation; then after that, SLOCOG pursued a National Scenic Byway designation in order to secure funding.

C-6 2009 Countywide Local Street and Road Pavement Maintenance and Rehabilitation Needs Report: **Mr. Mike Harmon** presented the 2009 Countywide Local Street and Road Pavement Maintenance and Rehabilitation Needs Report using a PowerPoint presentation.

President Shoals asked about the funding sources for local street and road pave maintenance projects. **Mr. Harmon** indicated that the funding largely comes from the state and federal fuel taxes and local funds. He noted that member agencies are the ones defining their respective street conditions (bad/poor/fair/good).

President Shoals asked for public comments. **Mr. Greening** said he supports this as long as it is understood that increased funding is needed for street and road needs and that Transportation Development Act (TDA) funding is not the appropriate source of funding.

Ms. Rita Neal brought to attention that the Board needs to act on this item, as the staff recommendation asks for support in increasing funding for pavement maintenance, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Board Member Mecham moved and Board Member Strong seconded to accept the report and support increased funding for pavement maintenance, rehabilitation and reconstruction. The motion passed on a voice vote, with Board Members Achadjian and O'Malley absent.

C-7 Uniform Discount Transit Fare Policies: Ms. Eliane Guillot reviewed the staff report using a PowerPoint presentation, noting that this report is a follow-up to the Region wide Fare Improvement Study that was adopted by the Board in January 2009.

President Shoals called for any comments from the Board and the public. There were no comments.

Board Member Gibson moved to approve the staff recommendation to:

A) Review and Adopt Discount Transit Fare Policies

- Recommendation A – Discounts for Senior (Page C-7-2)
- Recommendation B – Discounts for Disabled (Page C-7-3)
- Recommendation C – Discounts for Children (Page C-7-4)
- Recommendation D – Discounts for Youth (Page C-7-4)

B) Report progress in six (6) months and consider integrating as a TDA requirement in FY 10/11.

Board Member Strong seconded, and the motion carried on a voice vote in the absence of Board Members Achadjian and O'Malley.

D. AREA WIDE AND AGENCY ISSUES:

D-1 FY 2010/2011 Preliminary Overall Work Program (OWP): Mr. De Carli reviewed the preliminary Overall Work Program (OWP) as described in the staff report with a PowerPoint presentation, noting that this sets SLOCOG's primary tasks and major work elements for the next fiscal year (2010/2011) that starts on July 1, 2010.

President Shoals requested adding under *WE 6000 Planning for Alternative Modes of Transportation – a. Bikeway & Pedestrian System* (Agenda page D-1-6) a bullet for Trail-Bike Boardwalk from Pismo Beach to Grover Beach and Oceano. On the same page, under Rail, he urged to investigate further forming a Joint Powers Agreement to enhance rail services from Los Angeles to San Luis Obispo and San Francisco. He also suggested exploring the possibility of a rail service from Guadalupe to the Five Cities and to San Luis Obispo. **Mr. De Carli** indicated that the aforementioned are issues this Board could certainly visit.

Board Member Strong added as a follow-up to President Shoals' comments on rail, a suggestion for a train service from San Luis Obispo to Paso Robles.

President Shoals asked for any public comments; there were no comments.

Board Member Marx moved to conceptually support and direct preparation of draft OWP and budget for Board review in February, and adoption in April. Board Member Strong seconded, and the motion carried on a voice vote, with Board Members Achadjian and O'Malley absent.

D-2 SLOCOG Public Participation Plan – Notification of Intent to Update: Mr. Steve Devencenzi stated that this is a notification that SLOCOG would be updating its Public Participation Plan. He then discussed the staff report by way of a PowerPoint presentation,

Board Member Strong asked if there would be any outreach for general public participation. **Mr. Devencenzi** responded that staff has conducted public outreach in the past with little success because

people are more interested about issues that affect their jurisdictions. Staff thinks that they would be more successful if they can reach out to City Councils and their respective communities.

Note: The Board received this item as presented.

