



ALTERNATIVE MODES COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, November 3, 2011, 8:00 am – 1:30 pm
STA Conference Room 1
One Harbor Center, Suite 130
Suisun City, CA 94585

Table with 2 columns: ITEM and BOARD/STAFF PERSON. Rows include: I. CALL TO ORDER – SELF INTRODUCTIONS (Jim Sperring, Chair); II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Jim Sperring, Chair); III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: May 31, 2011 – Pg. 1; IV. ACTION ITEMS (A. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP): Land Use Element, Recommendation: Forward a recommendation to the STA Board to approve the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan. (8:00-8:05 a.m.) Pg. 7; B. Solano Countywide Bicycle Plan Master Plan: Draft Review, Recommendation: Approve the Draft Solano Countywide Bicycle Transportation Plan. (8:05-8:10 a.m.) Pg. 11); V. INFORMATION ITEM (A. Solano County Priority Development Area Tour, Informational (8:10-8:25 p.m.) Pg. 15, Robert Guerrero).

Alternative Modes Subcommittee Members

Jim Sperring, Chair
County of Solano
Erin Hannigan
City of Vallejo

Mike Ioakimedes
City of Benicia
Mike Hudson
City of Suisun City

Jack Batchelor, Jr.
City of Dixon
Mike Segala
Bicycle Advisory Committee

Chuck Timm
City of Fairfield
Larry Mork
Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Janith Norman
City of Rio Vista
Matt Tuggle
Technical Advisory Committee

Ron Rowlett
City of Vacaville



Solano Transportation Authority

... working for you!

# SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Member Agencies:

Benicia ♦ Dixon ♦ Fairfield ♦ Rio Vista ♦ Suisun City ♦ Vacaville ♦ Vallejo ♦ Solano County

One Harbor Center, Suite 130, Suisun City, CA 94585-2473 ♦ Telephone (707) 424-6075 / Facsimile (707) 424-6074

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## VI. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

**Jim Spering, Chair**

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

**Jim Spering, Chair**

### Alternative Modes Subcommittee Members

Jim Spering, Chair  
County of Solano

Mike Ioakimedes  
City of Benicia

Jack Batchelor, Jr.  
City of Dixon

Chuck Timm  
City of Fairfield

Janith Norman  
City of Rio Vista

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City of Vacaville

Erin Hannigan  
City of Vallejo

Mike Hudson  
City of Suisun City

Mike Segala  
Bicycle Advisory  
Committee

Larry Mork  
Pedestrian Advisory  
Committee

Matt Tuggle  
Technical Advisory  
Committee



*Solano Transportation Authority*

**Alternative Modes Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, May 31, 2011  
11:00 – 12:30 p.m.

STA Conference Room 1  
One Harbor Center, Suite 130  
Suisun City, CA 94585-2473

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Spring called the regular meeting to order at 11:07 a.m. A quorum was confirmed.

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| <b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b> | Jim Spring, Chair<br>Rick Fuller<br><br>Chuck Timm<br>Janith Norman<br>Mike Hudson<br>Erin Hannigan<br>Matt Tuggle | County of Solano<br>City of Dixon (Alternate for<br>Jack Batchelor, Jr.)<br>City of Fairfield<br>City of Rio Vista<br>City of Suisun City<br>City of Vallejo<br>Technical Advisory |
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|                        |   |  |
|------------------------|---|--|
| <b>MEMBERS ABSENT:</b> | Jack Batchelor, Jr.<br>Mike Ioakimedes<br>Ron Rowlett<br>Larry Mork | City of Dixon<br>City of Benicia<br>City of Vacaville<br>Pedestrian Advisory |
|------------------------|---|--|

|                       |   |   |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| <b>STAFF PRESENT:</b> | Daryl Halls<br>Robert Macaulay<br>Elizabeth Richards<br>Robert Guerrero<br>Sara Woo<br>Sam Shelton<br>Jessica McCabe<br>Karen Koelling<br>Dan Kasperson | Executive Director<br>Director of Planning<br>Director of Transit &<br>Senior Planner<br>Planning Assistant<br>Project Manager<br>Project Assistant<br>Administrative Assistant II<br>City of Suisun City |
|-----------------------|---|---|

## **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On a motion by Member Timm and second by Member Hannigan, the Alternative Modes Committee approved the agenda.

