



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: James R. Helmer

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH CTC
COMMISSIONER GUARDINO

DATE: 05-04-07

Approved

Date

5/5/07

COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide

RECOMMENDATION

1. Receive presentation from California Transportation Commissioner Carl Guardino.
2. Accept staff report on San Jose regional transportation priorities and funding needs.
3. Discuss goals and opportunities for the California Transportation Commission to support San Jose's regional transportation priorities.

OUTCOME

The desired outcome of this Council item is to communicate and advocate for the City's transportation priorities with California Transportation Commission.

BACKGROUND

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) is a nine-member board appointed by the Governor and having authority for the programming and allocation of funds for the construction of highway, passenger rail and transit improvements throughout California. Carl Guardino is the President and CEO for the Silicon Valley Leadership Group and was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger to serve as a CTC Commissioner starting in April 2007. Mr. Guardino is seeking input from major transportation stakeholders in California to assist him in his CTC role. Attached is a letter he sent to the City of San Jose in this regard.

Through the Mayor's Office, Carl Guardino has been scheduled to address and seek input from the City Council on May 22, 2007. The following staff report is intended to assist the City Council in discussing City's regional transportation priorities that are related to the responsibilities of the CTC.

ANALYSIS

For the most part, the allocation of regional transportation funding is delegated to a local level and is managed in the Bay Area by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) or within Santa Clara County by the Santa Valley Transportation Authority (VTA). Both the MTC and VTA have adopted 30-year regional transportation plans in which the City of San Jose has actively participated in the development of. The VTA plan is referred to a Valley Transportation Plan 2030 (VTP 2030). Since 2003, the City Council has maintained a list of regional transportation priorities and the list was recently updated in September 2006. Attached is a current status report on the City's priorities.

In November 2006, the voters of California approved Proposition 1B, providing \$19.9 billion in State bond funds for transportation. The CTC is playing a significant role in the allocation of these funds. The CTC also manages the State's Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) which has been a significant source of funding for the BART extension to San Jose and Silicon Valley.

In general, the key areas which the CTC can assist in improving the transportation system in San Jose are outlined below:

- Continue Funding Support for BART – The State TCRP program has committed \$649 million to the BART. Allocations in the amount of \$579 million have been approved; remaining funds expected total \$70 million.
- Support Funding for Congestion Relief and Safety Improvements – Key projects include: Route 280/880 Interchange Upgrade; Route 101 – 280 to Yerba Buena Improvements; and Monterey/Blossom Hill/UPRR Pedestrian Overcrossing.
- Support State Highway Improvements that Facilitate Economic Development and “Smart Growth” – Key areas include Downtown San Jose, North San Jose, Edenvale and Coyote Valley. Development plans for these areas has identified 19 improvement projects on the State freeway system, many of which have developer funding contributions.
- Advocate for State Transportation Policy Actions - Key initiatives include: increase overall transportation funding; improve maintenance and operations of existing State Highways; support for California High Speed Rail project; and funding equity for Silicon Valley.

Department of Transportation staff will be available at the Council meeting to assist in facilitating discussion of the City's transportation priorities with CTC Commissioner Guardino.

POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable.

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

- Criteria 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater. **(Required: Website Posting)**
- Criteria 2:** Adoption of a new or revised policy that may have implications for public health, safety, quality of life, or financial/economic vitality of the City. **(Required: E-mail and Website Posting)**
- Criteria 3:** Consideration of proposed changes to service delivery, programs, staffing that may have impacts to community services and have been identified by staff, Council or a Community group that requires special outreach. **(Required: E-mail, Website Posting, Community Meetings, Notice in appropriate newspapers)**

Public outreach for the subject report includes website posting as part of the Council Agenda process.

COORDINATION

Preparation for this Council item has been coordinated with the Mayor's Office.

FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT

The recommended actions are consistent with the City's legislative policy priorities related seeking regional transportation funding.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

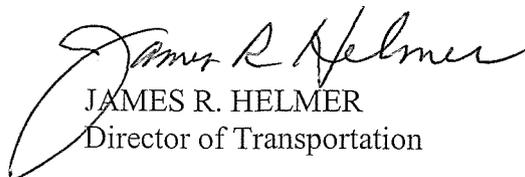
Not applicable.

BUDGET REFERENCE

Not applicable.

CEQA

Not a project.


JAMES R. HELMER
Director of Transportation

For questions please contact Hans Larsen, Deputy Director, at 535-3835.

Attachments

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Founded in 1977 by
DAVID PACKARD

February 23, 2007

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor
City of San Jose
200 East Santa Clara Street 18th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Chuck:

As you may know, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger recently appointed me to serve our state on the nine-member California Transportation Commission.

Annually, the Commission has the responsibility of allocating literally billions of dollars in transportation funds to our highest priority road and transit projects throughout California.

I am honored to take on this responsibility, but in order to best represent our region and our state, it is my hope to come meet with you and your colleagues soon.

My goal is to embark on a "Listening Tour - Traffic Talks" throughout the Bay Area and beyond over the next 90 days. I know I have much to learn from you and welcome the opportunity to do so.

If you and your colleagues are interested and can carve out the time, my goals for a meeting in public session would be as follows:

* Share (very briefly) my four key transportation goals as a Commissioner

* Seek from you and your colleagues the following information:

- > Top traffic relief priorities
- > Top Transit priorities
- > Top Safety priorities
- > Self-Help: What steps are you taking, and do you plan to take, to leverage limited state dollars
- > State input: What steps, if any, should the state take to fill the \$140 billion gap between our 10-year anticipated need and today's resources?

