

APPROVED MINUTES

SHASTA COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCY (MPO)

Tuesday, February 22, 2005, 4:00 p.m.
Redding Civic Center, City Council Chambers,
777 Cypress Avenue, Redding, California.

(Note: These minutes are not intended to serve as a transcript or verbatim record of the proceedings of the Shasta County Regional Transportation Planning Agency, but rather as a record of meeting time, place and attendance; the order and general nature of discussion; Agency deliberations; and action taken, if any.)

Agency Members Connick, Clarke, Hawes, Mathena, Dickerson and Cibula were present. Agency Member Goekler was absent.

1. Call to Order:

Vice-Chair Hawes called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

2. Public Comment Period:

There was no one who wished to speak during the Public Comment Period.

Consent Calendar

3-1 Minutes of December 14, 2004, RTPA Meeting

3-2 Future RTPA Meeting Schedule Through February 2006 - Information Only

3-3 Amendment #2 of Policy 6-5 for Community Transit Service Claims

3-4 Consider Accepting Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA) Triennial Performance Audit

3-5 Master Fund Transfer Agreement Between Caltrans and Shasta County Regional Transportation Planning Agency

By motion made, seconded and carried, the items on the Consent Calendar were approved with Board Member Cibula abstaining, as he was not seated at the December 14, 2004 meeting.

Regular Calendar

4. Elect Chair and Vice-Chair for 2005-06

Executive Officer Dan Kovacich explained that Pat Kight's term as Chair was over. Therefore, a new Chair and Vice-Chair needed to be selected. By motion made and seconded (Clarke/Mathena) Glenn Hawes was unanimously elected as Chair. By motion made and seconded (Mathena/Dickerson) Norma Comnick was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.

5. Consider 2005/06 Transit Needs Assessment and Conduct 2005/06 Unmet Transit Needs Hearing

Executive Officer Dan Kovacich explained the 2005/06 Transportation Development Act (TDA) cycle has begun which will lead to funding for RABA and programming of other resources for other purposes. Dan continued to explain that the first part of the process was a general assessment of transit needs within Shasta County jurisdictions. Sue Crowe prepared a presentation on this. Afterward, a public hearing will be held to take testimony from the public concerning unmet transit needs. Staff and SSTAC will then evaluate the comments received. SSTAC will make a recommendation to the Agency in April. Staff will also make a recommendation according to the reasonable to meet standards.

Staff member Sue Crowe did a power point presentation explaining the Transportation Development Act (TDA). Sue stated that the 2000 Census has data giving population by density census tract. This shows that Shasta County has 27 tracts; 23 of these are served by public transportation either by Shasta Senior Nutrition Program (SSNP) or Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA). Only four rural areas do not receive public transportation.

Board member Mark Cibula questioned the lack of service to Happy Valley. Executive Officer Dan Kovacich explained the density, large area and lack of ridership concerning Happy Valley.

Sue finished the presentation, noting that only the Burney Express met its farebox requirement. Sue stated that public comments will be received through March 1, 2005 and copies of the Transit Needs Assessment are available.

Chairman Hawes opened the floor for public testimony. The following person spoke:

Larry Scarborough, Far Northern Regional Center, 1906 Bechelli Lane, Redding, CA 96001, 223-3304, 222-4791 ext. 3461. Chairman - Shasta County SSTAC, and Butte County SSTAC.

Larry explained that a survey was done by the SSTAC, not just of the transit riders, but non-riders from all over the county as well. Over 60,000 surveys went out with over 6,000 returned responses. Because of technical difficulties, only 1400 surveys were tabulated. Eighty-five percent who responded have never rode RABA. Ninety percent strongly agree, or agree, public transit is necessary to our community. Because 85% of the responses were from people who never ride, the largest percentage on many of the questions was "no opinion." Three significant areas of concern are later bus service, Sunday service, and also 47% responded that they are able to use the bus if needed. Larry continued to state that Shasta County's population is aging and is going to need adequate public transportation in years to come. Larry ended by advising the Board that SSTAC will provide their recommendation for the unmet needs. He noted that there will be no surprises - expand the routes, service hours expanded, Sunday service and more frequent routes.

Chairman Hawes stated that the public has until March 1, 2005 to turn in comments.

6. Provide Comments of Draft Agenda and Mailing List for April Workshop on Financing Transportation Needs in Shasta County

Executive Officer Dan Kovacich explained how this was a follow up from the December Board meeting, where the Agency directed staff to conduct a workshop in April, to come up with some additional financing earmarked for transportation. In the Board's packets were copies of the prospective list of invitees and a working agenda for the workshop. Dan asked if there were additional invitees the Board wanted or anything else they would like presented. Dan continued to state that tentative arrangements had been made with Eric Haley, Executive Officer of the Riverside Transportation Commission and Sarah West with Self-Help Counties Coalition, to come to the workshop and share their wisdom and guidance in this process.

Board member John Mathena asked if this was just for assessing transportation needs or maintenance also. Dan answered that it would include transit service, senior transit service, and maintenance, as well as capital improvements. Dan noted that if this goes to the public as a measure on the ballot, a list of projects would be developed.

Board member John Mathena noted that with the possibility of a Countywide and/or Citywide sales tax measure, a

workshop has been scheduled on March 7, 2005, through the League of California Cities, with survey professionals.

7. **Amendment #2 to the 2004 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP)**

Staff member Dan Little explained there will be a lot of FTIP amendments because the Federal agencies are cracking down and giving less flexibility as well as tracking closely. Dan explained that the current amendment is for three programs: Hazard Elimination Safety Program, Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program, and a change in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Chair Hawes opened the public hearing. There being no one who wished to speak either for or against the item, Chair Hawes closed the public hearing.

By motion made and seconded (Clarke/Comnick) the staff recommendation passed unanimously.

8. **Amendment #1 to the 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)**

Staff member Dan Little explained how the RTIP is a five-year program. He continued to state that an amendment is needed to the RTIP for two projects: The Cypress Avenue Bridge, requested from the City of Redding, to convert what was requested in Federal funds to State only funds. The Redding Downtown Improvements project - move the project from FY 05/06 to 06/07. Due to lack of funding needed for the acquisition of the right-of-way, the project will not be deliverable in 05/06.

Staff member Dan Little gave the status of the California Transportation Commission (CTC) and reviewed the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for Shasta County. Dan noted that at the last CTC meeting they allowed limited allocations for certain types of high priority projects. The Shasta County projects that would be affected are the Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program (HBRR) and the Transportation Enhancement Program. Most of the projects in these programs for 04/05 will be allocated at the next CTC meeting. The exception is the Ox Yoke traffic signals; however, Anderson and Caltrans will be able to move forward with that project this summer.

Chair Hawes opened the public hearing. There being no one who wished to speak either for or against the item, Chair Hawes closed the public hearing.

By motion made and seconded (Clarke/Comnick) the staff recommendation passed unanimously.

There being no other business to discuss, Chairman Hawes adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel J. Kovacich, Executive Officer

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