CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES March 12, 2015

At 5:35 P.M. Chair Gordon called the Legislative Committee meeting to order in the 2nd Floor Auditorium at the San Mateo Transit District Office.

Committee Members Attending:

Art Kiesel (City of Foster City) Deborah Gordon (Town of Woodside) Mary Ann Nihart (City of Pacifica) Karen Ervin (City of Pacifica) Richard Garbarino (City of South San Francisco)

Guests or Staff Attending:

Andrew Antwih - Shaw/ Yoder/ Antwih Inc. Sandy Wong, Jean Higaki, Matt Fabry, Wally Abrazaldo, Ellen Barton - C/CAG Staff Jim Bigelow - C/CAG CMEQ Member

1. Public comment on related items not on the agenda.

None

2. Approval of Minutes from February 12, 2015.

Member Garbarino moved and Member Kiesel seconded approval of the February 12, 2015 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Update from Advocation & Shaw/ Yoder/ Antwih (SYA).

C/CAG staff Jean Higaki, introduced the "Lobby Day" topics for discussion. We will visit with all San Mateo delegates as well as two transportation committee chairs (Frazier and Beall). We also try to meet with the Secretary of Transportation or his staff.

Deborah suggested that the topics should be limited to no more than 3 or 4 topics. Mary Ann suggested focusing on the transportation funding shortfall for local streets and roads, highway, and infrastructure maintenance. Deborah suggested that we may need to move items around based on who we will be meeting with. Deborah also wanted to give a little introduction of who C/CAG is and how we work together. Example would be to speak about the US 101 issues with Assembly Member Mullin, as he has a spot bill about this corridor.

Andrew Antwih, from SYA proceeded to provide a legislative update.

Speaker Toni Atkins has draft language to look at finding revenues for state highway deferred maintenance. There are no details yet but hopefully this action will start a conversation and generate other ideas regarding transportation revenue. Road user charge pilot programs are being proposed as well as a vehicle fee to capture revenues from electric vehicles that are currently not generating gas tax revenues.

The Board of Equalization (BOE) is adjusting the rate of the state excise tax to equal what the gas tax revenue would have generated. Because fuel prices are low the adjustment is going to result in about a billion dollars in lost revenue. This probably motivated the discussion at the legislature regarding revenue for transportation.

Senator Beall (SB 321) seeks to address annual fluctuation of the gas tax by instructing BOE to adjust the excise tax using a 3-year average to stabilize the revenue stream.

The Administration has introduced a proposal, as part of the budget, that introduces an authorization process to implement "managed lanes" and conversions of HOV lanes to HOT lanes. This is a continuation of a bill from last year. Other introduced bills might also address this, including Senator Beall's (SB 194), that proposes a simpler process in applying for managed lanes.

Sandy Wong suggested that the topic of local control regarding the bills above might be a topic of discussion with our legislative delegates. There might be an opportunity to modify a 2011 Rich Gordon bill that might grant C/CAG toll authority.

The Governor made another transportation proposal as part of the budget process that makes the process easier to relinquish state owned facilities to local jurisdictions. Governor also cited transportation funding in his state of the state address which adds to awareness of the transportation funding issues.

Final applications for the Cap and Trade Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities (AHSC) program are due April 15 for. Mary Ann requested a funding breakdown of the Cap and Trade allocations. (sent on March 16, 2015)

4. Review and recommend approval of the C/CAG legislative policies, priorities, positions, and legislative update (A position may be taken on any legislation, including legislation not previously identified).

AB 227 from Luis Alejo was discussed. AB 227 requires repayment of outstanding transportation loans by December 31, 2018 and prevents future borrowing of weight fee revenues from the State Highway Account. This bill would also extend a project sponsor's ability to utilize public-private partnerships as a procurement method, which currently ends on or after January 1, 2017. It was asked if there was any downside in supporting the extension of public private partnership extension or requesting the repayment of transportation loans. From the C/CAG perspective there appeared not to be downside in supporting this bill.

Member Garbarino moved and Ervin seconded recommended support for AB 227. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:25 P.M.