



**SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Board Minutes for Meeting of
March 18, 2009**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Spering called the regular meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. A quorum was confirmed.

MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Jim Spering, Chair	County of Solano
Pete Sanchez, Vice-Chair	City of Suisun City
Elizabeth Patterson	City of Benicia
Jack Batchelor, Jr.	City of Dixon
Harry Price	City of Fairfield
Jan Vick	City of Rio Vista
Len Augustine	City of Vacaville
Osby Davis	City of Vallejo

*Arrived at the
meeting at 6:20 p.m.*

STAFF

PRESENT:

Daryl K. Halls	Executive Director
Charles Lamoree	Legal Counsel
Johanna Masiclat	Clerk of the Board
Janet Adams	Deputy Executive Director/Director of Projects
Robert Macaulay	Director of Planning
Elizabeth Richards	Director of Transit and Rideshare Services
Jayne Bauer	Marketing and Legislative Program Manager
Susan Furtado	Financial Analyst/Accountant
Liz Niedziela	Transit Manager/Analyst
Robert Guerrero	Senior Planner
Sam Shelton	Project Manager
Sara Woo	Assistant Planner
Kenny Wan	Assistant Project Manager

ALSO

PRESENT:

In Alphabetical Order by Last Name:

Erin Beavers	City of Fairfield
Angelo Cellini	Member of the Public
Susan Chang	PBS&J
Birgitta Corsello	County of Solano
Gene Cortright	City of Fairfield

Raymond Demos	Resident, City of Fairfield
Barry Eberling	The Daily Republic
Mike Ferrell	California Highway Patrol (CHP)
Pete Flores	Member of the Public
Rick Fuller	Vice Mayor, City of Dixon
George Gwynn	Resident, City of Suisun City
Curtis Hunt (STA Board Alternate Member)	Vice Mayor, City of Vacaville
Dan Kasperson	City of Suisun City
Michael Kay	PBS&J
Corey Lang	PBS&J
Gary Leach	City of Vallejo
Alysa Mayer	City of Suisun City
Rod Moresco	City of Vacaville
Crystal Odum-Ford	City of Vallejo
Robert & Debra Papin	Members of the Public
Ted Peterson	Member of the Public
Tom Phillippi	Businessowner, City of Vacaville
Don Raina	Member of the Public
Dan Schiada	City of Benicia
Mike Segala (STA Board Alternate Member)	Vice Mayor, City of Suisun City
Jim Spaulding	Colonel, Travis Air Force Base
Jay Swanson	City of Fairfield
Ken Swenson	Member of the Public
Robert Triplett	Member of the Public
Roberto Valdez	Member of the Public
Thanh Voung	City of Fairfield
Paul Wiese	County of Solnao

II. CONFIRM QUORUM/ STATEMENT OF CONFLICT/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Sperring requested a moment of silence to commemorate the construction worker who was killed earlier in the day on the construction site of the North Connector Project.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Vice Chair Sanchez, and a second by Board Member Augustine, the STA Board approved the agenda.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None presented.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Daryl Halls provided an update on the following topics:

- STA Board Travels to Sacramento to Discuss State Budget Impact on Transportation
- MTC Approves Initial List of Federal Economic Stimulus Projects for Solano
- STA Board to Consider Jepson Parkway Project Environmental Document
- State Route (SR) 12 East Safety Project Scheduled for Groundbreaking
- Reprogramming of STIP Funds to Vallejo Station Project
- Safe Routes to School Program's 3-Year Work Plan
- STA Mid-Year Budget Update

VI. COMMENTS FROM METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC), CALTRANS, AND STAFF:

A. Caltrans Report:

Doanh Nguyen, Caltrans, provided an update on the Red Top Slide, Benicia Bridge Retrofit, and I-80 SHOPP Projects.

B. MTC Report:

Chair Spering distributed MTC's Federal Lobby booklet and he noted the \$1 million of funding for McGary Road was included in the North Bay Safety Projects indicated on page 70.

C. STA Reports:

1. STA Coordination of a Countywide Senior Transportation Summit presented by Chair Spering
2. McGary Road Project Presentation presented by City of Fairfield's Thanh Vuong
3. Status of Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) Ferry Transition Plan presented by City of Vallejo's Crystal Odum-Ford
4. STA Status Reports:
 - A. Projects - I-80 HOV Lanes update provided by Janet Adams
 - B. Planning – Update on MTC's Regional Transportation Plan provided by Robert Macaulay
 - C. Transit and Rideshare – Update Presented by Elizabeth Richards

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Vice Chair Pete Sanchez, and a second by Board Member Price, the STA Board approved Consent Calendar Items A thru G.