* Share key aspects of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group's "Clean & Green Alternative Energy Action Plan" such as Cool Commutes and the CEO/Celebrity Cycle-to-Work Challenge with leave-behind information and sign-up cards

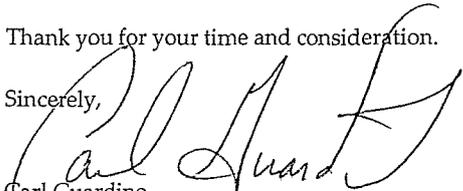
* Discuss opportunities to partner locally and as a region.

Before or after we meet in public session, if you also wanted to meet individually or as a smaller group, I would be happy to do so.

Please let me know if you are interested in having me join you within the next 90 days so that I can learn from you and your colleagues. To move forward, simply send me an e-mail to cguardino@svlg.net, or call me or my scheduling assistant Pat Harris at 408-501-7864.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Carl Guardino

President & CEO, Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Commissioner, California Transportation Commission

cc: San Jose Councilmembers

Valley Transportation Plan 2030 – Priority City Projects

(Initially established based on City Council action from December 2003; Updated by City Council on September 26, 2006;
Projects are not listed in priority order)

	Project	Comments/Status
1	BART Extension to San José	In VTA Expenditure Plan for 2016 completion
2	Airport Automated People Mover	In VTA Expenditure Plan for 2018 completion
3	Capitol LRT Extension to Eastridge	In VTA Expenditure Plan for 2012 completion
4	Santa Clara/Alum Rock Transit Corridor	In VTA Expenditure Plan for 2021 completion; BRT option under consideration for State Bond funding and MTC's Urban Core Transit Improvements program
5	Monterey Highway Bus Rapid Transit	In VTA Expenditure Plan for 2015 completion
6	Stevens Creek/San Carlos Bus Rapid Transit	In VTA Expenditure Plan for 2015 completion; Under consideration for State Bond funding and MTC's Urban Core Transit Improvements program
7	Guadalupe South LRT Corridor Station Retrofit	In VTA's Transit Capital Budget to support construction starting in 2009
8	Transit Mall Station Retrofit	Under construction
9	Diridon Station Expansion Planning	City funding share of \$0.1M is budgeted. VTA is pursuing possible MTC grants
10	Route 101 Improvements (280 to Yerba Buena)	Partially funded by Federal grant; Environmental clearance complete; Phase 1 project including 101/Tully is funded by State Transportation Bond program. Part of Evergreen EIR.
11	Route 880/Stevens Creek Interchange Upgrade	Funded by Federal grant;
12	Freeway Aesthetic Enhancements	VTA implementing pilot litter project
13	Freeway Soundwalls	VTA is identifying candidate projects for future STIP programming
14	Montague Expwy Widening	Part of North San José plan
15	Almaden Expwy Improvements (near 85)	Funded by Federal grant
16	Lawrence Expwy Improvements	Unfunded

Valley Transportation Plan 2030 – Priority City Projects
(continued)

	Project	Comments/Status
17	San Tomas Expwy Improvements	Part of North San José plan
18	Charcot Ave Overcrossing (at 880)	Part of North San José plan; preliminary design in progress
19	Autumn Street Extension (St John to Coleman)	Part of Downtown plan; preliminary design in progress; Candidate project for VTA Local Streets grant
20	Coleman Ave Widening (880 to Autumn)	Part of Downtown plan; preliminary design in progress
21	Downtown Couplet Conversions	Includes seven couplet conversion segments (3th/4 th and 10 th /11 th South projects are complete). Partially funded by SNI program and North San José plan. Part of Downtown Plan. Candidate project for VTA Local Streets grant
22	Blossom Hill/Monterey Ped Improvements	Partially funded by Federal, City and VTA sources. Candidate project for State Transportation Bond program
23	Almaden Expwy Ped Overcrossing (near Coleman)	Environmental clearance complete
24	Branham Lane Ped Overcrossing (at 101)	Candidate project in VTP 2030 bicycle program
25	San José Traffic/Incident Management Center	Funded by Federal grant
26	San José Traffic Signal System Upgrades	LRT signal system upgrade funded by grants
27	Guadalupe River Trail (Airport to Alviso)	Airport to 101 section under construction; North of 101 funded by Federal grant
28	Los Gatos Creek Trail (Downtown Connection)	Under construction from Lincoln to Auzerais
29	Coyote Creek Trail (Keyes to Montague)	Partially funded by Federal grant
30	Local Street Pavement Maintenance	Partially funded by various sources
31	Downtown San José Freeway Access Management System	Part of Downtown plan. Candidate project for State Transportation Bond program
32	Route 101/Trimble Interchange Upgrade	Part of North San José plan; preliminary design in progress by VTA
33	Route 101/Zanker/Skyport/Fourth Interchange	Part of North San José plan; preliminary design in progress by VTA
34	Route 101/Oakland Rd Interchange Upgrade	Part of North San José and Downtown plans; preliminary design in progress by VTA
35	Route 101/Mabury Interchange	Part of North San José plan; preliminary design in progress by VTA
36	Route 101/Blossom Hill Interchange Upgrade	Part of Edenvale plan