

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

April 20, 2007

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **1**

Action Requested: APPROVE

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS MEETING OF APRIL 6, 2007

The meeting of the Transportation Committee was called to order by Chair Jim Madaffer (City of San Diego) at 9:05 a.m. See the attached attendance sheet for Transportation Committee member attendance.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Jerry Rindone (City of Chula Vista) and a second by Councilmember Bob Emery (Metropolitan Transportation System [MTS]), the Transportation Committee approved the minutes from the March 16, 2007, meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

Chair Madaffer referenced a letter submitted by Ms. Monica Reitano to the Committee regarding the Roadside Assistance Patrol. Chair Madaffer read the letter to the Committee, which praised one of our Roadside Assistance employees and the program for assisting when the woman's vehicle had broken down.

Clive Richard, a member of the public, stated that he had requested two reports from the GAO on Transportation Disadvantaged Populations and on Transportation Challenges facing Congress. Mr. Richard stated that he would provide copies to staff and that SANDAG needs to pay attention to this area because we live in an area prone "to shake." He stated that we should have plans to address these issues before an incident occurs and urged the Transportation Committee to put time into it.

Chairman Ed Gallo, North County Transit District (NCTD), made a pitch for the American Cancer Relay for Life and asked that those interested in sponsoring this event should contact him.

Pedro Orso-Delgado, Caltrans District 11, commented that the Interstate 5/805 (I-5/805) improvements were now open and were working well except for some complaints on State Route 56 (SR 56). The concerns are regarding the ramp meter at the SR 56/I-5 connect. Caltrans has been working on this meter adjusting it down from three hours to one hour and is monitoring the effects. Chair Madaffer asked why we don't just turn it off. Mr. Orso-Delgado stated that was the goal but Caltrans is being cautious.

Jim Schmidt, a member of the public, stated that he had just come from the East County Chamber of Commerce meeting at which both Gary Gallegos and Pedro Orso-Delgado spoke and thanked them for a fantastic job. He stated that SR 67 is a big item. That traffic is horrible with 11 lane changes in a small area. Supervisor Jacob is also in favor of the improvements.

Chair Madaffer stated that he was submitting a copy of an e-mail for the record.

CONSENT ITEMS

3. BIENNIAL TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT REVIEW REPORT (INFORMATION)

This item summarizes the results of SANDAG's efforts to coordinate transit and land use through the Project Development Review process during the months of July through December 2006. SANDAG staff works closely with local jurisdictions to ensure the integration of transit facilities into development projects and to improve the pedestrian environment wherever possible. During the period, these efforts resulted in the inclusion of \$873,450 worth of privately funded transit and pedestrian facilities.

Chair Madaffer pointed out the blue sheet with changes to the actual numbers. Chairman Gallo stated that on this item there are five locations listed under Escondido, four of which are not in Escondido and one that he is unfamiliar with and did not know where it is located. Chris Kluth, SANDAG Associate Planner, stated that his staff put together the project list. He will find out exact locations and confirm their locations. Chair Madaffer questioned whether the items should be reviewed prior to the Committee's approval. Deputy Mayor Rindone suggested that the Committee ratify the item and if there is a problem, staff can bring it back. Deputy Mayor Dave Druker (City of Del Mar) seconded Mayor Rindone's motion and added that he noticed there are limited improvements outside of North County and this trend has been consistent over the past four to five years. Chair Madaffer stated that staff should provide this report to cities so they are aware of what is occurring. SANDAG Executive Director Gary Gallegos stated that he meets with the City Managers monthly and will put this item on their next agenda.

Action: Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Rindone and a second by Deputy Mayor Druker, the Transportation Committee approved Consent Item No. 3 and requested that staff verify the accuracy of the locations of the projects and report back to the Committee if any changes are identified.

4. TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT CLAIM AMENDMENT (APPROVE)

At the November 17, 2006, meeting, the Board approved the Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Transportation Development Act (TDA) allocation for the Coordinated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA). The initial claim for \$87,098 excluded certain operating costs from its budget. As a result, CTSA requests an additional \$8,000. There are sufficient funds remaining from the original allocation to meet this request. The Transportation Committee is asked to approve Resolution No. 2007-22 increasing the TDA claim for the CTSA.

Action: Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Rindone and a second by Councilmember Bob Emery, the Transportation Committee approved Consent Item No. 4, including Resolution No. 2007-22.

REPORTS

5. BUDGET TRANSFER FOR LRT STATION SHELTER REPLACEMENT PROJECT (APPROVE)

John Haggerty, SANDAG Design Engineer, presented this item. Because the cumulative requests for increased funding exceeds the Executive Director's budgetary authority, this item requires Transportation Committee approval. These requested funds will close out construction management, flagging, administration, and management costs. The funds would come from the Capital Needs Assessment Project budget. Mr. Haggerty presented PowerPoint slides detailing the reason for the request. He showed a recent photo of the Light Rail Transit (LRT) Station Shelter Replacement Project and asked for a recommendation for approval of the budget increase. Mr. Haggerty also stated that the changes would provide increased lighting and safety.

