

**SAN BENITO COUNTY
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
REGULAR MEETING**

October 18, 2012, 2:00 P.M.

FINAL MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Emerson, Vice-Chair Botelho, Director Boch, and Director Gomez

STAFF PRESENT:

Deputy County Counsel, Shirley Murphy; Executive Director, Lisa Rheinheimer; Transportation Planning Manager, Mary Gilbert; Administrative Services Specialist, Kathy Postigo; Secretary, Monica Gomez

OTHERS PRESENT:

Scott Eades and Mark McCumsey, Caltrans District 5

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Emerson called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

Upon a motion duly made by Director Gomez, and seconded by Director Botelho, the Directors unanimously approved the Certificate of Posting.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

D. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Rheinheimer

Ms. Rheinheimer wished everyone a Happy Halloween.

E. CALTRANS DISTRICT 5 REPORT – Eades

Scott Eades, who is the Acting Deputy District Director for Planning and Local Assistance, reported that the ADA Curb Ramp Project has been awarded and they are awaiting contract approval.

Chair Emerson inquired about the duration of construction.

Mr. Eades stated that construction is set to start in the next couple months after contract approval. He stated that construction may last about six months, however, he noted that he would provide more information at the next meeting regarding the duration of construction.

Mr. Eades mentioned that Caltrans was recognized as a national leader of Complete Streets in promoting safer, healthier transportation. Caltrans' Complete Streets policy ranked third among more than 350 policies nationwide.

F. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS:

Director Botelho inquired if Caltrans would follow-up with County Public Works with regards to posting truck signage on Highway 156. Director Botelho explained that the County would like to post a sign for truck traffic on Highway 156, rather than post it on Lucy Brown. The sign directs truck traffic to continue on Highway 156 and then come back around on Highway 129 taking the T Route into the processing plants, instead of making the turn on Lucy Brown. Posting the sign on Lucy Brown defeats the purpose, since once the trucks turn onto Lucy Brown it's too late to turn back around.

Mr. Eades stated that Caltrans staff would follow-up with the Public Works department to address the matter.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **APPROVE** Council of Governments Draft Regular Meeting Minutes Dated September 21, 2012 – Gomez
2. **APPROVE** Council of Governments Transaction Report (Financial Claims) Dated September 2012 – Postigo
3. **RECEIVE** Construction Projects Report – Caltrans District 5
4. **ADOPT** Resolution 12-12 Allocating Transportation Development Act Funds for Fiscal Year 2011/2012 – Postigo
5. **RECEIVE** Council of Governments FY 2011/12 Fourth Quarter Budget Report – Postigo
6. **ADOPT** Budget Adjustment 12-13-02 Increasing Revenues and Contracts by \$25,000 – Postigo
7. **Amendment to Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Overall Work Program** – Gilbert
 - a. **APPROVE** Amendment No. 1 to the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Overall Work Program to Include Federal Transit Administration Section 5304 Funding for a Short Range Transit Plan for the Local Transportation Authority, and
 - b. **AUTHORIZE** the Executive Director to Sign an Amended Overall Work Program Agreement with the California Department of Transportation

There was no public comment on the Consent Agenda.

Upon a motion duly made by Director Gomez, and seconded by Director Botelho, the Directors unanimously approved Items 1-7 from the Consent Agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS:

8. **APPROVE** Letter to the California Transportation Commission and Caltrans Regarding Moving Forward with the Highway 25 Bypass Route Transfer – Rheinheimer

Ms. Rheinheimer stated that both the City of Hollister Council and the San Benito County Board of Supervisors recommended that COG move forward with Option 3 of the transfer of the Bypass to Caltrans. Option 3 transfers the existing route to local control upon execution of a Transfer Agreement, which would occur sometime after a Caltrans sponsored project is complete. Caltrans would also construct an improvement to the Highway 25 Bypass necessary for the route to be accepted into the State Highway System.

Ms. Rheinheimer asked that the Board approve a letter to the California Transportation Commission and Caltrans regarding moving forward with the Highway 25 Bypass Route Transfer.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Gordon Machado

Mr. Machado stated that the Hollister City Council voted in favor of moving forward with the Highway 25 Bypass Route Transfer with a 5-0 vote. The County Board of Supervisors also voted 4-1 in favor of moving forward with the transfer. Mr. Machado encouraged the COG Board to do the same and vote in favor of moving forward.

Upon a motion duly made by Director Gomez, and seconded by Director Botelho, the Directors unanimously approved Item 8 with a 4-0 vote.

9. RECEIVE Report on the California Transportation Commission Town Hall Meeting Held in Santa Cruz on October 10, 2012 (Verbal Report) – Rheinheimer

Ms. Rheinheimer reported that the California Transportation Commission town hall meeting held in Santa Cruz on October 10th was very successful. The Central Coast Coalition is made up of the counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz. The partnership was formed to raise awareness of the U.S. 101 Corridor as a major economic asset to the State and Nation. Ultimately, the partnership would like to find money for transportation improvements along the Corridor.

Ms. Rheinheimer stated that the Coalition highlighted the unique features of the region. They showcased successes in terms of projects and explained transportation needs. The Coalition asked for support with several items, which included:

- adding 101 to Statewide Freight Mobility Plan
- support lowering threshold for special measures
- support continued funding through Federal legislation

Ms. Rheinheimer stated that they received good feedback from the Commission. They challenged the Coalition to find ways of also saving money. The Commission also appreciated the fact that Highway 101 is being looked at in terms of freight mobility commercial flows and highlighting the fact that 101 carries a lot of commercial traffic and supports the state and nation.

There was no public comment on this item.

Upon a motion duly made by Director Gomez, and seconded by Director Botelho, the Directors unanimously adjourned the COG meeting.

ADJOURN TO COG MEETING NOVEMBER 15, 2012.