A. STA Board Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2009

Recommendation:

Approve STA Board Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2009.

B. Review TAC Draft Minutes for the Meeting of February 25, 2009

Recommendation:

Receive and file.

C. SolanoExpress Intercity Transit Consortium 2009 Work Plan

Recommendation:

Approve the SolanoExpress Intercity Transit Consortium 2009 Work Plan as shown in Attachment B.

D. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Federal Section 5311 Grant Application for Solano Paratransit Bus Replacements

Recommendation:

Adopt Resolution No. 2009-04 authorizing the Executive Director to submit an application for Caltrans' Federal Section 5311 funds up to \$375,000 for up to five (5) Solano Paratransit bus replacements.

E. McGary Road Project

Recommendation:

Authorize the Executive Director to include the following provisions in the three-way funding agreement for the McGary Road/Solano Bikeway Phase 2 project with the Solano Land Trust (SLT), the County of Solano County and STA:

1. Contribute up to \$400,000 in TDA Article 3 funding as the local match for the remaining federal earmark balance;
2. Timely use of TDA Article 3 funds: TDA Article 3 local match must be allocated no later than FY 2011-12; and
3. TDA Article 3 funding contribution must be used to construct a bicycle or pedestrian facility.

F. Preliminary Engineering Priorities for Project Study Reports (PSRs) for Caltrans Oversight

Recommendation:

Approve adoption of the FY 2009-10 preliminary engineering prioritized PSR workplan to submit to Caltrans as specified in Attachment B.

G. Summary of Federal Economic Stimulus Funds for Transportation Projects in Solano County

Recommendation:

Approve the following:

1. The Federal Economic Stimulus Solano County Project List for Transportation as specified in Attachment D;
2. The Federal Economic Stimulus Solano County Project List for Transit as specified in Attachment E; and
3. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a funding agreement with the Cities of Rio Vista, and Vacaville for the swap of Federal Economic Stimulus STP formula funds and local funds.

VIII. ACTION – FINANCIAL ITEMS

A. Fiscal Year (FY) 2008-09 Mid-Year Budget Revision

Daryl Halls provided an overview of the STA's FY 2008-09 Mid-Year Budget that reflect several changes due to the recently passed State Budget with some modifications to project schedules.

Board Comments:

None presented.

Public Comments:

None presented.

Recommendation:

Adopt the FY 2008-09 Mid-Year Budget Revision as shown in Attachment A.

On a motion by Board Member Augustine, and a second by Board Member Batchelor, the STA Board unanimously approved the recommendation.

B. Amendment to Programming of the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

Janet Adams outlined the changes that will move the programmed STIP funds from the North Connector to the I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange and fully fund the regional share of the North Connector Project with RM 2 funds. She added that the construction allocation for the RM 2 funds has already been made to MTC. She also noted the Vallejo Station Project is sponsored by the City of Vallejo and this proposed reprogramming of STIP funds will bring in line the programming year of the STIP with the timing of the project ready to begin construction.

Board Comments:

Board Member Davis publicly thanked the STA Board and staff for their assistance in making the STIP swap happen and supporting the construction schedule for the Vallejo Station.

Public Comments:

None presented.

Recommendation:

Approve the STIP programming change as follows:

1. Reprogram \$11.412 million in STIP funds (FY 2009-10) currently programmed for the North Connector Project to the Vallejo Station Project (FY 2009-10);
2. Reprogram \$11.412 million in STIP funds currently programmed to the Vallejo Station Project (FY 2011-12) to the I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange (FY 2011-12); and
3. Retain \$1.716 million in STIP funds (program year FY 2011-12) that are currently programmed for the Vallejo Station project.

On a motion by Board Member Augustine, and a second by Board Member Davis, the STA Board unanimously approved the recommendation.

C. Solano County Clean Air Grant Priorities

Robert Macaulay reviewed the staff recommended prioritization of the three programs for the BAAQMD, TFCA, and YSAQMD Funds for the next two years, FY 2009-10 and FY 2010-2011. He listed the programs as 1.) SNCI's Rideshare Incentives Program; 2.) STA's Safe Routes to School Program; and 3.) The Solano County Climate Protection Plan.

Board Comments:

None presented.

Public Comments:

None presented.

Recommendation:

Approve the following:

1. Prioritize BAAQMD TFCA and YSAQMD Clean Air Funds for projects in FY 2009-10 and 2010-11 for the Solano Napa Commuter Information Program, Solano Safe Routes to School Program, and development of a County Climate Change Strategy for SB 375 as indicated in Attachment A; and
2. FY 2009-10 TFCA Program Manager Resolution No. 2009-05 as shown in Attachment B.