## **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

On a motion by Member Hannigan and a second by Member Timm, the Alternative Committee unanimously approved the minutes for March 15, 2010.

## **IV. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **A. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Update Status Alternative Modes Element**

Robert Macaulay provided an update regarding the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). In the upcoming months, STA staff will be meeting with the STA policy committees associated with each element. Fehr and Peers was recently selected to provide consultant services to assist in completing the CTP. Member Norman inquired about the cost of the agreement and where the funds would be found. Mr. Macaulay noted that the funds had already been allotted. Chair Spering asked if the plan will match projects with the available funding. Mr. Macaulay and Daryl Halls responded that it is one of the goals of the plan and that the plan will also prioritize projects for opportunities for future funding.

Mr. Macaulay also reported that STA staff has completed several tasks since the last Alternative Modes Committee. He noted that future meeting topics will include:

- Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) project tour and Strategy
- Draft Safe Routes to Transit Plan
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Data Collection Report
- Solano County Bike Locker Study
- Draft Alternative Modes Plan

### **B. Solano County Alternative Fuels and Infrastructure Plan**

Robert Guerrero reported that STA staff is seeking input and comments on a draft scope of work for developing an Alternative Fuels and Infrastructure Plan for Solano County. Mr. Guerrero indicated that this county has an opportunity to consider implementing alternative fuels since more than half of Solano County's entire bus fleet will need to be replaced in the next 5 to 10 years. Mr. Guerrero further explained that a technical working group of fleet managers, planners, public works staff, and members of the public will assist in developing the plan.

The committee discussed concerns about cost effectiveness of switching fuels and constructing supporting infrastructure and the difficulties for selecting the best type of fuel without adequate information. Member Hudson commented on issues related to electric vehicles, fuel cells, and ethanol. Mr. Hudson mentioned that Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) might be an option, but that there are difficulties in finding a supply to refuel.

Member Norman agreed that CNG was better than what we are currently using. Member Fuller added that there should be some analysis on wind and solar energy uses. Member Hudson commented that there also needs to be an analysis of vehicle maintenance for alternative fuels. Chair Sperring directed STA staff to prepare a map that indicates where the existing alternative fuels infrastructure exists in Solano County for discussion at future Alternative Modes Committee meeting.

### **C. Bicycle and Pedestrian Data Collection Scope of Work**

Sara Woo provided a background update regarding data for Bicycle and Pedestrian transportation activity. Ms. Woo indicated that she plans to work with the Solano Project Delivery Working Group (PDWG), Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC), and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) on this effort.

### **D. Solano Countywide Bicycle Locker Study**

Robert Guerrero discussed a proposal to evaluate what policies are in place and report how each city and the county addresses bicycle lockers in planning and project implementation. In addition, there is a potential opportunity to have the Solano Napa Commuter Information (SNCI) program help manage and advertise the availability of these lockers. There are also potential marketing opportunities to map where lockers exist; for example: Safe Routes to School maps and the Solano Bikelinks Map. There is also clean air funding available for these types of activities. Member Norman suggested that it would be helpful if photos of the proposed lockers were available as examples for this committee to view.

## **V. ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Land Use Chapter**

Mr. Macaulay reported the Land Use Element is the first portion of the new CTP to be completed in draft form, and is included as Attachment A. He explained that this element lays out the existing and anticipated land uses in the 7 cities and Solano County, as well as setting the regional context. He noted in the introduction to this element, land use and transportation decisions interact with each other – neither strictly precedes or follows the other.

Member Norman indicated that she was not prepared to vote as there was not enough time to review or discuss with her staff. She commented that Rio Vista is isolated and its transportation needs are different. Member Norman commented that she would like to see information on Rio Vista on page 19 of the report strengthened to show a more positive result. Chair Sperring advised STA staff to work with the City of Rio Vista to address Member Norman's concerns. Member Fuller commented that growth is limited in Dixon because of past laws pertaining to development projects.

Chair Spering suggested the committee approve the text with the understanding that there will be other opportunities to provide comments on the document. Chair Spering also reiterated his point about STA staff working with Rio Vista staff to strengthen the text as suggested by Member Norman.

**Recommendation:**

*Approve text of the Draft Land Use Chapter of the Solano CTP.*

On a motion by Member Norman and a second by Member Fuller, the Alternative Modes Committee unanimously approved the text of the draft Land Use Chapter of the Solano CTP.

