

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

**MINUTES
MEETING OF OCTOBER 27, 2008**

At 3:01 p.m., the meeting was called to order by Chair O'Connell in Conference Room C at the City Hall of San Mateo.

Members Attending: Jim Bigelow, Judith Christensen, Sue Lempert, Arthur Lloyd, Karyl Matsumoto, Naomi Patridge, Barbara Pierce, Vice Chair Sepi Richardson, Lennie Roberts, Onnolee Trapp, Zoe Kersteen-Tucker, Daniel Quigg, and Steve Dworetzky.

Staff/Guests Attending: Sandy Wong, John Hoang, Jean Higaki, (C/CAG Staff), Pat Giorni (Burlingame resident), Richard Cook and Enrique Silvas (SamTrans), Pat Dixon (TA CAC), and Marian Lee (SamTrans/SMCTA).

1. Public comment on items not on the agenda.

Pat Giorni, a Burlingame resident, thanked the committee for their support regarding bicycle carrying capacity on CalTrain in its Bicycle Master Plan.

2. Minutes of July 28, 2008 meeting.

Motion: To approve the Minutes of the July 28, 2008 meeting. Pierce/Kersteen-Tucker. Approved unanimously.

3. Update on Measure A Strategic Plan (Information item).

Marian Lee-Skowronek of SamTrans presented the 2009-2033 Measure A Program Strategic Plan. She provided an overview on the key components of the Strategic Plan as well as the public outreach process used to develop the Strategic Plan. The 25-year Measure A program is expected to bring in \$3.7 billion dollars for the various transportation improvement categories, including Transit, Highways, Local Streets, Pedestrian/Bike, Grade Separation, and Alternative Congestion Relief. The Strategic Plan will be a living document and will be updated every 5 years. During the public outreach process, one of the overwhelming responses received from the public is "Customer Satisfaction". The TA Board is expected to adopt the Strategic Plan on December 4, 2008.

CMEQ members requested for a copy of the PowerPoint presentation. In addition, Member Lempert expressed concern about East Palo Alto's lack of staffing availability to pursue and compete for funding for projects that will benefit East Palo Alto.

4. Presentation on CO2 San Mateo County – including Energy Strategy and PG&E Local Government Partnership (information item).

Kim Springer of San Mateo County Public Works made a presentation on "CO2 San Mateo County – Climate Action Countywide". He also introduced his new staff, Alexis Petru. San Mateo County Public Works along with C/CAG in a partnership, have made much progress towards climate change. Together, they have received grant funds from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) as well as PG&E Local Government Partnership. These funds will provide energy efficiency improvements to municipal, commercial, residential sectors in San Mateo County. These

efforts will work towards the goals of energy demand reduction, water conservation, and collaboration between cities and utilities, as well as leadership from the top.

Member Kersteen-Tucker asked if SamTrans is eligible to participate in these programs.

With regard to the San Mateo County Energy Strategy report, member Pierce urged CMEQ members to bring it to the attention of their respective C/CAG Board members to urge city councils to adopt the San Mateo County Energy Strategy.

Member Trapp also suggested everyone to go see the new Portola Valley Town Center, a brand new facility that is environmentally sensitive.

5. Presentation of the Peninsula Gateway 2020 Corridor Study – Final Report and Action Plan (Information Item).

John Hoang presented the 2020 Peninsula Gateway Corridor study. Phase 1 of the study has been completed and the Final Report is available and has been distributed to all members participated in the study. The purpose of the study is to identify short, medium, and long-term roadway improvement options for addressing traffic congestion and local community impacts due to regional traffic between US 101 and the Dumbarton Bridge. An Action Plan has been developed for stakeholders consideration. It includes near-term implementation projects as well as long-term solutions that require additional engineering analysis. Presentations of the Study and Action Plan are being made to the involved city councils in recent months.

Member Lempert stated that she hopes this study will lead to major improvement project(s) in the future, besides the minor and short-term “quick fixes”. One of the problems associated with such a project is that the time span is sometimes longer than the terms of elected officials. For example, Duane Bay was a strong supporter of this project but his term on the city council ended in the middle of the study. Member Roberts, also a participant in the study, stated that the lack of technical participation in this study from the City of East Palo Alto was also a challenge.

7. Recommendation of projects to be funded by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) under the Lifeline Transportation Program for a total of \$1,925,121.

This item was moved ahead of Item 6 at the request of member Kersteen-Tucker.

Jean Higaki presented the staff recommendation on the approval of projects to be funded by the Lifeline Transportation Program. Funding for this program comes from State Transit Assistance (STA), Prop 1B Transit Capital, and Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) funds. Each of these funding categories has its own restrictions on project eligibility. A call for projects was issue by C/CAG, resulting in four project applications. A selection committee reviewed the applications and recommended partially fund three of the four projects.

Member Lempert, also a Commissioner of the MTC, mentioned that others at the MTC have the misperception that San Mateo County is wealthy, as compared to other counties in the Bay Area. The Lifeline program funding is specifically directed toward low income communities. And San Mateo County share is calculated based on its share of low income communities.

Member Kersteen-Tucker expressed her support for the selected projects, and stated that the Fix Route 17 SamTrans project on the coast-side was developed based on a consorted effort by the community.

Motion: Recommend approval of projects to be funded by the MTC under the Lifeline Transportation Program for a total amount of \$1,925,121. Kersteen-Tucker/Richardson, approved, unanimously.

6. Update on the San Mateo County Smart Corridor Project (information).

Sandy Wong provide a verbal update on the San Mateo County Smart Corridor project. This project received \$10 million in State grant from the Transportation Bond Traffic Light Synchronization Program (TLSP), another \$10 million in County discretionary State Transportation Improvement funds, as well as local match from Measure A and C/CAG programs. A demonstration piece of the project, located in the City of San Mateo, is separated out and will be delivered early in order to meet the timeline requirement of the TLSP grant. C/CAG, along with its project partners including SMCTA and Caltrans, is seeking qualified consultants to manage the project and to assist in the technical aspects of the project. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is being review/approved by all involved agencies.

CMEQ members from the northern part of San Mateo County were concern with geographic equity. The funded portion of the Smart Corridor is generally along the US 101 between I-380 and Redwood City. Members Matsumoto, Christensen, and Richardson stated that traffic congestion is also severe in north county, and requested Sandy to bring back a message to Richard Napier, CCAG Executive Director, to draw more attention on transportation issues and congestion problems in the north. Sandy mentioned that C/CAG has worked with Caltrans on turning on the metering lights along northbound I-280 between San Bruno and Daly City in October. In addition, the next auxiliary lanes along US 101 to be worked on will be the segments north of San Bruno Ave.

8. Executive Director Report.

Sandy Wong reported on behalf of Richard Napier and expressed appreciation for everyone's support in getting SB348 passed. It extended the \$4 vehicle license fee for San Mateo County for the Transportation Management & Storm Water Quality programs. 50% of the fee will go directly back to the cities and the county.

9. Member comments and announcements.

Member Patridge announced that she was very proud of the opening the Route 92 project.

10. Adjournment and establishment of next meeting date.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for November 17, 2008 due to Thanksgiving holiday. It will be held at the SamTrans Dinning room.

Member Bigelow suggested a presentation on the Dumbarton Rail project update at a future meeting.