On a motion by Board Member Augustine, and a second by Vice Chair Sanchez, the STA Board unanimously approved the recommendation.

IX. ACTION NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS

A. Jepson Parkway Project, Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)

Janet Adams and the project consultant team (PBS&J's Susan Chang, Corey Lang, and Michael Kay) provided an overview of the proposed 12-mile project of the Jepson Parkway Project, Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) and the Final Project Technical Report for the Jepson Parkway Project. Susan Chang outlined the comparison of each of the five (5) Alternatives.

Chairman Spering opened the Public Hearing at 6:32 p.m.

The following members of the Public addressed comments to the Board:

Tom Philippi expressed his support and encouraged the Board to move forward with Alternative B.

George Gwynn, Jr. supported Alternative B and discouraged Alternative C or E due to Homeland Security risks associated with Travis Air Force Base.

Colonel Jim Spaulding, Travis Air Force Base, submitted a letter that commented and advocated against C & E, because the elevated flyways included as part of alternatives C & E would create a hazardous elevated line of sight near the air force base.

Angelo Cellini, Suisun City Resident, expressed his support to move forward with Alternative B. He stated that the Operating Engineers Local Union believe the project will create local work needed to stimulate the Solano County economy. Mr. Cellini added that he endorses any project alternative as long as it creates work locally.

Rod Moresco, City of Vacaville Public Works, recommended Alternative B because the project will benefit the citizens of Vacaville and the rest of the county. Mr. Moresco stated that he looks forward to begin the work and proceed with final design.

Erin Beavers and Gene Cortright, City of Fairfield, expressed the City of Fairfield's support for the project. They thanked STA staff for their efforts in the project. Gene Cortright expressed his concerns regarding the funding challenges for Fairfield's segment of the Jepson Parkway and cited that it will be difficult for the City of Fairfield to cover that extension.

Paul Wiese, Solano County Public Works Engineer, expressed the County of Solano's support for Alternative B. He stated that he is looking forward to work with the STA in the months ahead to design and construct the project.

Raymond Demos, Fairfield Resident, stated his concerns about an unsafe situation which has not been addressed near the mobile home park (350 people) which has access to Walters Road. Mr. Demos described how southbound traffic moves too quickly to safely enter or exit the mobile home park. Mr. Demos requested that the STA work with the residents of the mobile home park to make it safer to enter and exit the park through the Jepson Parkway Project.

Mr. Pappin, Leisure Town Rd. resident, stated his opposition to the project since the project will remove several heritage oak trees.

Robert Valdez stated that he was given inadequate time to respond to the STA's response in the Final EIR to his comments concerning the Draft EIR. Mr. Valdez requested that the STA Board adopt Alternative A before considering Alternative B. Mr. Valdez recommended that the STA Board at least postpone approval of Alternative B until the general public was given adequate time to respond to the FEIR comments and findings.

There being no further speakers, the Chair closed the Public Hearing at 6:52 p.m. and referred the matter to the Board for comments and action.

Board Comments:

Board Member Augustine asked the consultant to discuss access issues to the mobile home park. PBS&J Consultants and Janet Adams stated that design issues related to the mobile home park's access will be brought back to the STA Board prior to when final design is approved. Ms. Adams stated that STA staff will work with the mobile home park's residents with regard to the design of the project.

Board Member Augustine requested that the consultants comment on the taking of heritage oak trees on Mr. Pappin's property on Leisure Town Road. PBS&J's Corey Lang and Michael Kay responded that during the design of this phase construction with the property owners regarding the trees will occur.

Board Member Patterson asked if the STA, as part of the construction mitigation monitoring plan, would follow protocols for fish and wildlife during construction. Ms. Adams stated that those protocols will be included in design plans, specifications, and estimates and is noted in the EIR and will occur prior to construction activities. Board Member Patterson also asked about the possibility of putting barriers around the Heritage trees to avoid taking it. Ms. Adams answered that if a tree is outside the curb line they will do what they can to avoid removal of the trees.

Board Member Price stated his full support for the Jepson Parkway Project. Board Member Price added that safety can be further addressed through master planning the area around the Fairfield/Vacaville Intermodal Station as well as being mindful of the residents that live there now.

Recommendation:

CONDUCT a public hearing to consider:

1. **ADOPTION** of Alternative B as the Preferred Jepson Parkway Project Alternative;

On a motion by Board Member Price, and a second by Vice Chair Pete Sanchez, the STA Board unanimously approved the recommendation to adopt Alternative B as the Preferred Jepson Parkway Project Alternative.

