

**COUNCIL OF SAN BENITO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**December 4, 2008                      2:00 PM**

**FINAL MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Lisa Rheinheimer, Council of Governments; Mary Paxton, City of Hollister Planning Department; Steve Wittry, City of Hollister Public Works; Janelle Cox, County Public Works Department; Art Henriques, County Planning Department; Mark McCumsey, Caltrans District 5

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Mary Dinkuhn, Transportation Planning Manager; Veronica Lezama, Transportation Planner; Monica Gomez, Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Arman Nazemi, County Public Works Department; Claudia Espino, Caltrans District 5; Cristine Kahn, Caltrans District 5

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Executive Director, Lisa Rheinheimer, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**CERTIFICATE OF POSTING:**

*Upon a motion duly made by Art Henriques, and seconded by Janelle Cox, it was unanimously approved to acknowledge the Certificate of Posting.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Art Henriques provided an update on the Santana Ranch and El Rancho San Benito Projects. The draft Environmental Impact Report for the Santana Ranch project is expected to be out early in 2009. The Notice of Preparation for El Rancho San Benito project is expected to be out in approximately one week.

Steve Wittry announced that there may be possible traffic delays on Wright Road, due to construction crews working on pipeline repairs.

Mark McCumsey announced that the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Transportation Planning Grant application package and a list of workshops for the area are available at the California Department of Transportation's website. Applications are due April 1, 2009. There is more information on the Caltrans website.

Lisa Rheinheimer mentioned that staff is looking for potential projects that would qualify for the federal economic stimulus package. Staff will bring this item back for discussion at the January TAC meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**1. Approve TAC Meeting Minutes dated November 13, 2008**

*Upon a motion duly made by Steve Wittry, and seconded by Art Henriques, the Committee unanimously approved Item 1 from the Consent Agenda.*

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**2. Receive Update on Caltrans State Highway Operations Protection Program for Fiscal Year 2008/2009 – Espino, Caltrans District 5**

Claudia Espino and Christine Kahn provided a presentation on Caltrans ten-year State Highway Operations Protection Program. Handouts were provided at the meeting. Ms. Kahn mentioned that San Benito County should be receiving a “Status of Projects Central Region District 5, September, 2008” document, which is also available via Caltrans District 5 website.

There was discussion amongst the Committee about projects in San Benito County that may qualify for the SHOPP.

Ms. Espino explained that there are very specific criteria to qualify for SHOPP; however she mentioned that the Committee may forward a list of projects and she will review whether or not they meet the criteria.

Ms. Rheinheimer stated that COG staff will work with the Committee in preparing a list of project nominations which will be forwarded to the Council of Governments Board of Directors for inclusion of the State Highway Operation and Protection Program.

**3. Receive Update on the Highway 25 Bypass Project – Dinkuhn**

Transportation Planning Manager Mary Dinkuhn reported that project construction is 94% complete with the exception of work to be done to remediate the insufficient lime treatment in the roadway shoulders. The anticipated completion date, weather permitting, is at the end of February.

Ms. Dinkuhn mentioned that staff met with representatives from the City and County prior to the TAC meeting to discuss project funding issues. There was discussion about possibly delaying some projects and holding funds in contingency to address the funding issue.

Mr. Wittry suggested following up with Chief Miller to determine if the City police or CHP will be monitoring the Bypass.

**4. Receive Update on the Regional Blueprint Plan: Envisioning Monterey Bay – Dinkuhn**

Transportation Planning Manager, Mary Dinkuhn stated that AMBAG is refining a schedule for the ‘visualization’ portion of the Blueprint planning process. Blueprint visualization compares growth based on current trends, as approved in the General Plans, with future scenarios of land use and development. Each scenario will explain a different distribution of housing and employment. Some examples of distribution scenarios are continuing current trends, keeping housing close to jobs, or focusing growth in existing core areas.

The schedule for the visualization process includes public outreach meetings to determine community preferences for different scenarios. The meetings are tentatively planned to be held in late winter and early spring 2009.

There was discussion regarding the Blueprint Regional Plan. Committee members noted the importance of making sure San Benito County's voice is heard.

*Upon a motion duly made by Steve Wittry and seconded by Janelle Cox, the Committee voted to adjourn the TAC meeting.*

**ADJOURN TO SPECIAL MEETING OF JANUARY 8, 2008 AT 2:00 p.m.**