Action: Upon a motion by Chairman Gallo and a second by Councilmember Emery, the Transportation Committee approved a transfer of \$90,000 from the MTS Capital Needs Assessment Project to the LRT Shelter Replacement Project thus increasing the project budget to \$896,716.

6. SPRINTER PROJECT STATUS REPORT AND SANDAG INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT (INFORMATION)

Chair Madaffer stated that he had requested this item be moved to the middle of the agenda as there were several issues with the item that needed to be brought to the Committee's attention.

Jim Linthicum, SANDAG Division Director for Engineering and Construction, presented the item. The contractor added three new crews, and the delivery of communications equipment had advanced. He stated that the Revenue Operations Date was January 2008 but felt that December 2007 was achievable. The Chart showing percent of time versus percent of completion shows we're tracking within limits. Mr. Linthicum then presented the remaining work schedule. He stated that the project costs increased with work in progress; the designer's costs were under budget; and the construction management costs increased due to change orders. The trend in estimated completion time showed an increase in the fall but was currently flattening out. The inland rail trial parallels the Sprinter and is included in the work with the Sprinter. Additional funding is needed for its share of environmental mitigation, construction cost increases, design, and construction management. It is estimated that an additional \$3.5 million is needed. NCTD is working with SANDAG staff to find funding sources. Mr. Linthicum expressed several project concerns. The contractor added three new crews, and the project schedule needed "fixes." Mr. Linthicum stated that we need to create a core management team responsible for monitoring all costs, revisit estimating assumptions made last fall, separate IRT costs from the mainline contract, and determine final construction quantities of major elements of work.

Councilmember Phil Monroe (City of Coronado) stated that he is concerned that for 6.5 miles, we are spending \$26.5 million, which has increased to about \$30 million. He

has been working on the Bayshore Bikeway Project that needs \$10 million to complete work, perhaps even \$12 million to \$13 million. Why did the Transportation Committee decide to spend \$30 million on this project? Deputy Mayor Druker stated that it made sense to build both projects at the same time. If the rail trail was not built with the mainline, it would not get built. If it's not built now, people will come back later and ask why. He also stated that the 6.5 miles did not represent the entire project, the construction was not linked. Mr. Linthicum stated that the project also had future uses. Sandy Shapery, Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group, stated that SANDAG does a great job but might consider hiring a contractor to do oversight management for projects like this. Mr. Gallegos stated that the FTA required oversight management and that Mr. Linthicum was providing that with his 30 years of experience. Mr. Gallegos also stated that regarding Councilmember Monroe's point, the Board has adopted a plan to look at the Bayshore Bikeway Project with the goal of getting *TransNet* funding for all these bike and pedestrian projects. The work we are currently doing will help to promote these projects. Councilmember Monroe stated that he was scrambling to get funding for his project even with \$15,000 from the County of San Diego. The problem is the magnitude of the difference with South Bay having to scramble to get funds while North County doesn't. Mayor Lori Holt-Pfeiler (City of Escondido) stated that the \$26 million will be a good investment and applies to the entire project not just the 6.5 miles. Chair Madaffer stated that the Committee will look at what it can do for the Bayshore Bikeway Project funding to get the project moving. Chair Madaffer asked where the \$3.5 million additional funding was coming from. Chairman Gallo stated that NCTD is looking into funding. The project is in the budget, but NCTD is not sure what funding source would be used. Chair Madaffer asked about the timing of the project. Mr. Linthicum stated that he is currently working with NCTD on this issue and on aggressively finding the funding. A discussion ensued regarding funding sources and cost segregation. Mayor Madrid expressed concern regarding the increases in the costs of the project. Discussion ensued regarding the fact that it makes sense to do both projects together and fund them together; cost increases are for the entire project and there is no way to separate the them. Chair Madaffer expressed his appreciation for the discussion and comments on this item and requested Mr. Linthicum to keep the Committee updated.

Action: This item was presented for information only.

