

AGENDA: February 15, 2007

TO: Transportation Policy Workshop (TPW)
FROM: Karena Pushnik, Senior Transportation Planner
RE: Transportation Funding Task Force – Draft Plan, Meeting Schedule and Appointment of New Commissioner to the Task Force

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC):

1. Receive information about the Draft Transportation Funding Plan and the schedule of Transportation Funding Task Force meetings (Attachment 1);
 2. Receive an updated Task Force roster (Attachment 2) and direct staff to contact those entities that have never attended a Task Force meeting ; and
 3. Designate a Commissioner as the RTC representative on the Transportation Funding Task Force to replace former Commissioner Wormhoudt.
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BACKGROUND

By resolution, the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) approved the establishment of a Transportation Funding Task Force (TF Task Force) in September 2005 designating Fred Keeley as the convener and Eileen Goodwin as technical consultant. The goal of the TF Task Force, as stated in the resolution, is to develop a comprehensive transportation funding plan for Santa Cruz County in response to deficiencies in federal, state and local funds.

The first phase of the project included community workshops in each of the five Supervisorial districts, two special workshops, presentations at community events and an interactive workbook available at the workshops and via a specially designed interactive website. In November 2006, the RTC adopted the FY 2006-07 budget including a work element for TF Task Force activities.

DISCUSSION

Since the last Transportation Funding Task Force status report to the RTC in December, the convener Fred Keeley, consultant Eileen Goodwin, and staff have completed the Draft Transportation Funding Plan. A copy of the Draft Plan was emailed to all Commissioners and Task Force members, the plan is posted to the project website (<http://tftaskforce.org/plan.htm>) and copies have been mailed to local libraries. This completes Phase II of the project.

The Draft Transportation Funding Plan outlines three plan alternatives: a comprehensive and relatively expensive scenario, a moderate scenario and a dual option scenario. Copies of the Draft Plan will be available at the February Transportation Policy Workshop (TPW) meeting.

A series of almost weekly meetings are scheduled over the course of the next couple of months to engage the Task Force in discussions with the goal of developing a single Transportation Funding Plan. As an advisory committee to the RTC, all Transportation Funding Task Force meetings will be noticed and are open to the public. Efforts were made to find meeting locations in all areas of the county including areas such as Capitola and Scotts Valley that did not have a meeting last year during Phase I of the project. A schedule of these meetings is posted on the project website and is attached ([Attachment 1](#)).

The goal is to bring a Transportation Funding Task Force-approved plan to the RTC by their June meeting. According to the establishing resolution, "The Task Force recommendations must be approved by a two-thirds vote of its membership in order for it to be forwarded to the Regional Transportation Commission for its consideration."

Task Force Membership

Attached is a current roster for the Transportation Funding Task Force ([Attachment 2](#)). The majority of representatives have attended at least one meeting or have indicated that they either are not interested or are interested but can not find an individual willing to dedicate the time to serve on the Task Force. As shown, there are 77 members and 10 ex-officio technical advisory members. Of the 77 members there are a handful who have never attended a Task Force meeting. These include: Auto Advocate/Driver-At-Large from south county, Latino Business Association, Rails to Trails and the Felton Business Association. **Staff recommends that these groups be contacted to determine whether they would like to remain on the task force.**

RTC Representation on the Task Force

The RTC approved a list of member organizations/agencies to comprise the Transportation Funding Task Force. Generally, each entity was responsible for designating their representative. In January 2006, the RTC designated Commissioner Mardi Wormhoudt as their representative. As Ms. Wormhoudt is no longer a Commissioner, a new representative must be designated. **Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission designate a Commissioner representative to serve on the Transportation Funding Task Force.**

SUMMARY

The Regional Transportation Commission formed a Transportation Funding Task Force with the goal of developing a funding plan to address deficiencies in funding available for transportation in Santa Cruz County. The first and second phases of the project -- soliciting input from the community and the Task Force, and developing a Draft Transportation Funding Plan -- are complete. Phase III is currently underway and entails negotiation meetings with the Task Force to develop a Final Transportation Funding Plan. In addition, a new Regional Transportation Commission representative must be designated to the Task Force.

Attachments:

1. Schedule of Meetings
2. TF Task Force Roster (2/1/07)