



**SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**  
**Board Minutes for Meeting of**  
**May 8, 2013**

**1. CLOSED SESSION**

PERSONNEL MATTERS (Gov't Code §549547):

Public Employee Performance Evaluation: Executive Director

There were no matters to report.

**2. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Hardy called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was confirmed.

**MEMBERS**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Steve Hardy, Chair	City of Vacaville
	Osby Davis, Vice Chair	City of Vallejo
	Elizabeth Patterson	City of Benicia
	Jack Batchelor	City of Dixon
	Harry Price	City of Fairfield
	Norman Richardson	City of Rio Vista
	Pete Sanchez	City of Suisun City
	Jim Sperring	County of Solano

**MEMBERS**

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Daryl K. Halls	Executive Director
	Bernadette Curry	Legal Counsel
	Janet Adams	Deputy Executive Director/Director of Projects
	Robert Macaulay	Director of Planning
	Johanna Masiclat	Clerk of the Board/Office Manager
	Jayne Bauer	Legislative & Marketing Program Manager
	Susan Furtado	Accounting & Administrative Svc. Manager
	Liz Niedziela	Transit Manager
	Judy Leaks	Program Manager
	Robert Guerrero	Project Manager
	Sara Woo	Associate Planner

**ALSO**

**PRESENT:**

**In Alphabetical Order by Last Name:**

Mona Babauta	Solano County Transit (SolTrans)
Lisa Chavez	District Representative for Senator Lois Wolk
Dan Kasperson	City of Suisun City
Joe Leach	City of Dixon
Wayne Lewis	City of Fairfield
Mike Roberts	City of Benicia
John Vasquez	County of Solano Supervisor

**3. CONFIRM QUORUM/STATEMENT OF CONFLICT**

A quorum was confirmed by the Clerk of the Board. There was no Statement of Conflict declared at this time.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**5. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None presented.

**6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- I-80/I-680/State Route (SR) 12 Interchange Project Awaits CTC Construction Allocation Vote\*
- Schedule for Follow-up to March 13<sup>th</sup> Board Workshop
- Final STA Board Adoption of OneBayArea Grant Project Funding and STA Comments on RTP Alternatives
- Update on New Countywide ADA Eligibility Process
- SolTrans Request for CNG Feasibility Assessment Logical Follow-up to County Alternative Fuels Study
- Status of STA Providing Transit Assistance to the Cities of Dixon and Rio Vista
- May 9, 2013 is the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Bike to Work Day
- Draft Safe Routes to School Plan to Be Released at May 23<sup>rd</sup> Inaugural Solano Safe Routes to School Summit

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

**MTC Report:**

MTC Commissioner and STA Board Member Spering distributed for the Board's information the Guide to the San Francisco Bay Area's Transportation Improvement Program or TIP (Updated to reflect the Draft 2013 TIP – March 2013).

**Caltrans Report:**

None presented.

**STA Staff:**

**A. Directors Report**

- 1. Planning**
- 2. Projects**
- 3. Transit/Rideshare**

**8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

On a motion by Board Member Patterson, and a second by Board Member Spring, the STA Board approved Consent Calendar Items A through H.

**A. Minutes of the STA Board Meeting of April 10, 2013**

Recommendation:

Approve STA Board Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2013.

**B. Draft Minutes of the TAC Meeting of April 26, 2013**

Recommendation:

Approve Draft TAC Meeting Minutes of April 26, 2013.

**C. Local Transportation Development Act (TDA) and Members Contributions for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14**

Recommendation:

Receive and file.

**D. Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-13 Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) Program Second Quarter Report**

Recommendation:

Receive and file.

**E. Project Delivery Update – OneBayArea Grant (OBAG) Programming**

Recommendation:

Approve the following projects for OBAG STP and CMAQ funding:

1. \$1,200,000 in CMAQ to STA Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Engineering Projects;
2. \$250,000 in CMAQ to STA Transit Ambassador Program;
3. \$315,000 in CMAQ and \$100,000 in STP to City of Suisun City's Train Station Improvements;
4. \$450,000 in CMAQ to City of Vacaville's Allison Drive Sidewalk + Class I to Transit Center;  
\$500,000 in CMAQ to City of Vacaville's Ulatis Creek Class I Bike Lane (McClellan to Depot);
5. 1,095,000 in CMAQ to City of Vallejo's Downtown Streetscape (Maine Street);  
and
6. \$1,800,000 in CMAQ to the County of Solano's Vaca-Dixon Bicycle Path

**F. Solano County Project Initiation Document (PID) 3-Year Work Plan for Caltrans**

Recommendation:

Approve the Solano County new 3-year Project Initiation Document Work Plan (FY 2013-14 to FY 2015-16) and submit to Caltrans.