E. CONSENT AGENDA: **President Shoals** brought to attention that Consent Agenda Item *E-9 Highway 101 Proposed Median Barrier Projects Update*, would be pulled for discussion. He then called for a motion on the rest of the Consent Agenda items.

Board Member Mecham moved the motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items, with the exception of Item E-9, as presented. Board Member Strong seconded, and the motion passed on a roll call vote, with Board Members Achadjian and O'Malley absent.

Consent Agenda Items:

- E-1** SLOCOG Minutes – October 7, 2009 (Approve).
- E-2** Year-to-date Financial Report (With 33% of the fiscal year elapsed, SLOCOG has expended 20.04% of its budget and received 9.19% of anticipated revenue) (Receive and File Financial Statements).
- E-3** Resolution Assigning Signatory Powers for SLOCOG Documents, Contracts, and Certification of Conformance (Adopt Resolution).
- E-4** End of 2009 State Legislative Status (Information & Follow-up Actions [Monitor and Review Guidelines for Enacted Bills]).
- E-5** Grover Beach Regional State Highway Account (RSHA) Project Cost Savings (Affirm Existing Policy; Apply Cost Savings to next Phase of Projects).
- E-6** FY 2009/2010 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Apportionment (Authorize TDA Funds to be released based on Amounts, Conditions, and Filing Requirements noted in Exhibit A).
- E-7** Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Intercity Rail Corridor Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Cooperative Planning (Adopt MOU).
- E-8** Correspondence and News Articles (Information – Review and File).
- E-9** Highway 101 Proposed Median Barrier Projects Update (Information).
- E-10** On Call Consulting Engineering Services (Abandon On Call List until a future date; Approve online Consultant Registration Form in Lieu of On Call List; Approve Executive Director discretionary purchase amount to \$15,000).
- E-11** Call Box Site Improvements (Approve Contract Amendment with Case Systems, Inc. to install Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA] Upgrades of Call Box Sites using "SAFE" Funds).

Discussion:

E-9 Highway 101 Proposed Median Barrier Projects Update: **Board Member Ferrara** asked if this item would be coming back after the February public meeting. He inquired about Project #4 – Los Berros – Arroyo Grande Median Barrier and Gap Closure project. **Mrs. Velasquez** noted that Caltrans District 5 Project Management staff has scheduled a public meeting to get public input on this project on February 16, 2010. **Mr. De Carli** explained that the intent of Item E-9 is to familiarize the Board with median barrier projects including this project. Project #4 is in its early stages. The El Campo closure is subject to public input and Caltrans District 5's level of resources to begin that process.

Board Member Strong thanked and congratulated Caltrans for the tremendous effort and cooperation and for providing to the City of Paso Robles information and rationale relative to the median barrier projects.

F. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: **Board Member Mecham** thanked Ms. Nicklin for the Holiday greetings.

President Shoals noted that he was very concerned regarding the design and treatment of the construction of the South County auxiliary lane retaining walls. **Board Member Ferrara** supported President Shoals' concerns. **Mr. Krumholz** said he would be happy to provide the Board an update on those auxiliary lanes at a future meeting, noting that Caltrans will conduct the appropriate outreach in south county on median barrier projects.

Board Member Marx announced that at last night's San Luis Obispo City Council meeting, the Council voted to ban smoking in various public places including bus stops. Another council meeting will be held on December 15th to further discuss the issue and seek stronger support.

Board Member Strong brought to attention that the 2009 California Water Plan Update is now available.

G. ADJOURNMENT: **President Shoals** the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aida Nicklin
Executive Secretary

DRAFT
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

December 11, 2009

SLOCOG

Members Present: John Shoals, President
Tom O'Malley, Vice President
James Patterson, Past President

Members Absent: Bruce Gibson, Past Vice President

Staff Present: Ronald De Carli, Executive Director (SLOCOG)
Steve Devencenzi, Planning Director (SLOCOG)
Peter Rodgers, Administration Director (SLOCOG)
Warren Jensen, Legal Counsel (SLOCOG/SLORTA)
Aida Nicklin, Executive Secretary (SLOCOG)

Also Present: Ed King, Executive Director (SLORTA)
Trena Wilson, Administrative Assistant (SLORTA)
Valerie Slitor, Administrative Assistant (SLORTA)
Eric Greening, Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Member

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: Vice President Tom O'Malley called the meeting to order at 8:46 a.m. Silent roll call was taken.