**B. Solano Countywide Bicycle Plan Update: Draft Review**

Sara Woo reported that with STA staff coordinated a series of meetings with each member agency's planning and public works staff and their respective Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) representatives to develop the Solano Countywide Bicycle Plan Update. The Plan identifies the short-term and long-term projects needed to complete a countywide bikeway network. Ms. Woo indicated the Bicycle Plan focuses on longer bikeway routes as opposed to zones and areas for improvement. Member Hudson questioned whether the costs for constructing an overcrossing were corrected; there was a concern that the amount was larger than it was. Ms. Woo indicated that she would double check on it and make the correction if necessary.

Member Norman noted that she would like to understand the type of comments STA staff is expecting from the Alternative Modes Committee given that Plan was developed through several meetings with other committees. Robert Macaulay, STA responded that STA staff was seeking overall direction and input on development and the contents the document. Ms. Norman requested the additional time to review the document before making a decision to approve the document. Member Norman also requested that the committee have a list of committee members that have assisted in developing the Plan to date. Mr. Macaulay indicated that STA staff will provide that list to the Alt. Modes Committee members.

**Recommendation:**

Approve text of the Draft Solano Countywide Bicycle Transportation Plan.

*The committee recommended that the item be tabled until a future meeting to allow the Committee adequate time to review.*

**C. Solano Countywide Pedestrian Plan Update: Draft Review**

Ms. Woo gave a brief background regarding the development of the Solano Countywide Pedestrian Plan (Pedestrian Plan) update which began in the fall of 2009. She explained that STA staff coordinated a series of meetings with each member agency's planning and public works staff with their respective Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) representatives. Ms. Woo explained that the outcome of these meetings was a comprehensive listing of pedestrian projects to consider for future funding. Member Norman commented again that she did not have enough time to review or ask staff input.

Chair Spering suggested creating a list of participants that helped with development of each of the plans so members would know who in their staff helped make the recommendations.

**Recommendation:**

Approve text of the Draft Solano Countywide Pedestrian Transportation Plan.

*The Committee recommended that the item be tabled until a future meeting to allow the Committee more time to review.*

**VI. Proposed Future Agenda Items**

- PDA Tours
- Solano County wide Bicycle Plan Update: Draft Review
- Solano Countywide Pedestrian Plan Update: Draft Review
- Draft Alternative Modes Element
- Transportation For Livable Communities Plan Update
- Safe Routes to Transit

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The Alternative Modes Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.

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DATE: November 1, 2011  
TO: STA Alternative Modes Committee  
FROM: Robert Macaulay, Director of Planning  
RE: Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Land Use Chapter

**Background:**

The STA's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) was adopted in 2001 and updated in 2005. The CTP consists of 3 elements: Arterials, Highways and Freeways; Transit; and, Alternative Modes.

In 2008, the STA Board authorized a comprehensive update of the CTP. Since that time, the STA Board has approved:

- New Purpose Statement and Goals for each element
- A State of the System Report for each element
- A Goal Gap Analysis for each element, identifying which Goals are or are not being met
- The CTP Project List to identify projects and programs that can help address the identified gaps.

The structure of the new CTP is different from the existing CTP. A new Land Use Chapter has been added, and Ridesharing has been moved from the Alternative Modes to the Transit Element. Staff is currently developing individual plans and elements of the CTP for review and adoption by the STA Board and its three CTP Committees.

**Discussion:**

The Land Use Element is the first portion of the new CTP to be completed, and is included as Attachment A. This element lays out the existing and anticipated land uses in the 7 cities and Solano County, as well as setting the regional context. As noted in the introduction to this element, land use and transportation decisions interact with each other – neither strictly precedes or follows the other.

The Land Use Chapter is based upon existing statistical information, including the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAGs) Projections 2009 and the 2000 federal census. Depending upon the date of final adoption of the CTP, newer statistical information may be available, including the 2010 federal census and new ABAG projections. If that information is available, the Land Use Chapter will be revised and the tables will be updated. It is not expected that the updated information will substantially alter the past or projected trends of land use in Solano County. Finally, because chapter numbers have not been assigned yet, tables are designated with an "X" and a sequential number. When the final CTP organization is complete, appropriate table (and graphic) designations will be inserted. The Land Use Element includes the text and graphics prepared by STA's consultant, Fehr & Peers. The overall graphical approach, including

charts, tables, maps and use of white space and text call-out boxes, will be used in other elements of the Solano CTP.

