

# TECHNICAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2007**

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE THE TIME\*\*\***

**2:00 p.m.**

## **LOCATION:**

SLOCOG's Conference Room  
1150 Osos Street, Suite 202 (upstairs-Merrill Lynch Building)  
San Luis Obispo, California

Chair: Aeron Arlin-Genet

Vice Chair: Ditas Esperanza

The Technical Transportation Advisory Committee acts as an advisory body to the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments. Final decision-making authority lies with the SLOCOG Board.

This is a regular meeting of the Technical Transportation Advisory Committee. The items to be discussed are listed below.

1. Public Comment (Comments limited to 3 minutes).
2. TTAC minutes of July 25, 2007 (APPROVE).
3. Aerial Photography Update – Invoicing and Delivery (INFORMATION).
4. Any circled item on the SLOCOG agenda for October 3, 2007.
5. Member Comments.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: October 24, 2007 (tentative).**

**Technical Transportation Advisory Committee  
July 25, 2007  
Meeting Minutes**

The following minutes are submitted for a meeting of the Technical Transportation Advisory Committee (TTAC) held in the conference room in the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments located at 1150 Osos Street, Suite 202, San Luis Obispo at 2:00 p.m.

**TTAC Members Present**

- Rob Strong
- Steve Kahn
- Mike Ford
- Bill Boucher
- John Livick
- Ditas Esperanza
- Dennis Delzeit
- John Webster
- Dave Flynn
- David Lilly
- Aeron Arlin-Genet (Chairman)
- Cindy Utter

**SLOCOG Staff Present**

- Ron De Carli
- Steve Devencenzi
- Peter Rodgers
- Richard Murphy
- Mike Harmon
- James Worthley
- Eliane Guillot
- Geiska Baker
- Lisa Quinn
- Penelope McCullough

- City of Arroyo Grande (arrived 2:30 p.m.)
- City of Atascadero (left at 3:55 p.m.)
- City of Grover Beach
- City of Morro Bay
- City of Morro Bay
- City of Paso Robles (left 4:00 p.m.)
- City of Pismo Beach
- City of San Luis Obispo
- County of San Luis Obispo
- RTA (left at 3:50 p.m.)
- APCD
- Caltrans

- Executive Director
- Planning Director
- Administration Director
- Programming Director
- Transportation Planner
- Transportation Planner
- Transportation Planner
- Transportation Planner
- Rideshare Program Manager
- Administrative Secretary

Chairman Arlin-Genet called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m.

1. Public comments: **Bill Boucher** introduced, Rob Livick. Rob has been working for the City of Morro Bay for over a month as the Senior City Engineer. He previously worked for San Luis Obispo City in Development Review and also, for the County of San Luis Obispo. **Richard Murphy** introduced Geiska Baker, SLOCOG transportation planner. Geiska replaced Peter Brown as the North County planner, Darren Brown is now the Central County and North Coast planner, and Philip Chu the South County planner.

