

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**PLEASE NOTE THE DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION:**

**JULY 16, 2008, WEDNESDAY**

**(IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWS THE SLORTA MEETING; SLORTA starts at 8:30 a.m.)**  
**(Executive Committee meeting starts at approximately 10:00 AM)**

**SAN LUIS OBISPO CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, California**

Individuals wishing accessibility accommodations at this meeting, under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), may request such accommodations to aid hearing, visual, or mobility impairment by contacting SLOCOG offices at 781-4219. Please note that 48 hours advance notice will be necessary to honor your request.

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call.**
- 2. Public Comments.** Any member of the public may address the Executive Committee for a period not to exceed three minutes on any item not on the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Council. In compliance with the Brown Act, the Committee will listen to all communication and will not take any action on items not on the agenda.
- 3. Executive Committee Minutes of May 16, 2008 (Approve).**
- 4. SLOCOG August 6, 2008 Draft Agenda (pages 4-1 thru 4-3):** Executive Committee is asked to review and comment on the proposed timing and sequence. Circled items (on the attached agenda) are recommended for discussion before the SLOCOG advisory committees.

**“Major” SLOCOG agenda items include the following:**

A-1 2009 Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A public hearing will be conducted to receive public testimony on the federally required 2009 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This is a continued item from the cancelled July meeting. The Draft 2009 FTIP is the region’s

transportation programming document that contains a comprehensive listing of “approved” Transportation projects that receive federal funds or are subject to a federally required action, or are regionally significant. This includes Highway and local road projects, public transit, and bicycle and pedestrian projects that have been approved for funding over the next four years. The Draft 2009 TIP was developed to be consistent with SLOCOG’s Vision 2025 Plan for the San Luis Obispo County region, the 20-year long-range spending plan for transportation projects in the seven-city and county region.

A-2 Regional Housing Needs Plan (RHNP). A public hearing is required to formally adopt the allocation. The proposed Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) methodology and resultant allocation was approved by your Board on April 2, 2008. After a 60-day public comment period during which the affected jurisdictions have the right to appeal the allocation the Plan can be adopted. To date, no such appeal has been received and SLOCOG can now adopt the final RHNP for submittal to Housing and Community Development (HCD) for approval.

A-3 Community 2050: Blueprint Report. In November, the SLOCOG Board endorsed key program elements including: core values, vision, guiding principles, objective and a regional growth strategy. The Board directed the preparation of a Draft Community 2050 Blueprint for consideration in April, which due to staff assignment on the RTA facility, has been delayed to the upcoming August meeting. The Draft Blueprint report is being drafted for SLOCOG Board consideration, review, comment and authorization to distribute to member agencies.

The report contains the key components approved by your Board in November together with supporting text and maps. The Blueprint document, as currently drafted, is in a state of legal flux pending legislation (SB 375 and SB 303) and the Air Resources Board’s Climate Action Plan requirements that further define the scope, contents, and utility of the program. Additionally, current Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Guidelines require consideration of climate change emission reduction measures including land use strategies aimed at reducing vehicle trips. Such land use strategies are encouraged to be developed through Regional Blueprint programs for integration into the RTP. Furthermore, the State Attorney General has given notice to all regional and local agencies that their RTPs and local general plans must address climate change reduction pursuant to AB 32 (2005), or they will be legally challenged.

The current draft Community 2050 program is consistent with the intent of these requirements. Further work is necessary for compliance with anticipated requirements of SB 375 and/or SB 300 (or some combination, thereof) and the state’s Climate Action Plan and integration into the Regional Transportation Plan.

**Necessary next steps and focus, in priority order, are the following:**

- Creation of additional alternative land use scenarios to be integrated into the RTP and its EIR addressing AB 32 greenhouse gas reductions (and designation of the most effective or ‘preferred’ scenario);
- Creation of a more refined map of “priority areas for development” consistent with a preferred land use scenario developed in cooperation with member agencies (for presentation at a Board hearing).
- Modification of Scope of Work and Schedule for the Overall Work Program (October).
- Development and refinement of Implementation Strategies, Incentives and Programs.
- Draft Blueprint in April, adoption in June.

**Policy questions:**

1. Do we distribute draft report for review and comment at this time or do we hold distribution pending development of alternative and a preferred land use scenario?  
Recommendation: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Adoption schedule, is it realistic, relative to the need to integrate the scenarios into the RTP?  
\_\_\_\_\_.

