

TO: Transportation Policy Workshop
FROM: Karena Pushnik, Senior Transportation Planner
RE: Transportation Funding Task Force –Membership Update

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC):

Receive a status report regarding the status of Task Force membership

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.

A Draft Transportation Funding Plan -- outlining three plan alternatives: a comprehensive and relatively expensive scenario, a moderate scenario and a dual option scenario – was released in January 2007. Meetings are underway to facilitate the development of a final plan.

DISCUSSION

The Transportation Funding Task Force as an advisory committee to the Regional Transportation Commission is subject to the Brown Act. Notification about the meetings must be available 72 hours prior to the meetings and the body must have a quorum to take action. With a committee this size, the number of people attending meetings is critical to the success and function of the group.

The RTC established ten (10) ex-officio and eighty-three (83) regular voting positions on the TF Task Force. Of the eighty-three regular positions, the following five (5) were deleted by the RTC at the March meeting.

TFTF Position	Appointee	
League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz	Juliana Rousseau	Declined to participate
Rail to Trails Conservancy	Benjamin Gettleman	Submitted email note resigning
San Andreas Regional Center	Elizabeth Hurt	Declined cannot participate
Watsonville Brown Berets	None	Declined to participate
Human Care Alliance	Tove Beatty	Submitted email note resigning

At the March RTC meeting, commissioners volunteered to contact the following entities which have infrequently attended Transportation Funding Task Force meetings.

- Antonio Rivas: Auto Advocate/Driver-At-Large, South County – Lucio & Rosa Escutia
PV Unified School District – Karen Osmundson or board chair
- Kirby Nichol/
Bob Begin: Capitola Chamber of Commerce – Toni Castro
- Jan Beautz: County Emergency Medical Care Commission – Beth Landes
Pleasure Point Business Association – Shirley Allen
- Tony Campos: Davenport Resource Center – Francisco Serna
Native Americans – Patrick Orozco
Latino Business Association
League of United Latin American Citizens
Salud Para La Gente
Pajaro Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Mark Stone: Felton Business Association – Bob Hines
Ben Lomond Business Association – Barbara Rowland

Staff requested that Commissioners forward information about their communication by March 8, after the packet will be printed. An oral report will be provided by staff and Commissioners at the March 15 TPW. As of March 7, Staff have not received any additional written notices about resignations.

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. Staff and Commissioners will provide an oral update to the Regional Transportation Commission about their contacts with Transportation Funding Task Force members.

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