2. TTAC minutes of May 23, 2007. **Ditas Esperanza** motioned to approve the minutes, **Bill Boucher** seconded, and the minutes were approved. **Aeron Arlin-Genet** abstained.
3. Caltrans Report from the June 6, 2007 SLOCOG Board meeting. Information item; no action was taken.
4. Caltrans Report for the August 8, 2007 SLOCOG Board meeting. **Ron De Carli** commented many of the projects on the report are SHOPP projects and are not reviewed by SLOCOG. However recently a barrier had been placed in front of a call box, blocking ADA access. The problem is being raised with Caltrans. He requested TTAC members review the projects in their jurisdictions and if there are concerns, Caltrans should be contacted. **Steve Kahn** added the utilities are being relocated on the SR 41/101 I/C project and an addendum was sent out postponing the bid opening until August 21st. He added there will be a ground-breaking ceremony on a Wednesday in October at the old 76 Station site and then moved to the Sunken Gardens for a gathering.
5. Memo: State Budget and Transit Funding. **Mike Harmon** discussed the 2007/08 budget after distributing a hand-out *State Budget Update*, which updated the memo included in the agenda packet. He highlighted that the budget bill cuts \$1b from transportation; the CTC provides no allocation for transit capital in the 2007/08 STIP. Further cuts are expected. There is currently a budget impasse. **Ron De Carli** explained that the increase in transportation funds from the gas tax spillover identified for transit is typically raided by the State, this year it is \$1.3b. California State Association of Counties (CSAC) wants the street and roads allocation from Proposition 1B allocated over three years, whereas the Governor is asking for distribution over seven years. Information item; no action was taken.
6. Circled items on the SLOCOG agenda for August 8, 2007.
  - A-1 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Formal Amendment No. 4 (07-10). **Richard Murphy** discussed the staff report indicating the amendment enables the three projects to move forward. He noted that SLO City staff indicated that the \$185k for the SLO City signals was not an accurate figure, but he assured the committee it is an accurate amount. The local match would clarify the amount, but Minor B monies may need to be added. He would clarify the concern with Tim Bochum. **Steve Kahn** added it was difficult to get Safe Routes to School Grants. **Ditas Esperanza** noted Paso Robles has tried three times. **Dave Flynn** motioned to approve staff recommendation, **David Lilly** seconded, and the motioned carried.
  - A-2 San Luis Obispo Regional Rideshare Grant for Speech-Powered Bus Trip Planning. **Lisa Quinn** explained the staff report noting that Rideshare had secured funding through a Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) grant that would integrate with the 511 Traveler Phone System and the Human Services number 211. Our region is one of the last in California to implement the 511 Traveler Information Number. The Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system will be in English and Spanish. **Bill Boucher** noted the resolution was not included in the staff report. It was the general consensus to approve the recommendation provided the resolution accurately reflected the contents of the staff report. **Steve Kahn** motioned to approve the staff recommendation in concept, **Bill Boucher** seconded, and the motioned carried.
  - A-3 Coordinated Human Services/Public Transportation Plan. **Peter Rodgers** reviewed the staff report highlighting three Federal programs: New Freedom Program, JARC, and Seniors and Persons with Disabilities capital funds that will be available, a total of \$400k. This Plan sets the framework for better coordination with stakeholders, recommends a mobility manager who coordinates transit inquiries for all systems. **Aeron Arlin-Genet** asked the difference between Ride-On and Rideshare. **Peter Rodgers** answered Rideshare doesn't have specific mobility. It focuses on public transit and different transportation modes. **Ron De Carli** added most counties do not have a Ride-On counterpart, it is a specialized transportation mode. Neither one is directly involved with all needs. **Dennis Delzeit** asked if this is a part-time job. **Peter Rodgers** replied the grant program was set up for this as the needs are

great. He added SSTAC supported the Plan. No action was taken on this item.

**B-1 Triennial Performance Audits – Findings and Recommendations: Cities of Morro Bay and Atascadero.** **Peter Rodgers** discussed the audit. Every three years audits are required on all the systems. Atascadero made progress with the system, but there are still a couple of issues to work out as stated in the consultant's recommendations in regards to not meeting the 20% farebox ratio in each audit year (B-1-3). Morro Bay's fare box is still a concern. Morro Bay has additionally been late on all fiscal audits. The December audit has yet to be submitted. **Ron De Carli** noted he would send a letter to the transit manager as a reminder. A short discussion ensued. **Ditas Esperanza motioned to approve staff recommendation, Mike Ford seconded, and the motion carried, Steve Kahn and Bill Boucher opposed.**

**C-1 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update** **Richard Murphy** explained the need to initiate the 2009 RTP update, work plan, and schedule effort. He noted what needed to be accomplished in the next two years and a more thorough work plan will be brought back to the Board in October. The 2008 STIP is making progress, but before the 2009 RTP update there are policy issues pertaining to a green house gas mitigation and integrated with Blueprint (Vision) Plans and fiscal assessments. A great concern is the increasing high cost of construction. **John Webster** noted that LOVR is in the Fall Work Plan. A brief discussion followed. **Dennis Delzeit motioned to approve staff recommendation, Ditas Esperanza seconded, and the motion carried.**

**C-2 New Programs to Improve Transportation System Performance.** **Peter Rodgers** reviewed the staff report highlighting the Performance Indicators Report which showed an increase in congestion and vehicle miles traveled. The Board has directed staff to improve mobility. He noted Table 1 (C-2-6) Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Strategies. **Ron De Carli** added staff wants to work with local staff to define future Park-in-Ride (PNR) lots in the region and explore Safe Routes to School. He suggested item 1, expand incentive programs, be considered whether or not Proposition 1B funding is allocated and further explore and evaluate funding sources. **Dennis Delzeit** noted Pismo Beach tried to get the schools interested in Ridesharing, but didn't receive any response. **Lisa Quinn** said Rideshare has a trip link for a school pool for parents to link up and will be launched Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. She said they are linking to sustainable ways to create an on-going program because after each summer the program has to be started over again. **John Webster** noted a concern regarding the State Highway Account (SHA), Denny's Restaurant as a possible Park and Ride, and bus stop improvements. The following comments were made during the ensuing discussion:

