



Regular Meeting
Of the
San José
Transportation & Environment Committee
Held
December 3, 2007 at 1:30 P.M.

Roll Call

Present: Chair Forrest Williams; Councilmember Judy Chirco

Absent: Vice Chair Sam Liccardo; Vice Mayor Dave Cortese

Guests: Carolyn Gonot; John Ristow; Mark Robinson; Jim Lawson

Chair Forrest Williams opened the meeting by asking for a motion to change the order of the agenda. Upon the motion of Councilmember Judy Chirco, and seconded by Chair Forrest Williams, the Committee voted to hear item #3 before item #2.

1. Terminal Area Improvement Program Progress Report (AIRPORT/PW)

Airport Director, Bill Sherry and Public Works Director, Katy Allen presented the Airport Capital Improvement Program Quarterly Report. The third quarter report provided an executive level overview and status of the Airport's Terminal Area Improvement Program (TAIP) for the period of July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007. The TAIP is comprised of three major elements, Design-Build Program, North Concourse Program and Terminal Equity Improvements. Work on Temporary Terminal C is well underway and the preliminary work that will enable follow-on projects on Roadways and in Terminal A and C has commenced. The North Concourse Program building structure and exterior envelope are nearly complete. The Equity Improvement Program is just getting under way. The scheduled start of construction is the first quarter of 2008. Design of the Consolidated Rental Car (ConRAC) Garage floor plates have been finalized. Airport staff will continue to meet with the rental car companies to keep both their facilities and properties representatives updated and involved in the design of the project. Upon the motion of Councilmember Judy Chirco, and seconded by Chair Forrest Williams, the Committee voted to accept the report with two Committee members present.

2. BART/VTA Coordination Issues (VTP 2035, Bus Service Realignment) Progress Report (DOT)

Department of Transportation staff and representatives from the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) presented the status of various VTA projects and programs of interest to the City of San Jose. The Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) project is currently at 65% design phase. The Coyote Creek Alignment North Offset was approved by City Council on December 11, 2007. The Bank of America Building Portal remains the preferred location and was approved by the City Council on October 16, 2007. Current activities related to the Bank of America Building Portal include a seismic retrofit plan and historic renovation plan. John Weis,

Deputy Executive Director of the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) updated the Committee on current activities that the RDA has been conducting relating to the Bank of America Portal location. Also highlighted in the status report was the 30-year transportation master plan for Santa Clara County. The updated plan is referred to as Valley Transportation Plan 2035 (VTP 2035). City staff is working with the VTA to have the previous VTP 2030 Plan updated to reflect regionally significant transportation improvements identified as part of current City planning efforts related to Downtown, North San Jose, Evergreen, Edenvale and Coyote Valley, as well as projects from the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative program. A draft VTP 2035 plan is proposed for community and policy review in Spring 2008. Upon the motion of Councilmember Judy Chirco, and seconded by Chair Forrest Williams, the Committee voted to accept the report with two Committee members present.

3. Report on Residential Traffic Calming Community Meetings (DOT/PD)

Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio and Jim Helmer, Director of Transportation (DOT), presented the status report on the residential traffic calming community meetings. The existing traffic calming policy was adopted by the City Council in 2001. For the past six years, the guidelines contained within the policy have been used primarily by DOT to respond to neighborhood traffic concerns. Some of the tools provided for in the existing policy, such as NASCOP (photo radar speed enforcement) are no longer available. There are technologies available today such as solar-powered speed display signs that were not readily available when the policy was initially established. Several neighborhoods have expressed a desire for exceptions to the traffic calming policy. In September 2007, the City Council approved a recommendation by the Rules and Open Government Committee and Mayor Reed to initiate a series of Residential Traffic Calming Community Meetings chaired by Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio to begin immediately and end in December 2007. The purpose of the traffic calming meetings was to gather input from San Jose residents on the existing policy, to solicit feedback on potential changes to the policy and recommended priorities for the City to consider in continuing to address neighborhood traffic concerns. Community meetings were scheduled in each Council District. These meetings have provided the Traffic Calming policy team with substantial input and recommendations from the community that need to be thoroughly considered and analyzed. The common theme expressed by residents in each council district that attended the meeting is that traffic impacts in neighborhoods and near schools remains a significant concern. The majority of meeting attendees have expressed a desire for more traffic calming devices, more enforcement of traffic and parking regulations (particularly speeding) and an expanded use of technology warning systems in addressing traffic issues. Based on input received at the community meetings and the completed surveys residents felt that the following areas of the existing policy should be evaluated for potential modification or consideration:

- Whether the existing 10% threshold that defines if a neighborhood is experiencing an “adverse” traffic condition should be changed.
- Whether the policy should consider the cumulative impacts (speed, volume, crashes, proximity to schools, pedestrian activity, etc.) of traffic when determining if an “adverse” traffic condition exists.
- Whether a neighborhood should be allowed to self-fund traffic calming devices.
- Whether an appeals process should be established for neighborhoods to obtain physical traffic calming devices if they do not qualify under the policy.
- Whether the City should implement a photo radar camera program at signalized intersections to reduce the incidence of red light running violations.
- Whether the existing Traffic Calming Policy criteria related to private and public development projects is effective.

Substantial review and analysis is needed to determine how the existing policy should be modified. The challenge is in striking the right balance of addressing traffic issues, providing safe traffic conditions in neighborhoods and near schools, utilizing the City’s limited resources in the most effective manner, and minimizing unintended consequences to all roadways users and surrounding residential and business communities. The Traffic Calming policy team will return to the Committee with a comprehensive report regarding input received at the meetings and recommended changes to the policy in March of 2008. Upon the motion of Councilmember Judy Chirco, and seconded by Chair Forrest Williams, the Committee voted to accept the report with two Committee members present.