7. REPORT ON REGIONAL TRANSIT PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEM (INFORMATION)

Phil Trom, SANDAG Transit Planner, presented this item. This is the first of future quarterly reports to come. The quarterly reports are required by the Transportation Development Act (TDA) to evaluate specific indicators. Mr. Trom presented a PowerPoint presentation that covered the performance indicators, the report format, and the first quarterly report. The evaluation covers a three-year period. Mr. Trom discussed the percent changes in fixed-route services, demand responsive/Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) services, operating costs per passenger, operating costs per revenue hour, number of passengers per revenue hour, number of passengers per revenue mile, revenue hours per employee, and farebox recovery ratio. Mr. Trom discussed the reasoning for using a logarithmic scale for the data. Mr. Trom commented that NCTD went through fare and route changes that will be reflected in later data. He stated that NCTD also began services with a new vendor and the service improvement was not reflected in this data. Mr. Trom stated that the Farebox Recovery Ratio exceeded required thresholds. Mr. Trom stated that this report included the graphs to show the

Committee where the data stands now and these graphs would not be in future reports and gave those dates in his presentation. Mr. Trom discussed the next steps for this program and concluded his presentation. Councilmember Emery pointed out that the MTS trolley data was up and positive. Mr. Emery stated that the MTS bus data was down by 2 percent, which doesn't yet reflect the Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) numbers. Future reports will reflect COA numbers. Councilmember Emery requested that MTS ADA and Direct Access to Regional Transit (DART) be looked at specifically on the next agenda. Councilmember Monroe asked that all future reports include the graphs and asked why there were different requirements for MTS and NCTD on revenue hours. Mr. Trom stated that the report was based on the TDA numbers, which were frozen at the time the TDA was created and they were held to those numbers. Deputy Mayor Druker stated that the route structure in North County is vastly different than that in South County, rural vs. urban, and that the two can not be compared. Mayor Madrid asked whether adding employees to monitor fares would impact the return of labor costs and what would happen if we tried to sell tickets in a different way – one that ensured all riders had tickets. Discussion ensued among the Committee members regarding the method of security checking tickets. It was determined that the current method is satisfactory and should not be changed. Deputy Mayor Druker stated that productivity versus coverage seems to be the biggest problem for North County. The problem is that North County was mandated to provide coverage to distant areas. Deputy Mayor Rindone stated that evaluation on a route-by-route basis, as was done in the COA, is feasible and could be done. Gary Gallegos stated that when the Smart Card is implemented, it will provide much of the necessary data for passenger ridership.

Mr. Clive Richard, a member of the public, complimented the report and said that he rides the trolley often and is checked often. He stated that he sees checks being done frequently – that randomness is good – and that it is done with some degree of planning, not by just singling out certain types of people.

Harry Mathis commented that “random” needs to be clarified. When security goes on a platform to check, they check everyone, there is no judgment involved on the security person's behalf. He also commented that quarterly was too often to make conclusions toward trends and suggested the Committee receive the report every six months.

Action: This item was presented for information only.

8. CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE HIGH-SPEED PASSENGER RAIL SYSTEM QUARTERLY UPDATE (INFORMATION)

Linda Culp, SANDAG, presented this item. The State of California wants a state-wide, high speed rail system. Forecasts show strong demand for a San Diego to Los Angeles Corridor. Ms. Culp introduced Jose Martinez, Project Leader for the San Diego to Los Angeles Corridor, and Brian Hausknecht, Environmental Lead for the San Diego to Los Angeles Corridor. SANDAG will work with the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) to create a study on proposed alignments. Ms. Culp introduced a video on the high-speed rail system. Chairman Gallo commented that this program would not be subsidized. Mr. Martinez stated that the initial costs are not subsidized. A Bond is planned for 2008. He said that they are looking at other private and federal funding opportunities as well. Chairman Gallo asked if we were looking at hefty fares. Mr. Martinez replied that the fares have not been determined at this time but should be

approximately 50 percent of the price of airfare. Mr. Shapery asked how the grade separation would work. Mr. Martinez explained that grade separations would occur when needed to ensure that there are no crossings with traffic.

Mr. Hausknecht stated that the project is in the initial environmental planning stages and that they are developing the Environmental Mitigation Plan beginning with the Los Angeles to Riverside Corridor, which is the initial corridor to be built. The budget for the project is \$94 million for that phase. On a question from Mayor Holt Pfeiler regarding funding, Mr. Hausknecht stated that not all funding has been procured to date. Mayor Holt Pfeiler stated that we need backing from the legislature to get full funding. She said that we need to start working on attaining the rights-of-way in the corridor. Gary Gallegos stated that we are working toward that now. Ron Roberts, Chairman, County of San Diego, asked if the southern-most downtown station was in San Diego and stated that we need to bring high-speed rail into Chula Vista and National City. Gary Gallegos stated that we are working at linking the rail to the Border. Chair Madaffer stated that the Transportation Committee should schedule a workshop to discuss future options in linking the rail past the Santa Fe depot south to the border. Discussion ensued regarding scheduling the workshop with Committee members attending. Councilmember Jerry Kern (City of Oceanside) commented that Oceanside was not connected and asked how the route was selected. Ms. Culp stated that the transit districts said that the I-15 Corridor was targeted as it was the most used. Chair Madaffer ended discussion by stating that the Committee would schedule a workshop in the not-too-distant future.