**G. Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee (SR2S-AC) Bylaws**

Recommendation:

Approve the STA's Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee By-Laws.

**H. I-80/I-680/State Route (SR) 12 Interchange Project**

Recommendation:

Approve the attached Resolution No. 2013-15 and Funding Allocation Request from Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for \$10.4 million in Regional Measure 2 or AB 1171 funds for the I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange Project – ICP for right-of-way phase.

**9. ACTION – FINANCIAL ITEMS**

**A. Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Feasibility Study for Solano County**

Robert Guerrero reported that STA is working with the various transit operators and public agencies to complete a countywide Alternative Fuels Study. He noted that the Solano County Transit (SolTrans) requested STA assistance to fund a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Feasibility Study looking at their transit fleet and facilities.

**Public Comments:**

None presented.

**Board Comments:**

Board Member Patterson asked if it is in the context of the broader studies that the air board has been doing in terms of alternative fuels such as hydrogen? She noted that she wants to make sure that we don't look at this as a single approach and that we have an understanding of how to make it grow so it adapts as the fuel market changes.

Daryl Halls responded that the question being raised should be covered in the Alternative Fuels Studies. He noted that SolTrans' request is more specific in order to evaluate what type of infrastructure would be needed along with some potential cost savings and benefits taking in consideration some bus purchases coming up.

Board Member Patterson clarified that she just wants to make sure that in looking at the facilities that we are able to go back to the possibility and be agile enough to change circumstances and adapt to the future.

Recommendation:

Approve the following:

1. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with SolTrans to develop a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Feasibility Study; and
2. Approve dedicating \$20,000 in State Transit Assistance Funds (STAF) to match SolTrans contribution for the CNG Feasibility Study.

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

## 10. ACTION – NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS

### A. **STA Comment Letter on Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)’s Regional Transportation Plan Bay Area and Draft Environmental Impact Report**

Robert Macaulay provided an update to the development of the Regional Transportation Plan Bay Area and Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). He noted that STA staff supports the policies and investments in the Draft Plan Bay Area, but have some short-term and long-term concerns. He outlined the primary areas of comment: 1.) The land use assumptions driven largely by expected employment expansion in the San Francisco-San Mateo-Santa Clara county corridor define rate and type; 2.) Location, is policy, not projection, and is designed to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions; and 3.) The actual achievement, or not, of these growth projects needs to be monitored, and adjustments made based upon actual development.

At this time, several Board Members raised their concerns.

#### **Public Comments:**

None presented.

#### **Board Comments:**

Board Member Spering concurred with staff’s list of objections as specified above.

Vice Chair Davis asked why wasn’t there a public hearing conducted in Solano County pertaining to the Draft EIR. Robert Macaulay responded that because the Draft EIR is a more technical document therefore, ABAG and MTC did not see the need to do outreach in all nine (9) counties and that the Plan Bay Area would cover most of the comments that have been addressed.

Board Member Patterson commented that Alternative 5 (Transportation Investments – “This alternative seeks to strengthen the public transit by significantly using service frequencies in most suburban and urban areas....”) is a good strategy and should be considered as a chosen alternative. She added that it’s unfortunate that it lacks the public vetting it should have.

Robert Macaulay responded that all the Alternatives, including the proposed Plan, does look to increase transit service frequencies, and that Alternative 5 seems to do that even further than the Plan partly by a vehicle-miles traveled (VMT) tax and increased fees on the Bay Bridge, and also by taking back local roadway investments putting those towards transit. However, the roadways that the buses would operate on would not be funded, therefore staff did not provide any comment since strengthening public transit is already covered in the Plan.

Daryl Halls added that there is strong consensus that the Plan will be adopted; and that delaying the Plan is not the intent.

Chair Hardy asked what about the increased bridge fees of \$8.00 at peak hours? Shouldn't this part of the study?

Board Member Sperring clarified what DEIR Alternative 5 really means. It states that they will do your land use planning without giving you money. The Commission does not support the VMT or diverting bridge toll money from the projects that we produce in Solano County or projects in the region. Diverting those funds diminishes the transportation infrastructure.

Board Member Sperring noted that the message is advocating for land use strategy and showing a funding source for it. Vice Chair Davis concurred.

Board Patterson wants to make sure that we are efficient with our comments to prevent any delay and to be careful on the degree of the comment and that the preferred alternative is preferred.

