



■ 260 North San Antonio Road., Suite B ■ Santa Barbara, CA ■ 93110
■ Phone: 805/961-8900 ■ Fax: 805/961-8901 ■ www.sbcag.org

**Draft minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
Board of Directors**

Thursday, August 21, 2008

8:30 AM

**Board of Supervisors Hearing Room
105 East Anapamu Street, 4th Floor
Santa Barbara, CA**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Firestone called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Members Present: Salud Carbajal, Supervisor, First District; Janet Wolf, Supervisor, Second District; Brooks Firestone (SBCAG Chair) Supervisor, Third District; Joni Gray, Supervisor, Fourth District; Joe Centeno, Supervisor, Fifth District; Iya Falcone, Councilmember, City of Santa Barbara; Larry Lavagnino, Mayor, City of Santa Maria; Ed Skytt, Councilmember, City of Solvang; Michael Bennett, Mayor, City of Goleta; Lupe Alvarez, Mayor, City of Guadalupe; Joe Armendariz, Councilmember, City of Carpinteria; Dick DeWees, Mayor, City of Lompoc; Russ Hicks, Mayor, City of Buellton (arrived at 8:42)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jim Kemp, Executive Director; Stephen VanDenburgh, Deputy Director Programs; Michael Powers, Deputy Director Planning; Aubrey Spilde, Transportation Planner, Fred Luna, Transportation Planner, Brian Bresolin, Transportation Planner, Terry Contreras, Board Clerk; Kevin E. Ready, Sr., Senior Deputy County Counsel, Rich Krumholz, Caltrans District 5 Representative, Pat Mickelson, Caltrans District 5 Representative

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

Pending litigation: Santa Barbara County Coalition Against Automobile Subsidies v. SBCAG

Pending litigation: Sustainable Transportation Advocates of Santa Barbara v. SBCAG

Member Agencies

Buellton ■ Carpinteria ■ Goleta ■ Guadalupe ■ Lompoc ■ Santa Barbara ■ Santa Maria ■ Solvang ■ Santa Barbara County

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark McGinnes addressed the board on the Cold Springs Bridge project requesting that a public hearing be agendized for an SBCAG board meeting.

James Mills addressed the board on the Cold Springs Bridge project and expressed concern about the money that would be spent to fund it.

Chair Firestone directed staff to place the Caltrans Cold Springs Bridge Suicide Barrier project on the October SBCAG board meeting agenda to discuss and receive public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

8. HIGHWAY 166 SAFETY TASK FORCE

Receive status report on the Highway 166 Safety Task Force and authorize the executive director to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to purchase and deploy changeable message signs (CMS) as recommended by the Task Force.

Motion to receive status report and authorize executive director to sign MOU with the CHP and Caltrans.

Motion: Alvarez

Second: Skytt

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. REGIONAL TRANSPORTATON PLAN

Hold public hearing to receive public comments on draft 2008 Regional Transportation Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report.

Public Comment:

Michael Chiacos, Community Environmental Council, addressed the board on the 2008 RTP and how the CEC feels that it is generally lacking in a long term vision which would appropriate for our region at this point in view of a carbon constrained environment. The RTP should help our region prepare for various possible futures by including another alternative which would give priority to alternative transportation.

Report only therefore no action was taken.

10. REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ALLOCATION

Hold hearing to consider appeal on the adopted RHNA plan by the City of Santa Barbara and either:

- A. Deny the appeal and approve the findings supporting the denial and submit the final plan to the state Housing and Community Development Department, or*
- B. Direct staff to revise the plan based on the appeal, draft new findings and the revised final plan for adoption by the board in September.*

Public Comment:

Presentation supporting Santa Barbara appeal by Paul Casey, Community Development Director, City of Santa Barbara.

Mickey Flacks addressed the board on the need for housing, mostly affordable housing in the City of Santa Barbara other parts of the south coast region. Objected to the allocation for Santa Barbara and stated TPAC numbers should be considered but any reallocation should be redistributed within the south coast region.