4. Recommendation on Tress Preservation Services (CMO) – Deferred

Chair Forrest Williams asked the Committee for a motion to defer item # 4 and # 5 on the agenda. Upon the motion of Councilmember Judy Chirco, and seconded by Chair Forrest Williams, the Committee voted to defer the items with two Committee members present.

5. Quarterly Update on Council Directives (CMO) – Deferred**6. Commercial Solid Waste System Resign and Enhancement Options (ESD)**

Environmental Services Department staff presented the report on Commercial Solid Waste (CSW) System Redesign and Enhancement Options. In February of 2007, the City Council approved an agreement with HF&H Consultants to assist the City with identifying options for redesigning the CSW management system, with the goal of implementing these changes by July of 2010. The first phase of this effort is an assessment of the City's current CSW Management system and establishes a framework for further evaluation of system redesign options. The analysis of the CSW Franchise system redesign will focus on changes to the existing system that support Zero Waste and the City's Green Vision Goals of increasing solid waste diversion and reducing the collection system's environmental impacts. Key findings in the HF&H Consultants reports were:

- Significant opportunities exist to increase diversion of materials from the commercial waste stream;
- The environmental impact of the commercial program, including greenhouse gas emissions, may be reduced through more efficient routing and use of lower emission vehicles;
- Customer service and hauler compliance to franchise agreement and municipal code provisions is inconsistent and difficult to ensure enforce in the current system; and
- There are opportunities to create more rate equity among the customers and to provide economic incentives for waste diversion.

Staff will return to the Committee in June of 2008 with the results of the stakeholder input process and redesign options for Committee review. Upon the motion of Councilmember Judy Chirco, and seconded by Chair Forrest Williams, the Committee voted to accept the report with two Committee members present.

7. Status Report on the Activities Related to Municipal Climate Action Plan (ESD)

Environmental Services Department staff presented the update on the City's greenhouse gas emissions inventory from 1990 and the Municipal Climate Action Plan. In June of 2007 the City Council adopted municipal greenhouse gas (ghg) reduction goals for City activities. Council directed staff to return to Transportation and Environment Committee with this status report on:

- The City's greenhouse gas emissions inventory from 1990.
- The development of a Municipal Climate Action Plan scheduled for presentation to Council in the spring of 2008.
- The results of a dialog with stakeholders on determining a "community" greenhouse gas reduction goal, and to take part in the formation of a regional climate action plan with a community-wide goal.

A report on the status of the Municipal Climate Action Plan, which includes a review of current programs and policies, identification of any data or reporting methodology for greenhouse gas emissions, recommendations for improvements, and additional coordination within and outside the City, can be made concurrently with the annual Sustainable Energy Policy annual report and action plan report to Council is presently scheduled to be heard at the Committee in March of 2008. A representative from the Sierra Club Cool Cities spoke on the item. Cool Cities appreciates the City of San Jose efforts and the progress it has made. They are excited about how well it aligns and stressed the importance to implement. Cool Cities encourages San Jose to take leadership

and reach out to the Community and business for further implementation. Upon the motion of Councilmember Judy Chirco, and seconded by Chair Forrest Williams, the Committee voted with two members present to accept the report and forward the recommendation for adoption of the existing Sustainable Silicon Valley regional greenhouse gas emission goal for 2010 (20% below 1990 levels by 2010) as the City's community greenhouse gas emission goal.

8. **Report on Solar Energy for City Facilities (ESD)**

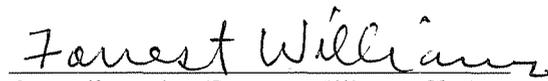
Environmental Services staff presented the status report on the Department of Energy Solar America Initiative and on the proposed work plan for identification and implementation of solar energy projects for City facilities. One of the goals of the Council-adopted Sustainable Energy Policy in April of 2003 and subsequent annual action plans has been to "Encourage the development and use of renewable energy sources and alternative fuels." More recently, the goal of reducing energy use by 50% and receiving 100% of our power from renewable energy sources within 15 year was outlined in the Green Vision for San Jose. Staff broadly assessed City facilities for their solar potential. The assessment reviewed over 500 City owned facilities managed by six different departments. City facilities are subject to a variety of existing use agreements and other restrictions that can impact how improvements to the facility may be financed. There are a wide variety of options for funding and financing public improvements, including solar projects. Full evaluation of the appropriate financing options for solar projects requires the development of facility specific technical information regarding structural sustainability, roof availability, current energy costs, long term life of the building, size, location and engineer's cost estimate for the recommended solar project; and existing use agreement and restrictions. The Department of Energy Technical Team has estimated that it would take three months to complete their assessment of solar opportunities and financing options. Staff will return to the Committee in the Spring of 2008 with their analysis of the Department of Energy's report. A resident of District 1 spoke on the item. As a resident she is excited to hear that the City of San Jose's has started the process to use solar energy for their facilities. She encourages the City to continue their efforts. Solar energy benefits everyone in the community. Upon the motion of Councilmember Judy Chirco, and seconded by Chair Forrest Williams, the Committee voted to accept the report with two Committee members present.

9. **Oral Petition**

There were no Oral Petitions

10. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 3:55 p.m.


Councilmember Forrest Williams, Chair
Transportation & Environment Committee