2. **CERTIFICATION** of the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Jepson Parkway Project;

On a motion by Board Member Price, and a second by Board Member Batchelor, the STA Board unanimously approved the recommendation and certified the Jepson Parkway Final Environmental Impact Report.

Then:

3. **APPROVE** Resolution No. 2009-03, including certification of the Environmental Impact Report for the Jepson Parkway Project, Exhibit A: Findings of Fact and Exhibit B: Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program; and

On a motion by Board Member Patterson, and a second by Board Member Price, the STA Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-03, including certification of the Environmental Impact Report for the Jepson Parkway Project, Exhibit A: Findings of Fact and Exhibit B: Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program.

4. **DIRECT** that upon approval of Action Non-Financial Item IX.B. (approval of the Jepson Parkway Project), that the Executive Director File a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk of Solano County and with the State Office of Planning and Research and Authorize payment of the filing fees.

On a motion by Board Member Price, and a second by Board Member Patterson, the STA Board unanimously approved the filing of a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk and the State Office of Planning and Development by the STA Executive Director and authorized payment of applicable filing fees.

B. Final Project Technical Report and Jepson Parkway Project

No staff presentation made.

Board Comments:

None presented.

Public Comments:

None presented.

Recommendation:

Approve the following:

1. Project Technical Report for the Jepson Parkway Project; and
2. The Jepson Parkway Project.

On a motion by Board Member Price, and a second by Board Member Patterson, the STA Board unanimously approved the recommendation.

C. STA Safe Routes to School Program's 3-Year Work Plan

Sam Shelton reviewed the available grant sources and recommended work plan for the STA's Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program for FY 2008-09, FY 2009-10, and FY 2010-11. He commented that for Fiscal Year 2008-09, the only available funding for the SR2S Program comes from the BAAQMD in the form of TFCA grants, restricting the STA's funded activities to only the Cities of Benicia, Fairfield, Suisun City, and Vallejo.

Board Comments:

None presented.

Public Comments:

None presented.

Recommendation:

Approve STA's Safe Routes to School Work Plan for FY 2008-09, FY 2009-10, and FY 2010-11, as described in Attachment A.

On a motion by Board Member Patterson, and a second by Vice Chair Sanchez, the STA Board unanimously approved the recommendation.

D. Legislative Update

Jayne Bauer provided an update to the state budget package signed by the Governor. She reported that the STA Board members and key community group and business leaders traveled to Sacramento earlier that day to urge support for Solano's transportation priorities. In addition, she requested the STA Board adopting the following legislative positions: 1.) Assembly Bill (AB) 744 (Torrico) – Support; 2.) AB 1219 (Evans) – Sponsor/Support; 3.) Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA) 9 (Huffman) – Support; and 4.) Senate Bill (SB) 205 (Hancock) – Support.

Board Comments:

None presented.

Public Comments:

None presented.

Recommendation:

Approve the following:

1. Assembly Bill (AB) 744(Torrico) – Support;
2. Assembly Bill (AB) 1219 (Evans) – Sponsor/Support;
3. Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA) 9 (Huffman) - Support; and
4. Senate Bill (SB) 205 (Hancock) – Support

On a motion by Board Member Patterson, and a second by Vice Chair Sanchez, the STA Board unanimously approved the recommendation.

X. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. New State Budget Impact on Solano Transit

Elizabeth Richards provided an overview of the impact of the new state budget on Solano County Transit Service and Operators. She cited that the State Transit Assistance Funds (STAF) loss is \$2,118,934 for FY 2008-09 and \$2,929,580 for FY 2009-10.

NO DISCUSSION

- B. Solano Napa Travel Demand Model Update**
- C. 2009 Congestion Management Program (CMP) Update Schedule**
- D. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Update**
- E. Transportation Development Act (TDA) and State Transit Assistance Funds (STAF) Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-10 Fund Estimates**
- F. Local Transportation Development Act (TDA) and Members Contribution for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-10**
- G. Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Bicyclist and Pedestrian Data Collection – Count Locations Update**
- H. Project Delivery Update**
- I. Funding Opportunities Summary**
- J. STA Board Meeting Schedule for 2009**

X. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board Member Augustine thanked staff for a job well done in the State Lobbying trip to Sacramento earlier that day.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The STA Board meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. The next regular meeting of the STA Board is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 8, 2009, 6:00 p.m., Suisun City Hall Council Chambers.**

Attested by:



Johanna Masielat / _____
Clerk of the Board **Date**