Marty Mariscal addressed the board on smart growth and the need to put housing where the jobs are. He supported the Plan but stated that any reallocation must take place within the south coast. The North County has taken their share of RHNA numbers.

Kirk Lindsey, Community Development Director, City of Santa Maria, discussed how the SBCAG board looked comprehensively at the entire county when coming up with the RHNA allocation. He also addressed the board on the growth constraints facing the City of Santa Maria partly due to the no build policy in Ag land areas.

David Matson, County of Santa Barbara, informed the board that the state considers the entire unincorporated area within the county as one region. The South Coast and North County unincorporated areas could not be considered as two separate entities for the RHNA allocations. As directed by the SBCAG board, TPAC was trying to fix the jobs, housing imbalance and not make it worse.

Motion to deny the appeal and approve the findings supporting the denial.

Motion: Lavagnino

Second: Alvarez

Motion carried: 12-1 (Falcone no)

INFORMATION ITEMS

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jim Kemp reported that the next LOSSAN board meeting will be held in Santa Barbara on September 5, 2008.

12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jim Kemp reported that the Commuter Challenge (Curb your Commute) will be continuing through the month of September.

On August 12th there was a community workshop held in Santa Maria on the Union Valley Parkway extension project and the 101 UVP interchange project. A draft EIR has been prepared and was the subject of the workshop. Approximately 125 people attended the meeting. The EIR is now out for public review and comment.

State budget discussions are continuing. The governor has proposed a compromise budget to try and balance the budget and address the projected 15 million dollar deficit in FY 08/09. The most significant component is the proposal to put a ballot measure on the ballot in November to temporarily increase the state sales tax by 1% for a three year period. In the fourth year it would be reduced by a 1.25%. There is urgency for adoption by Legislature since they are well over a month behind in adopting a budget. Also there is concern that Prop 42 (transportation funds) could be diverted to the general fund as part of the compromise in the budget.

13. CALTRANS DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Rich Krumholz, reported a concern that the Prop 42 funds would be diverted back to the general fund therefore resulting in a revision to the 2008 STIP.

FY 08/09 is a heavy year for bond allocations it is the heaviest year for monies to be allocated out of Prop 1B. Because of so much combined funding for projects, that have both bond and STIP funding, they don't want to have to revise the 2008 STIP.

The Santa Maria six lane project should meet the completion target date of October 9th and Caltrans hopes to have a ribbon cutting ceremony in late October.

Rich Krumholz, reported on some of the current construction projects.

The Buellton repaving project;
The Nojoqui grade medium barrier project;
The Goleta landscaping project; and
The Milpas to Hot Springs project

The 166/Suey Creek turn lane and the adjacent passing lane projects were funded by SLOCOG with help from Caltrans. The project is now complete.

The construction on the two left turn pockets on Route 166 at each school in Cuyama is approximately 50% complete. Caltrans will continue to do nighttime work, but will also continue to have daytime lane closures as well.

The Hwy 246 paving project will continue into mid September with nighttime construction.

Union Valley Parkway public meeting was well attended. The interchange project will be going to construction in 2011.

District 5 has crossed over the 300 million dollar mark for ongoing construction. This is the most in District 5's history.

Mayor Alvarez suggested rotating the CMS signs to west 166 occasionally.

Mayor DeWees would like Caltrans to work with the City of Lompoc staff to look at the area on Hwy 1 between the "Wye" area and Central Ave. to work on the appearance of this area.

Supervisor Gray asked if Caltrans would see how the Promenade Project will affect Hwy 135. She also asked about the landscaping along Hwy 135.

Mayor Bennett addressed the CTC's decision for seismic updates to bridges. He expressed concern about the effect it will have on a bridge project the City of Goleta has scheduled to begin construction on April 1, 2009. The project involves the relocation of two bridges and a new interchange at 101 and Cathedral Oaks Road.

14. COMMUNICATIONS None

15. ADJOURN

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Santa Maria.