- Work with staff to get the program started
- Look for supplemental funding region-wide
- Concerns about adding additional staff
- The Regional State Highway Account (RSHA) is a possible funding source
- Have a funding workshop in October
- Transit should not pay for non-transit activities
- RTA ridership increased 11% annually over last four years
- The guidelines for eligibility for Proposition 1B funds have not been published
- Vendors would construct a free bus shelter for ad space

**Dennis Delzeit motioned to approve staff recommendation, Dave Flynn seconded, and the motion carried.**

**C-3 2008 Transportation Funding and Programming Cycle** **Richard Murphy** explained the staff report, emphasizing the importance of the State budget as it affects transportation funding. He noted Funding Programs (page C-3-3) available for the Board to determine priority and projects of maximum system efficiency. Staff estimates STIP to be \$12m per year. He noted four major interchange projects seeking funding: 1) Brisco Rd., 2) Willow Rd., 3) 46W, and 4) Los Osos Valley Rd. that are queued for this STIP cycle. Those projects will drain most of the funding. Small projects will be considered for the queue if they

are ready to go. **Ron De Carli** noted in past years one or two buses per cycle have been funded and two years ago five buses were funded. Large transit capital items are recommended to be funded through Proposition 1B. He noted staff will clarify the schedule after the CTC adopts a schedule. Local programming will probably be in January or February. **John Webster** asked why SLO Rail Bike Path is under Non Motorized Transportation Programs (C-3-5). **Richard Murphy** replied it wasn't included because it started as a SLOCOG project (C-3-6). **Rob Strong motioned to approve staff recommendation, Ditas Esperanza seconded, and the motion carried.**

**C-4 Proposition 1B: Public Transit Programming Update** **Peter Rodgers** updated the State budget information noting staff used an estimate of the last three year average to tentatively plan quarterly disbursements since the budget has not been approved. He said there will be limits on bus purchases and not more than 10% on bonds. Within the State it will be possible to trade with other regions. **Ditas Esperanza** asked for an example. **Ron De Carli** replied bus capital or projects associated with transit. He noted there will be a programming cycle within the next six months where jurisdictions will meet with their regional planner. The following comments were made:

- Start project scoping now
- Projects could include PNR lots or bus pullouts
- There is a 10% limitation
- Match funding types
- All subject to the trailer bill language

**Steve Kahn motioned to approve staff recommendation, Ditas Esperanza seconded, and the motion carried.**

**C-5 Comparison of Recent Shuttle Performance – Regional Senior Shuttle, Shandon Shuttle, Templeton Shuttle, Five Cities Shuttle, and Nipomo Mesa Shuttle.** **Jessica Berry** reviewed the shuttle performances as compared on page C-5-2. Staff recommends continuing to monitor the Senior and 5-Cities shuttles, redirect the funding for the Villa Paseo and discontinue the Mesa shuttle, which has been more like a Dial-a-Ride. The following comments were made during the discussion that followed:

- Shandon is the lowest performing shuttle
- Shandon, a low income community, 25 miles out with the shuttle as its only accessibility for transit
- The Mesa shuttle was directed by the board as a pilot project to be reviewed in six months, ridership is dismal
- The County delegated the Templeton, Shandon, and 5 Cities shuttles to RTA and more discussions need to occur
- The table (C-5-2) indicates the Mesa shuttle is not working
- This item could be brought back in October after more discussions with RTA

**Rob Strong motioned to defer the item to October for more conversations with RTA, Dave Flynn opposed. Ron De Carli pulled the item from the SLOCOG agenda to be continued to October.**

**C-6 2007 State Legislative Update** **Mike Harmon** discussed new bills currently before the State legislation highlighting AB1053, AB1351, AB444, and AB901. **Dennis Delzeit** expressed concern regarding AB1581 and funding. **Mike Harmon** responded that it could come out of local funding. **Dennis Delzeit** asked if there was a built in firewall to protect funds from being raided like Proposition 42 funds and if the bills we supported are the same ones the League of California Cities supports. **Mike Harmon** noted the staff recommendations are consistent with the League. **Dennis Delzeit motioned to approve staff recommendation, Rob Strong seconded, and the motion carried.**

**C-7 California Progress Report: Key Highlights.** **Ronald De Carli** distributed the *California Regional Progress Report* compiled by The California Center for Regional Leadership (CCRL) in partnership with Caltrans, California Association of Council of Governments (CALCOG), and U.C. Davis. He highlighted the chart on page 13, which used 2001-2005 as the data time period. Generally there are more drivers

and traffic congestion in all areas. Half the areas have increased their transit ridership. San Luis Obispo City's drop in ridership brought our region down, while RTA's ridership has increased. Some of the information will be used in the Community 2050 program, and staff will continue to monitor. Information item: no action taken.

