



**Caltrans District 4 Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)
August 11, 2009, 9:30 – 11:30 AM
Meeting Summary**

The meeting was attended by the following PAC members:

Lindsay Arnold, UC Berkeley Traffic Safety Center
Wendy Atkins, City of Sonoma
Emily Avery, San Mateo County Transit District
Nancy Baer, Contra Costa Health Services
Anthony Daysog, City of Alameda resident
Michelle DeRobertis, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
Tom Ford, City of Oakland resident
Eliot Hurwitz, Napa County Transportation Planning Agency
Nathan Landau, AC Transit
Heath Maddox, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Robert Planthold, San Francisco resident
David Simons, Sunnyvale resident
Rochelle Wheeler, Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority, PAC Chair
Sara Woo, Solano Transportation Authority

In addition, the following non-members attended:

Ron Bishop, Oakland resident

Agenda Items #1 and #2

The meeting began with self-introductions by attendees followed by the review and approval of the summary notes from the previous PAC meeting on April 15, 2009.

Agenda Item #3

The PAC then nominated and elected Rochelle Wheeler as Chair and Michelle DeRobertis as Vice Chair with Nancy Baer as an alternate to the Vice Chair.

Agenda Item #4

Following the elections, the PAC reviewed the Work Plan and discussed what has been accomplished in the past year. Comments were made regarding the ratio of what was accomplished from the previous year's work plan and what should be changed for this year's

work plan. Some members want to focus more on policy issues. The group agreed that guidance documents should be reviewed when they are being drafted.

Given that the PAC had previously agreed to hold subarea meetings to review project plans and designs, the PAC requested that staff provide a checklist for use in reviewing projects, so that consistent comments result from the subarea meetings. Along with a checklist, the PAC also requested that staff produce a table listing projects, policies, guidance, plans and studies that the PAC had previously discussed and reviewed, as well as the progress toward addressing PAC comments.

One member reminded the group that the deadline for commenting on the proposed California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) checklist is Aug 20th. (Update: after the meeting, the deadline was moved to August 27th.)

Modifications to the Work Plan –

- 1) “Review and comment on relevant legislation, policies, guidelines, and standards guidance including, but not limited to, the California Highway Design Manual and draft Transportation Analysis Report guidance.”
- 2) Add to the end “...based on recommendations of subarea committees”
- 3) 4) 7) 8) – Caltrans – Leave as is but put as bullets under #1
- 5) Leave as is
- 6) Pertains to other agencies/departments as well - leave as is but put it as a bullet point under #1
- 9) “Collaborate with District 4 Bicycle Advisory Committee and other Committees, as deemed appropriate”

The FY 2009-10 Work Plan was adopted with the above modifications. The PAC requested that staff attach the Work Plan to all PAC meeting agendas during the fiscal year.

Agenda item #5

Beth Thomas from District 4 gave these updates.

US 101/ Hearn Ave Overcrossing Project –

The project was on hold because the project team was deciding whether to replace or modify the bridge. Although the project picked up again, it is on hold again due to reduced funding for Caltrans staff to review PIDs. Staff is still following up regarding the PAC’s request to add pedestrian and bicyclist needs to the Purpose and Need Statement.

I-880/Stevens Creek Interchange Project –

Caltrans received a response to the PAC’s comments from the project consultant indicating that all comments pertaining to the project area would be incorporated except the one having to do with including pedestrian and bicycle needs in the Purpose and Need Statement. The staff liaison to the PAC will follow up with project staff from Caltrans and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority.

Agenda item #6

California Highway Design Manual – Kevin Herritt from Caltrans Headquarters gave this update. The final memo from the Caltrans Multimodal Highway Design Manual Review Team (HDM Team) was submitted to the Caltrans Headquarters Division of Design Chief, Terry Abbott, at the end of June. Terry has indicated that he agrees that the HDM should be revised, but that, due to a lack of consultant resources, the work would need to be done in-house. Terry has therefore asked the HDM Team to prioritize their recommendations with a focus on which items can be implemented in the shorter term and are higher priority. The HDM Team is working on this prioritization, with a complete rewrite of the HDM potentially to come in a later year. The Division of Design will be seeking input on the HDM revisions from various committees.

Transportation Analysis Report Guidance – Beth Thomas gave this update and indicated that the TAR development is on hold due to the recent suspension of funding for consultant support.

Complete Streets (DD 64 R-1) Implementation Plan – Chris Ratekin from Caltrans Headquarters gave this update on the Caltrans Complete Streets Policy. In May the Department established a Steering Committee, Technical Advisory Committee and Charter for the implementation of the policy. Since then, Caltrans has been doing outreach with the California Bicycle Advisory Committee, CalPED, and the Active Transportation and Livable Communities group. The Implementation Plan is in draft form and has over 120 items with milestones. The initial focus is on 4 key areas: the California Highway Design Manual, the Caltrans Project Development Procedures Manual, the Caltrans System Planning Guidance, and the State Highway Operations Protection Program (SHOPP) process and performance measures. The Steering Committee will adopt performance measures for self-monitoring. The current Caltrans goal is for internal agreement on the Implementation Plan by October 1, 2009. A few PAC members commented that the draft Caltrans Complete Streets flyer, which had been distributed to the PAC for this item, looked very professional.

Agenda item #7

Chris Ratekin presented on the Caltrans Smart Mobility Framework. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and their consultant team provided technical assistance to Caltrans to develop this as a screening tool for evaluating transportation and smart growth options (plans, programs, projects) available in California's urban, suburban, and rural areas. The current draft includes place types and performance measures, such as multimodal level of service. The next version will have further developed performance measures, as well as case studies, and is due for completion in October. Already a lot of effort at Caltrans and the regional level is going into developing more integrated transportation and land use models.

Bob Planthold asked how Caltrans could affect county congestion management agencies and county and town road departments through this process. Chris responded that a number of local agencies have come forward expressing interest in being examples for initial case studies and implementation. She added that the hope is that the Smart Mobility Framework will inform future Regional Transportation Plan guidelines and the next round of State Transportation Improvement Program guidelines. Staff from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission has been involved as well. Lindsay Arnold commented that the University of California Traffic

Safety Center is developing measures of effectiveness for corridors, which could be a future agenda item.

Agenda item #8

Future Agenda Items –

- Lindsay Arnold to review UC Berkeley Traffic Safety Center survey of agency pedestrian and bicycle coordinators
- Present on how the budget is affecting the Department and projects
- Update on Smart Mobility Framework

Announcements –

- A research seminar providing an international scan on pedestrian and bicycle safety and mobility, presented by Charlie Zegeer, is scheduled for the afternoon of August 11, 2009, near the UC Berkeley campus.
- The new Benicia-Martinez Bridge bicycle and pedestrian pathway grand opening will be on August 29, 2009.