

TRANSPLAN COMMITTEE
Antioch - Brentwood - Pittsburg - Oakley and Contra Costa County

MINUTES

November 14, 2019

The regular meeting of the TRANSPLAN Committee was called to order in the Tri Delta Transit Board Room, 801 Wilbur Avenue, Antioch, California by Vice Chair Robert (Bob) Taylor at 6:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL / CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Juan Banales (Pittsburg), Diane Burgis (Contra Costa County), Kerry Motts (Antioch), Kevin Romick (Oakley), Robert (Bob) Taylor (Vice Chair, Brentwood), and Monica Wilson, Alternate for Sean Wright (Chair, Antioch)

ABSENT: Emily Cross (Brentwood), Sara Foster (Pittsburg), and Duane Steele (Contra Costa Planning Commission)

STAFF: Jamar Stamps, Senior Planner, Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

CONSENT ITEMS

On motion by Kevin Romick, seconded by Diane Burgis, TRANSPLAN Committee members adopted the Consent Calendar, as follows:

- Adopted Minutes from June 27, 2019 TRANSPLAN Meeting
- Accepted Correspondence
- Accepted Status Report on Major Projects
- Accepted Calendar of Events
- Accepted Environmental Register
- Adopted 2020 TRANSPLAN Meeting Calendar
- Appointed Nhat Phan (Pittsburg) to the Contra Costa Transportation Authority Accessible Transportation Plan Oversight Committee, as recommended by the TRANSPLAN Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Appointed Steve Kersevan (Brentwood) to the Contra Costa Transportation Authority Vision Zero Working Group, as recommended by the TRANSPLAN Technical Advisory Committee

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Banales, Burgis, Motts, Romick, Wilson, Taylor
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Cross, Foster, Steele

STANDING ITEM: Concord Community Reuse Project (former Concord Naval Weapons Station) Update

Jamar Stamps, TRANSPLAN Staff, advised that there was no major update other than to report the City of Concord continued to work on the Specific Plan for the Community Reuse Project and an update was expected in early 2020.

RECEIVE UPDATE ON THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY NORTHERN WATERFRONT SHORT-LINE RAILROAD FEASIBILITY STUDY

Robert Sarmiento, Contra Costa County staff and Project Manager for the Contra Costa County Northern Waterfront Short-Line Railroad Feasibility Study, explained that the definition of a short-line railroad was a rail segment to move a freight train from a short-line to a factory, warehouse, or distribution center, a “first/last mile” connection for railroads, usually managed by a local short-line rail line operator or a company that managed several different short-line rail operations. The Study Area encompassed the Wilbur Avenue Corridor in Antioch east to Oakley to the former Dupont site, now known as North Point, and the short-line would connect to the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) line.

Mr. Sarmiento reported that County staff had reached out to jurisdictions within the Northern Waterfront Economic Development area to identify other possible locations to study for the short-line rail, and had considered active and inactive lines. He noted that the 2019 Northern Waterfront Action Plan had called for the conduct of a short-line railroad to accommodate the movement of goods in the region. The study had started in July 2019 and had been funded by a federal Economic Development Administration grant and the County’s General Fund.

Mr. Sarmiento advised that the project consultant had developed an existing conditions memo that covered environmental and engineering conditions, economic opportunities, and goods movement in the area, and was also developing a market analysis memo that would identify potentially land use opportunities, potential customers, and potential short-line railroad customers. Ultimately, all the information would be wrapped into a Short-Line Rail Feasibility Study that was expected to be submitted to the County Board of Supervisors in early 2020. The proposal was expected to bring businesses and jobs to the Northern Waterfront area and reduce truck traffic on State Route 4 and local roads, with an ultimate reduction in vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and greenhouse gas emissions while improving bicycle/pedestrian safety and road pavement life.

Mr. Sarmiento responded to questions and explained how inactive lines would be reactivated. The study would determine whether or not a new entity would operate existing lines, and while the study would not identify an exact alignment it would identify potential alignments along the study area. He clarified that the proposal was for freight movers not people movers, and agreed with the comment that short-lines could be characterized as similar to highway off-ramps.