The Land Use Element has been reviewed by the STA Technical Advisory Committee and the city and county Planning Directors. All comments received from these groups have been addressed and incorporated into the draft chapter. The Alternative Modes Committee reviewed the draft chapter at its meeting of May 31, 2011, and asked for minor changes to the description of development potential for the City of Rio Vista. Those changes were made and provided to City of Rio Vista officials for review. No additional corrections were requested, and STA staff has included those changes in the version of the Land Use Chapter attached to this staff report.

**Fiscal Impact:**

None.

**Recommendation:**

*Forward a recommendation to the STA Board to approve the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.*

Attachment:

A. Draft Land Use Chapter of the Solano CTP

**Draft Land Use Chapter of the Solano CTP  
Provided Under Separate Cover**

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DATE: October 31, 2011  
TO: Alternative Modes Committee  
FROM: Robert Guerrero, Senior Planner  
RE: Solano Countywide Bicycle Plan Update: Draft Review

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**Background:**

The development of the Solano Countywide Bicycle Transportation Plan (Bicycle Plan) update began in the fall of 2009. STA staff coordinated a series of meetings with each member agency's planning and public works staff with their respective Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) representatives. The purpose of these coordinating meetings was to discuss the short term and visionary project opportunities in each community. The outcome of these meetings was a comprehensive listing of bicycle projects to consider for future funding.

The Solano Countywide Bicycle Plan is a subsidiary document of the Alternative Modes Element of the Solano Comprehensive Plan. The Bicycle Plan is also used by the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) and its member agencies as an advocacy document for state and federal grant programs.

**Discussion:**

The updated 2011 Countywide Bicycle Plan builds on prior versions previously adopted by the STA Board. The updated Plan includes an existing conditions report and updated goals, objectives, and policies to shape the implementation of the 2011 Bicycle Plan. The Plan identifies the short-term and long-term projects needed to complete a countywide bikeway network. The Bicycle Plan also focuses on longer bikeway routes as opposed to zones and areas for improvement. With this update, an emphasis was placed on completing regional gap closure projects. Additionally, a high emphasis was placed on projects improving access in and around Priority Development Areas (PDAs), Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC), and Safe Routes to Transit zones.

STA staff completed the draft text to the Countywide Bicycle Transportation Plan and presented it to the Alternative Modes Committee at their May 31, 2011 meeting. The Committee requested STA staff to bring this item back to allow committee members a chance to consult with their respective staff regarding the draft document. No further comments were received since then.

**Fiscal Impact:**

None.

**Recommendation:**

*Approve the Draft Solano Countywide Bicycle Transportation Plan.*

Attachments:

- A. Draft Solano Countywide Bicycle Transportation Plan

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**Draft Solano Countywide Bicycle  
Transportation Plan**

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DATE: November 1, 2011  
TO: STA Alternative Modes Committee  
FROM: Robert Guerrero, Senior Planner  
RE: Priority Development Area Tour

**Background:**

Priority Development Areas (PDAs) are locally-identified, infill development opportunity areas within existing communities. They are generally areas of at least 100 acres where there is local commitment to developing more housing along with amenities and services to meet the day-to-day needs of residents in a pedestrian-friendly environment served by transit. PDAs are a primary component in the Bay Area Focus Program focused growth and development strategy. Attachment A provides a summary of the Focus Program.

There are two categories of PDA's: Planned and Potential. The difference between Planned and Potential are that a Planned PDA has both an adopted land use plan and a resolution of support from the city council or county board. In general, these categories relate to readiness for funding: Planned PDAs would be eligible for capital infrastructure funds, planning grants, and technical assistance while Potential PDAs would be eligible for planning grants and technical assistance, but not capital infrastructure funds. To be eligible to become a PDA, an area had to be within an existing community, near existing or planned fixed transit or served by comparable bus service, and planned for more housing.

ABAG's Executive Board adopted the first round of PDAs as Planned or Potential on November 15, 2007 and the second round on November 20, 2008. ABAG continues to review PDA applications and agency requests to include or revised current PDA designations from Potential PDAs to the Planned if applicable land use plan and resolution are adopted by the jurisdiction.

