

*DRAFT*

**INTERAGENCY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ITAC)**

**Thursday, December 21, 2006**

1:30 p.m.

SCCRTC Conference Room  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**MINUTES**

**ITAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jennifer Calate, Caltrans District 5  
Sandra Coley, PVTMA  
Mark Dettle, City of Santa Cruz Public Works  
David Fairchild, Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District (MBUAPCD)  
Thomas Hiltner, Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District  
David Koch, City of Watsonville Public Works  
Steve Jesberg, City of Capitola Public Works and Planning Proxy  
Todd Muck, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)  
John Presleigh, County Public Works  
Maria Esther Rodriguez, City of Watsonville Planning Proxy  
Chris Schneiter, City of Santa Cruz Planning Proxy  
Steve Wiesner, County Planning Proxy  
Majid Yamin, City of Scotts Valley Public Works and Planning Proxy

**STAFF PRESENT**

Grace Blakeslee  
David Brown  
George Dondero  
Karena Pushnik  
Kim Shultz  
Rachel Moriconi

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Brian Graham, Caltrans District 5 Planning  
Donn Miyahara, Caltrans D5 Loc. Assistance  
Fred Keeley, TTF

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Chair John Presleigh called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

1. **Introductions** – Introductions were made.
2. **Oral Communications** - none
3. **Status of ongoing transportation projects, programs, studies and planning documents**

*City of Santa Cruz* –Chris Schneiter reported that Soquel Avenue would be repaved as part of

the Soquel Avenue bike lanes project in the near future. He also reported that the Mission Street Undergrounding project is underway.

*SCMTD* – Tom Hiltner reported that construction of the MetroBase maintenance and fueling facility is underway. He also reported that SCMTD held the kickoff meeting for the Short Range Transit Plan contract and will be forming a steering committee to receive input from local agencies on the plan.

*County of Santa Cruz* – John Presleigh reported that the Mt. Hermon/Graham Hill Road intersection project is underway. The project is expected to improve operations through Highway 9.

*City of Watsonville* – Maria Esther Rodriguez reported on the Harkins Slough Road and Struve Slough Bridge projects.

*Caltrans* – Donn Miyahara reported that all E-76s (requests to obligate federal funds) are being reviewed by FHWA, thus taking several weeks longer than usual. Caltrans would like the delegation returned to them and suggested the ITAC send a letter to request as much. Staff agreed to put this on the next agenda.

- 4. Additions/Changes to the Agenda** – Mark Dettle requested that Item 8 be moved to the regular agenda. Chair Presleigh designated it as Regular Agenda Item 11.1.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA (Schneiter/Hiltner)**

- 5. Approved Minutes of the November 16, 2006 meeting**
- 6. Received Highlights from the December 2006 RTC meeting**
- 7. Received Information Item:** Caltrans Notice about the High Risk Rural Roads Program. Donn Miyahara noted that only rural roads are eligible. John Presleigh indicated the County will likely have one or two applications
- 8. Proposition 1B: State-Local Partnership Program** – Changed to Item 11.1

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

- 9. Transportation Funding Task Force Update**

Fred Keeley gave an overview of the Transportation Funding Task Force process. He noted that specific ideas identified by members of the public have been forwarded to lead agencies. He also presented information on the preliminary draft plan, which was born out of small group discussions with TFTF members. The current plan includes three options – a large comprehensive plan, a more moderate plan, and dual option plan. TFTF members and the public will be asked to provide input on these alternatives this spring before a final plan, which receives support of 2/3 of the TFTF, is forwarded to the Regional Transportation Commission.

ITAC members provided input on certain elements of the preliminary plan. Several members expressed support for increasing gas taxes to fund transportation needs. Staff reported that they will be working with stakeholders over the next few weeks to reconfirm funding details in the plan, including information on local street/road needs and the costs for Bus Rapid Transit.

## **10. Revised Proposed Process for Programming Projected State and Federal Funds**

Rachel Moriconi reviewed the proposed process and timeline for programming nearly \$20 million in State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Augmentation funds anticipated from Proposition 1B, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) Phase-Out funds, and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds. In response to the ITAC's November discussion on this issue, funding needs for regionally significant projects, and uncertainties regarding the STIP Augmentation funds, staff recommended designating \$4 million of the funds for projects selected by local jurisdictions, to be distributed by formula, and designating the balance for regional projects, including the Transportation Management Associations.

Public works representatives emphasized that significant levels of funding are needed for local roadway projects. Majid Yamin suggested that a reasonable minimum be allocated to smaller jurisdictions. After discussing the possibility of increasing the amount of funding for local jurisdictions and the regional project needs, especially for Highway 1 projects, **the ITAC unanimously approved a motion (Yamin/Schneiter) recommending that the Regional Transportation Commission:**

- 1. Designate \$4 million in funding for projects to be selected by local jurisdictions, with a minimum of \$200,000 per jurisdiction;**
- 2. That \$12.5 million be designated for regionally significant projects; and**
- 3. That \$3 million be designated for regional projects only if regional projects need the funds for reasons such as leveraging Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) funding or covering cost overruns on existing projects. If the \$3 million in additional funding is not required for regional projects at this time, then the funds will be designated for local jurisdictions by formula.**

## **11. Revised Corridor Mobility Improvement Account Proposals**

Staff reported that they are currently recommending two projects for the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) program and analyzing if the auxiliary lanes between 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Soquel Avenue would also be a strong candidate.

**The ITAC unanimously recommended (Schneiter/Koch) that the Regional Transportation Commission nominate the Highway 1 Park Avenue to Bay/Porter Auxiliary Lane Project, in addition to the Highway 1 Soquel Avenue to Morrissey Boulevard Auxiliary Lanes Project, to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) funds.**

### **11.1 Proposition 1B: State-Local Partnership Program**

At the request of Mark Dettle and Chris Schneider, **the ITAC unanimously agreed (Dettle/Koch) to send a letter to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) and local legislators requesting that local projects with a useful life of 15 years, such as roadway rehabilitation projects, be eligible for the State-Local Partnership Program and that funds generated from all locally-approved sales taxes, not just specific transportation sales tax measures, be eligible matching funds.**

## **12. Adjournment and Next Meeting**

Chair Presleigh adjourned the meeting. The next regular meeting is scheduled for **January 18, 2007** at 1:30 PM in the SCCRTC Conference Room, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA.

Respectfully Submitted \_\_\_\_\_  
Rachel Moriconi, Transportation Planner