B-1 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) / Environmental Impact Report (EIR): AB 32 and Community 2050 Implications. Staff is requesting Board approval of two contracts for consultant services; one for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and the other for transportation modeling services for use in assessing use/transportation scenarios and air quality emissions. The PEIR will be prepared with both staff and consultant services, the extent of each is to be determined as needed based on budget and expertise.

Staff has taken steps to ensure closer coordination between two of the agency's major planning documents that are under development - the Regional Blueprint (Community 2050) and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Staff is making this connection because the interrelationships between the land use scenarios being developed in the Community 2050 Program and the transportation scenarios in the RTP are too closely associated to be considered independently. Further, the State of California is in the process of implementing the greenhouse gas emissions legislation (AB 32) that indirectly requires this integration as noted above in Item A-3.

AB 32 and the State Attorney General's enforcement of the law will require the PEIR to specifically identify how the RTP will address the state emissions reduction requirements. The strategy is still under development and will be finalized prior to the RTP adoption. It will very likely require the RTP, and by association the land use assumptions of the transportation model, to reduce emissions in the region. This process is still evolving at the state level and it is not entirely clear what level of reductions will be required, but the law has extremely significant goals for greenhouse gas emission reductions (30% by 2020 and 80% by 2050). The State Attorney General is being very aggressive in its approach to ensuring compliance with the law, including legal action, particularly in regards to General Plans and Regional Transportation Plans.

B-2 Triennial Performance Audits – Findings and Recommendations: San Luis Obispo County, Regional Transit Authority (RTA), and City of San Luis Obispo (SLO) Transit. Consultant will present the audit findings and recommendations of these three transit systems. Key issue: amount of agenda time devoted to item. Staff recommends 10 to 15 minutes. No "major" problems have been identified.

B-3 2008 Park-n-Ride (PnR) Lot Maintenance and Improvement Needs Report. Staff will present an update of the September 2005 PnR Lots Study. It includes a needs assessment of all current lots, suggested improvements, and an identification of prospective future lots (acquisition and construction as well as lease lots). Proposed action: adopt plan and direct staff to facilitate implementation.

~~B-4 Bus On Shoulder (BOS) Pilot Concept and Caltrans Policy Directive.~~ Continued to October to allow additional time for discussion with Caltrans. (See discussion below).

B-5 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Regional Scoring and Grant Approvals: FTA Sections 5310 (Specialized Training), 5316 (Job Access and Reverse Commute [JARC]), and 5317 (New Freedom Program [NFP]). Biennially, SLOCOG solicits applications for various FTA grants. Three grant programs are being submitted for consideration totaling \$1.6m. SLOCOG has an agreement with Caltrans to prioritize projects and forward our recommendations to Caltrans for consideration.

Projects include *Ride-on vehicle replacements and funding for staffing (regional mobility manager; and senior, disabled, and social services mobility trainers).*

C-1 2008 Regional Profile: Land Use Chapter. Staff presented various land use tables at the May Board meeting. This staff report will include the complete Land Use chapter of the Regional Profile. The data is being developed for utilization in both the Community 2050 Program as well as the 2009 Regional Transportation Plan Update. The chapter will provide and discuss changes in the following major categories: land use type and classification, agricultural production and acreage, conversion of agricultural lands to urban uses, and extent and changes of protected open space.

D-1 Regional Rideshare Program Update. Staff will conduct a brief presentation, including: increasing public interest and demands for rideshare services, update on 511 Traveler Information Program, and Status of Summer Break Pass.

E. Consent Agenda Items: See attached agenda. "Major" items of potential interest:

- E-3 State Audit Findings and staff response.
- E-4 Bike transit survey recommendations.
- E-7 State Highway Account (SHA) Status Report.
- E-8 2008 Regional transportation Improvement Program Project Funding Agreements.
- E-10 Central Coast Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS): 511 Traveler Information – Contract Amendment.
- E-11 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SLOCOG and Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) on the Community 2050 vision grant.

- 5. Bus On Shoulder (BOS) Pilot Concept (Continued for discussion in October).** San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) has initiated a pilot program with Caltrans that allows buses to use the outside shoulder of I805, and Highway 52 during peak hours under specified conditions. The pilot program was developed by SANDAG after investigation of an extensive and successful 257 mile BOS system in Minnesota. SANDAG has deemed the pilot a success and is attempting to expand the pilot to other freeways.