2. Public Comments: Mr. Eric Greening, Atascadero, asked about the upcoming changes on the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC). Ms. Aida Nicklin noted that SLOCOG would be bringing to the Board an item on SSTAC at a future meeting (possibly in February). Vice President Tom O'Malley requested staff to add his name on the list for SSTAC agenda distribution. He inquired about the start time of the Executive Committee meeting on January 13, 2010. Ms. Nicklin responded that it would be back to the regular time, which is 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

3. Executive Committee Minutes, November 12, 2009: Vice President Tom O'Malley moved and Past President James Patterson seconded, to approve the Executive Committee minutes of November 12, 2009. The motion passed on a voice vote, with Past Vice President Bruce Gibson absent.

4. SLOCOG January 6, 2010 Draft Agenda: **Mr. De Carli** noted that the Board would be welcoming new Board members (if there is any) in January, if not, in February. The recognition for outgoing Officer and Board Members will be held at the February 3rd meeting. **Mr. De Carli** then discussed the draft January 6, 2010 agenda:

First, the SLOCOG/SLORTA Board will conduct a joint meeting for election of SLOCOG/SLORTA Board Officers and Executive Committee assignment. Then, the Board will adjourn to SLORTA Board meeting, followed by SLOCOG Board meeting.

A-1 Interagency Assignments: Appointment of Representative and Alternate to the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) and two Rail Committees: Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency (LOSSAN) and Coast Rail Coordinating Council (CRCC). The SLOCOG Board will be asked to appoint two Board members to each of the above organizations.

B-1 2009 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Formal Amendment No. 7 (09-15). **Mr. De Carli** pointed out that this is a public hearing item to receive testimony on the TIP Formal Amendment No. 7. He distributed copies of a handout – a letter from Caltrans District 5 Deputy District Director Aileen Loe, which provides information on the two projects that are included in this TIP amendment, namely: 1) Maintenance Asphalt Concrete overlay, on State Route 46 from US 101 to 0.3 miles north of Airport Road in the city of Paso Robles (\$1.8M). 2) Construction of a Concrete Median Barrier, on US 101 between Los Berros Road and Bridge Street undercrossing, near the city of Arroyo Grande (\$7.6M). **Mr. De Carli** noted that federal law requires a public process only after the project is approved by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) and Caltrans Headquarters. SLOCOG staff has been advocating to change that process, to do it concurrently instead of a sequential process. He further noted that staff recommends approval of this item at the January meeting.

Public Comments: **Mr. Greening** asked if the concrete median barrier that would be constructed near the city of Arroyo Grande would have a break at El Campo Road. **Mr. De Carli** indicated that retaining or closing median access for left turns would be a key question and one of the issues why Caltrans District 5 would be conducting a public hearing to get public input, especially from residents in that area.

C. Consent Agenda:

C-2 Renewal of Lease with St. Williams Church for Park and Ride (PnR) Lot. This item may be pulled and continued to February. Staff is currently negotiating the renewal of the lease of the PnR lot located at a property owned by St. Williams Church.

5. Late Breaking News: **Mr. De Carli** noted the following:

- SLOCOG and SLORTA staff have been working together to request State funding (originally programmed to convert two current buses to Hybrid technology) be used to purchase two new clean diesel buses. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) concurred to allow the modification.
- The CTC recently adopted the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) guidelines.
- The CMIA funds for Proposition 1B, which provides a good opportunity to fund the Santa Maria River Bridge Widening project, now have a cash balance of \$130M. SLOCOG staff has been working with Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG), Caltrans and CTC staff, advocating to the State to keep this project as priority. The partners on this project (SLOCOG, Caltrans & SBCAG) submitted a project request to the State yesterday afternoon.

6. Executive Committee Member Comments and Adjournment: There being no further comments, **Vice President O'Malley** adjourned the meeting at 8:59 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Aida Nicklin