Action: This item was presented for information only.

9. LINEAR INDUCTION RAIL TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT (DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION)

This item was pulled from the agenda.

10. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACTS OF LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION PLANS (INFORMATION)

Dr. Tracy Delaney, Chief, Chronic Disease and Health Disparities, County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, presented a PowerPoint presentation on this item. She discussed that obesity in children is an epidemic and that two-thirds of adults are overweight or obese. Healthcare costs have risen 25 percent in five years. The reason behind this trend is poor nutrition and lack of activity. Those two things were the target for this study. The study showed that 60 percent of adults and 78 percent of children do not meet activity guidelines nor do they meet public health guidelines (30 minutes a day of physical activity). The study showed that rather than relying on the individual to change, we need to create an environment that pushes people to be more active through changes in streets, traffic calming, lighting, and creating transit-oriented developments that decrease use of cars and promotes walkable communities. Dr. Delaney stated that as Chair of the Community and City Government Domain she is tasked with working with public agencies to make policy changes. After looking at how other agencies have implemented best practices, the most effective result happens when health agencies and transportation departments and agencies work together on land use, public transportation, environment, and clean energy. Her agency is interested in suggestions from SANDAG. Chairman Roberts stated that he is very involved with these

efforts and has worked with school districts to promote healthy choices and create new programs in schools that promote walking to school and other physical activities. Deputy Mayor Rindone stated that physical education in schools used to be a mandatory four years and is now only two years. SANDAG should work toward bringing back the mandatory four years. Chairman Gallo stated that this would take legislative action. Mayor Madrid asked the Supervisor to send the report to all the cities in their jurisdictions and show them that we are working towards addressing childhood obesity and diabetes. The Committee brought out concerns with children's safety, traffic, and funding for the program. Chair Madaffer stated that we need to look at other programs that promote activity. Gary Gallegos stated that we could be more competitive for federal funds in some areas of air quality and health impact studies for some programs, and we could work with this agency toward that goal. Mayor Madrid stated that we should create a subcommittee to include experts on this subject to work with this agency. Chairman Roberts stated that there are already Wellness Committees in place working with school districts and City Councils on the subject of obesity. Chair Madaffer asked that this presentation be given to all the cities in the region. Mayor Madrid stated this would be a great presentation to give at the League of California Cities quarterly dinner, and he will recommend it to the League.

Action: This item was presented for information only.

11. UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Transportation Committee is scheduled for April 20, 2007, at 9 a.m. Chair Madaffer announced that at the Otay Mesa Highway 905 Strike Team meeting, both he and Supervisor Greg Cox made strong statements regarding the right-of-way issues and asked Pedro Orso-Delgado to be prepared to give a status report at the next meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Madaffer adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m.

Attachment: Attendance Sheet

CONFIRMED ATTENDANCE
SANDAG TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
April 6, 2007

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA/ ORGANIZATION	JURISDICTION	NAME	MEMBER/ ALTERNATE	ATTENDING
North County Coastal	City of Del Mar	David Druker	Member	Yes
	City of Oceanside	Jerry Kern	Alternate	Yes
North County Inland	City of Escondido	Lori Holt Pfeiler	Member	Yes
	City of Vista	Bob Campbell	Alternate	Yes
East County	City of Santee	Jack Dale (Vice Chair)	Member	No
	City of La Mesa	Art Madrid	Alternate	Yes
South County	City of Chula Vista	Jerry Rindone	Member	Yes
	City of Coronado	Phil Monroe	Alternate	Yes
City of San Diego	----	Jim Madaffer (Chair)	Member	Yes
	----	Scott Peters	Alternate	No
	----	Ben Hueso	Alternate	No
County of San Diego	----	Ron Roberts	Member	Yes
	----	Bill Horn	Alternate	No
	----	Greg Cox	Alternate	No
Metropolitan Transit System	City of Poway	Bob Emery	Member	Yes
	MTS	Harry Mathis	Alternate	Yes
North County Transit District		Ed Gallo	Member	Yes
		Jerome Stocks	Alternate	No
		David Druker	Alternate	No
San Diego County Regional Airport Authority		Bruce Boland	Member	Yes
		Vacant	Alternate	No
ADVISORY/LIAISON Caltrans	----	Pedro Orso-Delgado	Member	Yes
	—	Bill Figge	Alternate	No
Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group	—	Sandor Shapery	Member	Yes
		Gary Nordstrom	Alternate	No
		Kathy Keehan	Alternate	No
SCTCA	—	Kevin Siva	Member	Yes
		Albert Phoenix	Alternate	Yes
SANDAG 2 nd VICE CHAIR		Jerome Stocks	Ex Officio	No