SLOCOG is investigating this pilot for potential application in this county. The staff report will discuss this concept and address applicability in our region in October after further discussions with Caltrans.

Concurrently, Caltrans has recently published a Decision Document on BOS to guide development of BOS projects. Aileen Loe (Caltrans District 5 Deputy Director of Planning and Programming) will present this policy at our meeting.

Staff has serious concerns with the policy, as it would eliminate the option for a low-cost peak hour BOS service as provided in the SANDAG pilot program. Staff recommends this item be presented in concept at this meeting, followed by subsequent discussions with Caltrans and SANDAG, for a presentation in October regarding applicability of BOS in our region.

- 6. SLOCOG 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Update.** A more definitive Program will be presented (date, possible venues, suggested invitees, et al).
- 7. Late Breaking News.**
- 8. Executive Committee Member Comments and Adjournment.**

**Next Meeting:** August 20, 2008, Friday (SLOCOG tentative)

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**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES – “SPECIAL MEETING”**

May 16, 2008

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**SLOCOG**

**Members Present:** John Shoals, President  
Bruce Gibson, Vice President  
James Patterson, Past President

**Staff Present:** Ronald De Carli, Executive Director (SLOCOG)  
Steve Devencenzi, Planning Director (SLOCOG) (*left @10:30 a.m.*)  
Peter Rodgers, Administration Director (SLOCOG)  
Rita Neal, Legal Counsel (SLOCOG/SLORTA)

**Also Present:** John Bates, Interim Regional Transit Manager (SLORTA)  
Jason Gillespie, Transit Systems Coordinator (SLORTA)  
Omar McPherson, Interim Accountant (SLORTA)  
Eric Greening, Citizens Transportation Advisory  
Committee (CTAC) Member (*left @10:30 a.m.*)

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call:** President John Shoals called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m. Silent roll call was taken.

**2. Public Comments:** Mr. Eric Greening, Atascadero, asked about the agenda distribution timing and noted that he is keenly interested in the status of the permanent Regional Transit Manager recruitment for SLORTA. Mr. Ronald De Carli indicated that the SLOCOG agenda would go out as scheduled, which is Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> for the advisory committees and the 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Board. A special RTA closed is scheduled for RTA Manager interviews on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**3. Executive Committee Minutes, March 12, 2008:** Moved by Vice President Bruce Gibson and seconded by President Shoals, the motion to approve the minutes of March 12, 2008 carried unanimously.

**4. SLOCOG June 4, 2008 Draft Agenda:** Mr. De Carli brought to attention that SLOCOG would likely have a meeting on July 9<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday). Vice President Gibson indicated he would be out of the county that week. President Shoals noted that the California Coastal Commission would be meeting on that day; therefore, he would not be able to attend the July 9<sup>th</sup> SLOCOG meeting. **It was generally agreed to move the meeting back one week to July 16<sup>th</sup>.** Staff agreed to call around and check for a quorum.

**SLOCOG June 4, 2008 Draft Agenda:** Mr. De Carli reviewed the SLOCOG June 4<sup>th</sup> agenda:

A-1 2009 Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): This is a public hearing item for the public to provide testimony on the federally required TIP. *No discussion occurred on this item.*

B-1 2009 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP): SLOCOG staff will update the Board on the preparation of the 2009 RTP and will be recommending expanding the current contract with Fehr and Peers to address state and federal statutes and guidelines. Additionally, they will be asking the Board to authorize distribution of a Request for Proposal (RFP) to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

B-2 Regional Transportation Funding Status Report: Staff will be presenting the status of several key funding programs of the SLOCOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), namely: State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Regional Surface Transportation Program/Regional State Highway Account (RSTP/RSHA), Proposition 1B – Transit (P1B-T), State Transit Assistance (STA), and Rural Transit Funds (RTF). **Mr. De Carli** said there are only minor changes to the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). He noted that the US 101/Los Osos Valley Road Interchange project has been pushed back to 2011/2012 fiscal year, and most of the transportation enhancement projects are also recommended by the California Transportation Commission to be programmed in the latter years.

**President Shoals** expressed concern about what the consequence would be if the planned district formation of part of Willow Road does not happen. **Mr. De Carli** noted that issue is now on the table for discussion between the parties concerned, including SLOCOG.

The Executive Committee went into a short discussion about the Governor's Budget – May Revise, with **Mr. De Carli and Mr. Peter Rodgers** pointing out the huge cuts to STA funding (approximately \$1 million).