**Discussion:**

Solano County has nine PDAs; seven planned and two potential PDAs:

- (1) City of Benicia- Downtown Planned PDA
- (4) City of Fairfield- Downtown Planned PDA  
West Texas Gateway Planned PDA  
North Texas Street Core Potential PDA  
Fairfield Vacaville Train Station Planned PDA
- (1) City Suisun City- Downtown and Waterfront Planned PDA
- (2) City Vacaville- Downtown Planned PDA  
Allison and Ulatis Planned PDA
- (1) City of Vallejo- Waterfront and Downtown Planned PDA

A PDA tour is scheduled for November 3<sup>rd</sup> for Alternative Modes Committee Members to learn more about Solano County's PDAs. Staff from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission

(MTC) and ABAG will provide presentations about the Bay Area Focus Program and potential funding opportunities. The tour will be a combination of virtual and site tours of each PDA. Staff from each jurisdiction with a PDA designation will be in attendance to provide information on its current status. An itinerary is included as Attachment B to this report.

**Recommendation:**

Informational.

Attachments:

- A. Focus Program Goals
- B. Solano County PDA Tour Itinerary

### **FOCUS Program Goals**

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The FOCUS Program Goals were developed with significant input from Bay Area stakeholders, including local governments, regional agencies, transportation agencies, advocacy groups, community-based organizations, and the public. These goals, and the related supportive strategies, help to shape decision about future growth and development in the region.

#### **Regional Goals**

- Strengthen and support unique existing communities
- Create compact, healthy communities with a diversity of housing, jobs, activities, and services to meet the daily needs of residents
- Increase housing supply and choices
- Improve housing affordability
- Increase transportation efficiency and choices
- Protect and steward natural habitat, open space, and agricultural land
- Improve social and economic equity
- Promote economic and fiscal health
- Conserve resources, promote sustainability, and improve environmental quality
- Protect public health and safety

#### **Strategies to achieve goals related to focused growth and development**

- Encourage infill and the efficient use of land capacity within existing communities
- Provide for compact, complete, resource-efficient communities near existing or planned transit and other infrastructure
- Provide opportunities for people to live near their jobs and work near their homes
- Encourage a mix of land uses with jobs, housing, retail, schools, parks, recreation, and services in proximity



*Solano County*  
**Priority Development Area (PDA) Tour Schedule**

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**Alternative Modes Meeting**

**8:00 a.m. Call to Order**

- **8:00-8:05 a.m. (5 mins)** Land Use Element Approval
- **8:05-8:15 a.m. (10 mins)** ABAG Staff Priority Development Area Background Presentation
- **8:15- 8:55 a.m. (40 mins)** Virtual Tours
  - Fairfield 4 PDAs 8:10-8:30 a.m. (15 mins)
  - Vacaville 2 PDAs 8:30-8:40 a.m. (10 mins)
  - Benicia- 1 PDA 8:40-8:45 a.m. (5 mins)
  - Suisun- 1 PDA 8:45-8:50 a.m. (5 mins)
  - Vallejo- 1 PDA 8:50-8:55 a.m. (5 mins)

**PDA Tours**

**8:55-9:05 a.m.**

*9:05-9:10 a.m.*

*9:10-9:20 a.m.*

*9:20-9:40a.m.*

**Suisun City Train Station PDA Tour**

*Load Bus*

*Bus Tour of Downtown Suisun*

*Travel to Vacaville via I-80*

**9:45-10:05 a.m.**

*10:05-10:10 a.m.*

*10:10-10:35 a.m.*

**Vacaville Downtown PDA Tour**

*Load Bus*

*Travel to Fairfield via I-80*

**10:35- 10:55 a.m.**

*10:55-11:00 a.m.*

*11:00-11:30 a.m.*

**Fairfield Transportation Center PDA Tour**

*Load Bus*

*Travel to Downtown Vallejo via I-80 to SR 37 to Wilson Ave.*

**11:30-11:50 p.m.**

**Vallejo Downtown Area PDA Tour**

**11:50-12:50 p.m.**

**Lunch at Vallejo Ferry Terminal**

- **MTC Staff Presentation- Evolution of the TLC funding toward PDA's**

*12:50-12:55 p.m.*

*Load Bus*

*1:00- 1:25p.m.*

*Travel to STA*

**1:30 p.m.**

**Adjournment/End Tour**