

Napa Valley Transportation Authority Meeting Minutes - Final Technical Advisory Committee

625 Burnell Street
Napa, CA 94559

Thursday, September 3, 2020

2:00 PM MEETING LOCATION: REFER TO COVID-19 SPECIAL NOTICE

1. Call To Order

Chair Arias called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

Present: 10 - Juan Arias
Rick Kaufman
Erica Ahmann Smithies
Lorien Clark
Daniel Gordon
Steve Lederer
Doug Weir
Bobby Lu
Derek Rayner
Julie Lucido

Absent: 5 - Brent Cooper
Aaron Hecock
Joe Tagliaboschi
Hamid Heidary
Ahmad Rahimi

2. Introductions

3. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

4. Committee Member and Staff Comments

No committee member or staff comments were provided.

5. STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

5.1 County Transportation Agency (CTA) Report (Danielle Schmitz)

Report by Danielle Schmitz.

Ms. Schmitz noted that the Bay Area County Transportation Agency (BACTA) Executive Directors did not meet in August, however, she provided updates on the following:

- Caltrans released its Draft California Transportation Plan 2050 that includes a list of objectives for comment. Ms. Schmitz will forward it to the TAC members. Comments are due October 22, 2020.
- The Bay Area Planning Directors will be holding a round table on Safe Routes to Schools and Travel Demand Management strategies and approaches in a post COVID 19 environment.

- The potential impacts Executive Order N-19-19 may have on fund sources, specifically funds used to match sales tax revenues such as SB 1 funds.
- The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) formed a committee to determine how Priority Development Areas (PDAs) and Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) have influenced land use development. The committee's findings may influence One Bay Area Grant Cycle 3 (OBAG 3) appropriations. NVTA staff will keep the TAC informed of this work.

5.2 Project Monitoring Funding Programs (Alberto Esqueda)

Alberto Esqueda reviewed the Caltrans Inactive Project Monitoring spreadsheet.

5.3 Caltrans' Report (Ahmad Rahimi)

No report - Ahmad Rahimi was unable to attend the meeting.

5.4 Vine Trail Update (Joe Tagliaboschi)

Update provided by Sanjay Mishra.

The NVTA Board approved the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Mitigated Negative Declaration and adopted the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program on August 19, 2020.

The 90% design plans were submitted to Caltrans, County of Napa, City of Calistoga and City of St. Helena for review and comment; most comments have been received and responses will be provided shortly.

5.5 Transit Update (Alan Budde)

Report will be provided under Item 7.3.

5.6 Measure T Update (Alberto Esqueda)

Report by Alberto Esqueda.

The September 2, 2020 Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee (ITOC) meeting was canceled. The County of Napa will provide their presentation at the next ITOC meeting.

Mr. Esqueda reminded the jurisdictions of the importance to post signs at all Measure T funded projects.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

6.1 Meeting Minutes of July 9, 2020 TAC Meeting (Kathy Alexander) (Pages 8-11)

MOTION by RAYNER, SECOND by KAUFMAN to APPROVE the July 9, 2020 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes as presented.

Motion passed with the following vote:

Ayes: Chair Arias, Vice Chair Kaufman, Member Ahmann Smithies, Member Clark, Member Gordon, Member Lederer, Member Weir, Member Rayner.

Nays: None.

Aye: 9 - Chairperson Arias
Vice Chair Kaufman
Member Ahmann Smithies
Member Clark
Member Gordon
Alternate Member Lederer
Member Weir
Member Rayner
Member Lucido

Absent: 4 - Member Cooper
Member Hecock
Member Tagliaboschi
Alternate Member Heidary
Rahimi

7. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

7.1 Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Plan Bay Area 2050 Update(Raleigh McCoy, MTC Staff) *(Pages 12-17)*

Raleigh McCoy with MTC provided a presentation on the Draft Plan Bay Area Blueprint that included an overview of the economic, housing, environmental, and equity strategies, and a focused look at the transportation strategies projects and policies.