APPOINT TRANSPLAN REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CONTRA COSTA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (CCTA) BOARD

Mr. Stamps presented the process for designating TRANSPLAN Board members as representatives to the CCTA, and clarified that only elected officials could be appointed and only elected officials could make that appointment in that non-elected members could not participate in the process. Each appointee to the Board had to have a designated alternate and that alternate could serve both even-year and odd-year appointments to the CCTA Board.

Kevin Romick nominated Bob Taylor as the even-year primary representative to the Contra Costa Transportation Authority Board for the February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2022 term. Diane Burgis seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed. **Bob Taylor** was appointed to the CCTA Board by the following vote:

Ayes: Banales, Burgis, Motts, Romick, Wilson, Taylor
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Cross, Foster, Steele

Kevin Romick nominated Sean Wright as the even-year alternate to the Contra Costa Transportation Authority Board for the February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2022 term. Diane Burgis seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed. **Sean Wright** was appointed as the alternate to the CCTA Board by the following vote:

Ayes: Banales, Burgis, Motts, Romick, Wilson, Taylor
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Cross, Foster, Steele

ELECT CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2020

Mr. Stamps advised that the TRANSPLAN Committee elected its officers on a rotational basis at the beginning of each calendar year. Elections of Chair and Vice Chair were done in two separate motions. Both Chair and Vice Chair must be elected officials.

Chair

Kevin Romick nominated Bob Taylor as the Chair of the TRANSPLAN Committee for 2020. Diane Burgis seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed. **Bob Taylor** was elected as the Chair of the TRANSPLAN Committee for 2020 by the following vote:

Ayes: Banales, Burgis, Motts, Romick, Wilson, Taylor

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Cross, Foster, Steele

Vice Chair

Chair Taylor nominated Kevin Romick as the Vice Chair of the TRANSPLAN Committee for 2020. Diane Burgis seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed. **Kevin Romick** was elected as the Vice Chair of the TRANSPLAN Committee for 2020 by the following vote:

Ayes: Banales, Burgis, Motts, Romick, Wilson, Taylor

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Cross, Foster, Steele

RECEIVE UPDATE ON TRANSPLAN STAFFING AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Stamps reported that TRANSPLAN staff would transition to Colin Piethe, Planner in the County Department of Conservation and Development, effective January 1, 2020. He also reported that the TRANSPLAN TAC had discussed the staffing duties for the TRANSPLAN Committee and described the options that could be considered to continue with County staff or to consider consulting or other staff. He recommended that County staff continue to remain in that role.

With respect to the TRANSPLAN Website, Mr. Stamps stated the TRANSPLAN TAC had initiated a discussion to update the website and TRANSPLAN staff had gotten a cost estimate to do that. A formal solicitation process had been recommended to get some quotes and draft scopes of work on website development, which would be returned to the TRANSPLAN Committee in 2020 prior to the formalization of the budget. That cost would have to be accommodated in the next budget and folded into dues payments, which could double the typical \$6,000 to \$7,000 range. The TAC was receptive to that process which would be pursued in 2020 and return to the TRANSPLAN Committee with a final proposal.

Chair Taylor verified that the website had been developed 20 years ago and there had been no improvements since that time. He noted there were other website platforms that were more efficient and user friendly. He requested a price that would also maintain the system and Mr. Stamps stated that the scope of work could include a perpetual cost.

Kevin Romick clarified with staff that the increased dues would be a one-time event to update the website. He added that there were a number of applications in the website arena and a constant update could be performed by staff to keep it fresh and up to date.

TRANSPLAN COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Taylor adjourned the meeting of the TRANSPLAN Committee at 6:49 P.M. to the next meeting on December 12, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. or other day/time as deemed appropriate by the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita L. Tucci-Smith
Minutes Clerk