- D-1 San Luis Obispo (SLO) Regional Rideshare Program Update** **Lisa Quinn** updated the TTAC on the Trip Link. Staff is adding "bike buddy" matches and "casual carpoolers". She noted that Thursday Rideshare is launching a new website. She thanked Aeron Arlin-Genet and the APCD for the MOVER Grant. Information item: no action taken.
- D-2 2007 Commute Profile** **Lisa Quinn** explained the survey. The survey was conducted with Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties as partners. She highlighted the number of car poolers has decreased since 2002 compared to Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. South County has the highest number of single occupied vehicles (SOV). The number one reason people drive alone is for the convenience of having their cars and free parking is available. Rideshare and APCD are working together with employers to increase the number of carpoolers. **Aeron Arlin-Genet** noted the survey participants were over 18 years old and worked at least 35 hours a week, over 1000 were surveyed with 3% error rate. Information item: no action taken.
- E-1 Central Coast Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS): Video**: **James Worthley** reviewed the staff report. SLOCOG has been involved with ITS for ten years. Federal rules and National standards require updates to the systems on a regular basis. An informative video specific to the Central Coast is now available. See page E-1-3 for a listing of the ITS projects in the SLO region. **Aeron Arlin-Genet** asked if it could be viewed on the website. **Philip Chu** answered it would be available. **Dennis Delzeit** asked if funding would be through SLOCOG. **James Worthley** replied yes, they are already there. **Mike Harmon** noted a bill was just passed with a lot of money for ITS. Information item: no action taken.
- E-2 ITS: 511 Traveler Information** **James Worthley** explained that by the end of 2008 – 60% of the State population will have access to this service. Some options are tailored to tourism where it connects to a local number when 511 is dialed and receive all the information about traveling. **Lisa Quinn** noted funding was received from JARC, \$65k, and would link to human service, #211. A consultant would make it cohesive within the County. The cost involved would be the telephone carriers and the 511 light. It is anticipated to have it up and running by 2009. Staff continues to look for other funding sources. There will be a workshop in March. **John Webster** asked about a live person when calling. **Lisa Quinn** answered during business hours it was possible. She would discuss with the consultant to have it interact possibly with 211 after hours. **Rob Strong motioned to approve staff recommendation, Dennis Delzeit seconded, and the motion carried.**
- E-3 ITS: Motorist Aid (Call Box) Program Update and Next Steps** **Philip Chu** discussed the change of name from call box to Motorist Aid and the surplus of funds from the program. Surplus funds have been used to fund LED crosswalk in Arroyo Grande, 511 traveler's information implementation; and countywide signal preemption grant. **Ron De Carli** noted the guidelines would be forthcoming in October. **Rob Strong motioned to approve staff recommendation, Dennis Delzeit seconded, and the motion carried.**
- E-4 ITS: Signal Preemption Efforts Update** **James Worthley** reviewed the staff report and highlighted the funding grant was denied because the number of accidents at each signal could not be quantified. A possibility for future funding could be the 2008 STIP or Proposition 1B if the traffic signal includes a transit vehicle priority component. He also note the transit vehicle 'priority' holds the light a little longer vs. emergency vehicles that can 'preempt' the signal. A steering committee will discuss this, what manufacturer to use, and remove incomplete equipment as the new equipment is installed. **Ron De Carli** added Caltrans also had a concern with the signal and how it affects traffic. Information item: no

action taken.

**F. Consent Agenda**

**F-1** SLOCOG Minutes –June 6, 2007

**F-3** Correspondence and News Articles.

**F-4** Draft SLOCOG and RTA 2008 Meeting Calendar.

**F-5** South County Area Transit (SCAT)/RTA Route 10 Temporary Fee Transfer Waiver

**F-6** Caltrans 2006 State Highway Operation & Protection Program (SHOPP) Status Report

**Dennis Delzeit motioned to approve the circled items on the Consent Agenda Mike Ford seconded and the motion carried.**

7. There being no more comments, **Chairman Arlin-Genet** adjourned the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

Next scheduled meeting: is August 22, 2007 (Tentative)

Minutes prepared by Penelope McCullough

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