Ms. McCoy also provided a high-level overview of what will be proposed for the final draft Blueprint which will be studied later this year.

Chair Arias requested more details on the strategy for reducing speed limits, noting the current practice of using the 85 percentile speed to implement.

Ms. McCoy responded that implementation plan calls for collaboration among Caltrans, local jurisdictions and relevant partners to determine speed limits.

Chair Arias noted that the plan addresses seismic events and sea level rise and asked if addressing wildfires would be included in the plan as they are becoming more prevalent.

Ms. McCoy thought wildfires may be considered in the regional growth framework by discouraging new developments in high wildfire risk zones, and added that more work needs to be done on wildfire resilience and response.

Danielle Schmitz requested more information on how the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) is integrated into the Blueprint.

Bobby Lu, MTC, provided an update on the Housing Methodology Committee's (HMC's) process for incorporating the Blueprint's targets with the RHNA targets noting the HMC will finish up their methodology in September and present it to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) in October. Following ABAG approval, it will be released for comment.

Ms. Schmitz requested an update on the request to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to increase the assumptions on telecommuting and/or active transportation baselines for the Blueprint.

Ms. McCoy reported that MTC staff are currently working with CARB to adjust the telecommute assumptions.

7.2 Lifeline Transportation Program Cycle 6 Update (Diana Meehan) (Pages 18-21)

Report by Diana Meehan.

Ms. Meehan provided a brief overview on the Lifeline Transportation Program Cycle 6, reported on the letters of interest received, and reviewed the projects recommended for funding. There is \$156,657 available in funds.

Staff is recommending programming \$94,000 to the City of St. Helena for its Pope Street Crossing project, and \$62,657 to the City of Calistoga for its Riverside Path Project.

There were no questions or comments from the TAC.

MOTION by WEIR, SECOND by LUCIDO to recommend the NVTB Board approve the Lifeline Cycle 6 Program of Projects. Motion passed unanimously with the following vote:

Ayes: Chair Arias, Vice Chair Kaufman, Member Ahmann Smithies, Member Clark, Member Gordon, Member Lederer, Member Weir, Member Rayner.

Nays: None.

Aye: 9 - Chairperson Arias
Vice Chair Kaufman
Member Ahmann Smithies
Member Clark
Member Gordon
Alternate Member Lederer
Member Weir
Member Rayner
Member Lucido

Absent: 4 - Member Cooper
Member Hecock
Member Tagliaboschi
Alternate Member Heidary
Rahimi

7.3 Vine Transit Update (Alan Budde) (Pages 22-27)

Alan Budde provided a report on the Vine Transit services operations for the third and fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2019-20 as well as the latest changes to the service in response to COVID-19, including the resumption of Vine fare collection on September 13, 2020.

7.4 Legislative Update (Kate Miller)

Kate Miller provided a review of the Legislative Update.

7.5 September 16, 2020 NVTB Board Meeting and NVTB-TA Board Meeting Draft Agendas* (Kate Miller)

Kate Miller reviewed the September 16, 2020 NVTA Board Meeting Draft Agenda.

Chair Arias asked about the next steps for developing the Imola Corridor Plan after the NVTA Board approves the plan.

Ms. Miller responded that funding needs to be identified noting that staff is applying for active transportation through Caltrans' State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) for some Quick Build projects. Additionally, an environmental document should be completed soon as it would be helpful when applying for funding.

Ms. Miller suggested the Imola Corridor working group meet quarterly to check in on projects and available funds.

Diana Meehan noted she will work on a project initiation document (PID) for the Caltrans SHOPP active transportation funds and will be asking the stakeholder for letters of support. Potential funding sources may include Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Cycle 11, Active Transportation Cycle 6, and STC funds.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items were requested.

9. ADJOURNMENT

9.1 Approval of Next Regular Meeting Date of October 1, 2020 and Adjournment.

Chair Arias adjourned the meeting at 3:02 p.m.