Recommendation:

Authorize the STA Chair to submit a letter to MTC and ABAG commenting on the draft Plan Bay Area and Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), based upon the points contained in Attachment B.

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

**B. Release of Draft Safe Routes to School Countywide Plan**

Danelle Carey presented and recommended to authorize the Executive Director to release the STA's Safe Routes to School Draft Countywide Plan Update for public input at the SR2S Summit on May 23, 2013 and for a 30-day comment period. She noted that the SR2S Plan has been developed with the active participation of each community's SR2S Advisory Committee with adoption of each community's plan by the city council and school board.

**Public Comments:**

None presented.

**Board Comments:**

None presented.

Recommendation:

Authorize the Executive Director to release the STA's Safe Routes to School Draft Countywide Plan Update for public input at the SR2S Summit on May 23, 2013 and for a 30-day comment period.

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

**C. STA Regional Transportation Impact Fee (RTIF) Implementation Package and Projects**

Robert Guerrero reported that at an earlier meeting, the RTIF Policy Committee approved the City of Fairfield's request to include the Unincorporated section of Peabody Road between the cities of Fairfield and Vacaville as an additional project to include in Package 1- Jepson Parkway.

**Public Comments:**

None presented.

**Board Comments:**

None presented.

Recommendation:

Approve the following:

1. The updated list of RTIF Implementation Package and Projects specified in Attachment B (*to include the Unincorporated section of Peabody Road between the cities of Fairfield and Vacaville as an additional project to include in Package 1- Jepson Parkway*); and
2. Authorize the Executive Director to complete the RTIF Nexus Study based on these specified projects.

On a motion by Board Member Sanchez and a second by Board Member Spering, the STA Board unanimously approved the recommendation as amended shown above in *bold italics*.

**D. Legislative Update**

Jayne Bauer reviewed staff's recommendation to seek Board support in the submittal of the Fairfield/Vacaville Intermodal Station (provided that City of Fairfield staff will supply updated project costs, schedule for delivery of the project consistent with TIGER 5 requirements, and include passenger amenities in the design).

Jayne Bauer also reviewed and requested to take position to the following bills:

1. AB 431 (Mullin) – Oppose – AB 431 gives Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) authority to impose a sales tax of up to a half-cent by 2/3 vote;
2. AB 574 (Lowenthal) – Support – AB 574 establishes a program to fund sustainable communities strategies (and equivalent greenhouse gas (GHG) reducing strategies in rural areas) using cap and trade auction proceeds; and
3. SB 791 (Wyland) – Oppose – SB 791 requires the legislature to approve, by a two-thirds vote, any adjustments to the motor vehicle fuel tax (excise tax).

**Public Comments:**

None presented.

**Board Comments:**

After discussion, the STA Board amended the recommendation 1.B to read as follows.

Recommendation:

1. Approve the following positions on State legislative bills:
  - A. AB 431 (Mullin) – Oppose
  - B. AB 574 (Lowenthal) – Support *with the understanding that the disadvantaged communities be a component to the consideration on the strategic growth planning grants.*
  - C. SB 791 (Wyland) – Oppose
2. Support submittal of the Fairfield/Vacaville Intermodal Station for TIGER 5 Grant funding.

Recommendation No. 1:

On a motion by Board Member Patterson, and a second by Board Member Price, the STA Board approved the recommendation to include the suggested language on AB 574 as shown above in *bold italics*.

Recommendation No. 2:

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

**11. INFORMATIONAL – DISCUSSION NECESSARY**

**A. Regional Measure 2 (RM 2) Project Implementation Deadline and Development of Funding Plan**

Janet Adams summarized all Solano County RM 2 programming, allocations, unallocated balance, cash flow and cost savings (\$84M for Transit & Rail Capital projects, \$100 M for highway projects, and \$136.2 M has been allocated by MTC to project sponsors leaving \$47.8 M unallocated). She noted that staff is proposing a back-up plan for Solano County that will ensure that any project that is unable to meet MTC's proposed deadline requirements, the remaining funds will be directed to another RM 2 funded project in the County that can make the regional deadlines to ensure that the funds are not lost from the County.

**NO DISCUSSION NECESSARY**

**B. Funding Opportunities Summary**

**C. STA Board and Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2013**

**12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Board Member Batchelor reported on the success of their (including Daryl Halls and Danelle Carey) Safe Routes to School presentation at the Green California Summit on April 18, 2013.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Attested by:



**Johanna Masclat**  
**Clerk of the Board**

**/April 10, 2013**

**Date**