

**CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS COMMITTEE ON CONGESTION
MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (CMEQ)**

**MINUTES
MEETING OF JANUARY 26, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by Chair O'Connell in Conference Room C at the City Hall of San Mateo.

Members in attendance: Jim Bigelow, Linda Koelling, Arthur Lloyd, Karyl Matsumoto, Barbara Pierce, Vice Chair Sepi Richardson, Lennie Roberts, Onnolee Trapp, Zoe Kersteen-Tucker, Daniel Quigg, Steve Dworetzky, and Gina Papan.

Members not in attendance: William Dickenson, Sue Lempert, and Naomi Patridge.

Staff/Guests Attending: Deborah Gordon (C/CAG Chair), Richard Napier, John Hoang, and Jean Higaki (C/CAG Staff), Pat Giorni (Burlingame resident), Pat Dixon (TA CAC), Kim Springer and Alexis Petru (San Mateo County Recycle Works), Joe Hurley (SMCTA), Jim Bourgart (Deputy Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing Agency), Andrew Fremier (MTC/BATA).

1. Public comment on items not on the agenda.

Chair O'Connell introduced new member Gina Papan and welcome her to the committee.

Pat Giorni made suggestion to the CMEQ committee to change thinking on congestion management by giving more consideration to carbon footprint. Instead of making highway type of improvements, focus more on bicycle and pedestrian facility improvements.

Chair O'Connell added to this comment by stating that driving in congested condition creates more CO2 emission.

2. Minutes of November 17, 2008 meeting.

Motion: To approve the Minutes of the October 27, 2008 meeting. Bigelow/Lloyd, Members Roberts, Tucker, and Koelling abstained. Motion approved.

3. Nomination and election of Chair and Vice Chair.

Motion: To nominate and elect Sepi Richardson as the Chair. Koelling/Dworetzky, approved, unanimously.

Motion: To nominate and elect Barbara Pierce as the Vice Chair. Matsumoto/Lloyd, approved, unanimously.

4. Review and recommend approval of the guidelines and process for Economic Stimulus funding for streets & roads projects.

Sandy Wong presented the recommendations from the Congestion Management Program Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on the process and guidelines to be used for distributing funding for local street and road projects. CMEQ members had the following comments and questions:

- Submit projects to caltrans early for review.
- Equity in the county: Due to the Federal requirement of short time (90 days +/-) to award contracts, there is a possibility that some smaller jurisdictions are not positioned to deliver

projects and meet the Federal requirements. CMEQ members discussed the possibility of those jurisdictions getting more money from other C/CAG funding programs. No conclusive decision was made at this meeting.

- Concerns were raised with regard to potential high bid prices if many paving projects are sent out at the same time. Suggestion was made to space out the timing of contracts.
- Ensure jurisdictions to obtain Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) approval, a requirement to use Federal funds.
- Requested Mr. Napier to look at historic funding distributions amongst all jurisdictions.
- C/CAG Chair Gordon encouraged jurisdictions to work together. She also suggested giving jobs to local companies to the extent allowable.
- Member Bigelow who attended the TAC meeting and observed that the approach of jurisdictions working together permeated the meeting at the technical level.

Motion: Recommend approval of the guidelines and process for Economic Stimulus funding for street and road projects. Bigelow/Pierce, Approved, unanimously

5. Presentation on the Regional High Occupancy/Toll (HOT) lane (Information).

Mr. Jim Bourgart, Deputy Secretary of Business, Transportation, and Housing, and Mr. Andrew Fremier, Deputy Executive Director, Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA), made a presentation on the Regional High Occupancy/Toll (HOT) lane program. This program aims to maximize efficiency on the freeway system. The idea is to encourage people to carpool, but also allow the selling of excess capacity to single drivers. Typically, single drivers would not pay to use this lane on a daily basis. Instead, they pay to use the lane when they are in need to get to places on time such as an appointment or child care. The variable pricing structure of toll is based upon the economic theory of supply and demand. Allowing single drivers to pay and use the carpool/toll lane would maximize the utility of the lane. Money collected from toll will come back to the corridor for other improvements such as transit improvements.

6. Update on the US 101 carpool (HOV) lane study (Information)

Rich Napier and Joe Kott provided an update on a technical feasible study of carpool lane along US 101 between Whipple and the San Francisco County Line. The feasibility study is paid for by MTC. It will also include case studies comparing the operations to other similar corridors consisting of three mix-flow lanes and one HOV lane. If proven technically feasible, then public outreach would be the next step. The study will focus on carpool lane (HOV), but will also include a scenario for High Occupancy/Toll (HOT) lane.

7. Discussion and recommendation on committee support for energy efficiency and green house gas emissions

Rich Napier and Kim Springer provided background information on the Utility and Sustainability Task Force (USTF), created as a subcommittee of CMEQ to develop the San Mateo County energy strategy. Now that the originally assigned task is completed, should the USTF continue to operate and if so, should it continue as a subcommittee of CMEQ or should it report to C/CAG Board directly. The USTF was originally formed in 2005 in response to then Supervisor Hill who proposed countywide approach to energy. Kim Springer, staff member of San Mateo County Public Works (Recycle Works Section), provides staff support to the USTF. The Task Force includes membership from utility agencies and non-profit. C/CAG Chair Gordon and CMEQ member Pierce are on the Task Force. Due to the work of this Task Force, grants from the Bay Area Air Quality management District as well

as PG&E Local Government Partnership were received. Other groups not part of CMEQ, such as BASCA, PG&E, are engaged in the work of the Task Force. C/CAG Chair Gordon mentioned that all current members on the USTF are interested to stay on. Due to time constraint, CMEQ members agreed to continue this discussion at the next meeting. Members directed staff to provide list of USTF members.

8. Update on the San Mateo County Smart Corridors project

This item was deferred to the next meeting due to time constraint.

9. Executive Director Report.

None.

10. Member comments and announcements

None.

9. Adjournment and establishment of next meeting date.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.