C-1 FY 2008/2009 Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget: This is a continued item from the April meeting. Staff will present the draft FY 2008/2009 OWP and Budget for Board adoption. This final draft addresses the comments SLOCOG received from Caltrans and federal and state funding agencies.

**Mr. De Carli** asked the Executive Committee if this item should be under Consent Agenda. **The Executive Committee directed staff to keep Item C-1 as an action item (under Area Wide and Agency Issues).**

**5. Closed Session: Personnel Exception (Government Code Sections 54957(b) and 54954.5): Consider Public Employee Appointment for Position of "Permanent" Regional Transit Manager:** *The Executive Committee went into Closed Session at 10:31 a.m. and returned to Open Session at 11:30 a.m.*

**OPEN SESSION:** **Ms. Rita Neal** reported out of Closed Session, noting that the Executive Committee met to consider the list of qualified candidates for Regional Transit Manager. No final action was taken; hence, no formal report is required.

**SLOCOG June 4, 2008 Draft Agenda (CONTINUED):**

C-2 Community 2050 Update: **Mr. De Carli** briefly updated the Committee on the status of the Community 2050 program and budget changes relative to the program, noting that staff is planning to release a draft of the Community 2050 Report to policymakers and the public in August. He also noted that included in the staff report is a brief discussion of the next phase of this program (grant approval) and the newly funded Santa Maria Valley component. SLOCOG was awarded \$270,000 for this

program, approximately one-half of what SLOCOG requested. Staff is in discussion with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) and representatives from the City of Santa Maria, Guadalupe and Santa Barbara County to outline what tasks will be carried out in the upcoming year relative to the Santa Maria area. He noted the need to prepare a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with SBCAG to clarify roles and responsibilities. He also noted concerns that SLOCOG could not carry the local match provisions of SBCAG grant due cash flow associated with Caltrans 3-4 month reimbursement process. He recommended SBCAG expend their resources and seek reimbursement in the same manner as SLOCOG. The Committee concurred.

**Vice-President Gibson** remarked that it has been 10 months since this program was presented to the public, noting that it is now critical to provide a report. **President Shoals** concurred, noting, "We have lost a lot of momentum, we need Board direction over a product." **Vice President Gibson** stressed the need for a product and a strategic plan, saying, "*This needs to be about the product, not the process. We need to challenge people. Feel good clichés are over, we need to get specific. We also need to get elected officials to have the political will to adopt a Blueprint program for this region.*" All members agreed, "*We do not want any more 'clicker exercises' we need a product.*" **President Shoals** noted, "*We need a strategic plan like SANDAG. The plan would identify where we want growth, then identify priority areas for development with local agencies and develop incentives for development. We also need to talk about fringe areas regarding growth and no growth. I do not want to see any more feel good exercises.*" **Past President Patterson** said he agreed with staff's suggestion for a status report at the next Executive Committee meeting in June. At that time, committee members can provide more input on the product and next steps. **Mr. De Carli** noted there is growing interest and recognition of the value of Regional Blueprints in addressing requirements in the AB 32 California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

**President Shoals** inquired about how much of Mr. Devencenzi's time is spent on the RTA maintenance facility. **Mr. De Carli** noted Mr. Devencenzi has been spending about 40% of his time on the maintenance facility. He also noted that progress on the Community 2050 has been further hampered with the staff demands on the Regional Housing Needs Allocation plan and the resignation of Richard Rojas in January. He was replaced with a part timer that was recently upgraded to full time after approval of the Phase 3 grant. **Mr. De Carli** pointed out that the Executive Committee will have an opportunity to further discuss the direction of this program at their next meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

D-1 San Luis Obispo (SLO) Regional Rideshare Program Update: *No discussion occurred on this item.*

E. Consent Agenda Items: There were no questions or comments on the consent agenda items.

**6. SLOCOG 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:** The Executive Committee requested staff to schedule the SLOCOG 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration to occur late September or early October 2008.

**7. Late Breaking News:** There was no late breaking news.

**8. Executive Committee Member Comments and Adjournment:** Following a brief discussion on the meeting schedule for June and July, **the Executive Committee directed staff to move the July 9<sup>th</sup> SLORTA/SLOCOG Board meeting to the following week, Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, and the June Executive Committee meeting from June 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**President Shoals** adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Peter Rodgers