

MEETING SUMMARY

SOUTH COAST SUBREGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

June 2, 2004

2:00 PM

**SBMTD Conference Room
550 Olive Street
Santa Barbara, CA**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Members Present: Susan Rose, Supervisor, Second District (Committee Chair); Richard Weinberg, Mayor, City of Carpinteria; Jack Hawxhurst, Councilman, City of Goleta; Dan Secord, Councilmember, City of Santa Barbara; Naomi Schwartz, Supervisor, First District; Russ Hicks, Councilman, City of Buellton

Ex-officio Members Present: Gregg Albright, Director, Caltrans District 5.

Members Absent: Gail Marshall, Supervisor, Third District. Larry Lavagnino, Mayor, City of Santa Maria.

Staff Members Present: Jim Kemp, Executive Director; Michael Powers, Deputy Director of Planning; Gregg Hart, Public Information Officer.

Consulting Team Present: Bob Bramen, PBQD; Lisa Levy Buch, Julie Gertler, Consensus Planning; John Jostes, Interactive Planning and Management.

2. Public Comment

Chair Rose asked for public comment.

Steve Maas from MTD stated that MTD was seeking local input on a revised South Coast Transit Priorities Project during June and would likely provide input to SBCAG staff in July. He said that MTD would bring the revised project to the Subregional group in July or August.

3. Meeting Summary

Chair Rose asked for board comments on the Meeting Summary of April 7, 2004, and there were none.

4. 101 in Motion

A. Receive presentation and provide comments on Baseline Performance of Existing System/ Purpose and Need Technical Memorandum.

Bob Bramen summarized the baseline report. Councilman Hawxhurst asked if the Technical group had reviewed the report and what the latest issue was. Michael Powers replied that the TAG had approved the interim report but was still reviewing the travel forecasts prepared by SBCAG.

Councilman Hawxhurst expressed his skepticism over the role of ITS technology given the lack of travel alternatives. Mr. Bramen replied that ITS may play a role as a broader information system.

Supervisor Schwartz asked when regulatory constraints, such as Coastal Commission restrictions would be addressed. Mr. Bramen replied that this would be addressed later.

Mr. Siegel expressed concern that there would be only one land use alternative. Mr. Bramen replied that the sensitivity of this issue to changes would be addressed.

Mr. Hawxhurst expressed concern with the new Dept. of Finance population forecasts and Mr. Powers indicated they were currently under review by SBCAG staff.

Councilman Hawxhurst expressed concerns with the role of trucks, transit, and rideshare in reducing the peak traffic problem. Supervisor Schwartz expressed the importance of using a common method of comparison among modes, such as VMT, trip time, etc.

B. Receive presentation and provide comments on Initial Screening of Alternatives.

Bob Bramen described the screening of alternatives. Concerns were expressed over the deletion of the restriping option. Mr. Albright said that Caltrans had a long history of experience with projects of this type and that the impacts on safety make it an unacceptable solution to eliminate shoulders.

In a discussion of the proposed deletion of the by-pass option, questions arose about the number and percentage of through trips and the potential need to update this information, (Schwartz) the need for more information on why options have been deleted, and (Schwartz) to define cost prohibitive. Councilman Hawxhurst asked when a quantitative assessment would occur and Mr. Bramen replied that it would be part of the next step. Councilman Hawxhurst expressed some general concerns about the problem statement and Chair Rose encouraged him to meet with the consulting team to discuss it.

C. Receive report on community feedback and review next steps in public outreach.

Lisa Levy Bush provided an overview of the public outreach program. Supervisor Schwartz asked about web access. Ms. Bush answered that a significant number of persons accessed the site, but she needed to better assess Spanish language access. Councilman Hicks asked what accounted for the difference in 509 vs. 133 responses in the chart and Lisa replied that there was a larger response to the values rather than proposed solutions. Councilman Secord asked what the economic value was for the outreach effort. Lisa replied that it was too early to tell since there was a lot of set up time and money. Gregg Albright added that the choice

selection was very unique compared to other surveys he was familiar with given people were very interested in alternative choices.

Lisa described the next steps. Chair Rose expressed concerns about the budget. Lisa stated they had added items, such as the workshops, that were not included in the budget, at the request of board members. Councilman Hawxhurst asked when the outreach to employees was going to occur and Lisa replied that the team planned to use the SAC to gain entry to employers. Supervisor Schwartz and others encouraged greater involvement of Homeowners Associations.

5. JOBS/HOUSING INTERREGIONAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Mr. John Jostes, Interactive Planning and Management, provided an overview of the Preliminary Findings and Recommendations of the Jobs-Housing Partnership and outlined their outreach program to various groups including ECP, INC, VCOG and others. Jim Kemp added that he was contacted by SCAG to engage in a regional discussion of issues among elected officials. Supervisor Schwartz asked if barriers were a problem area and Mr. Jostes talked about lack of defect liability insurance for new condominiums inhibiting new construction as an example. She also encouraged contact with the South Coast Housing Issues Group in furthering housing legislation proposals and asked about next steps. Mr. Jostes indicated that the report would provide a framework for action over the next six months.

6. Adjourn

There being no other business the meeting adjourned.