

STATE ROUTE 4 BYPASS AUTHORITY
Antioch - Brentwood - Oakley and Contra Costa County

A JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGENCY

MINUTES
July 12, 2007

The STATE ROUTE 4 BYPASS AUTHORITY meeting was called to order in the Tri-Delta Transit Meeting Room, 801 Wilbur Avenue, Antioch, California by Chair Donald Freitas at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Brad Nix (Oakley), Bob Taylor (Brentwood), and Chair Donald Freitas (Antioch)

ABSENT: Mary N. Piepho (Contra Costa County)

STAFF: Dale Dennis, Program Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT ITEMS

On motion by Director Nix, seconded by Director Taylor, members of the Authority unanimously adopted the Consent Items, as follows:

- A. The Board took the Following Actions:
1. APPROVED submittal of 4 project applications (SR4/SR160 SB Ramp, SR4/SR160 NB Ramp, 4 lanes from Sand Creek Interchange to Balfour Road Interchange, Balfour Road Interchange) to TRANSPLAN/Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) for 2008 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding.
 2. APPROVED a Consulting Services Agreement amendment with Nolte Associates Inc. in the amount of \$101,500 for a revised not-to-exceed contract amount of \$356,800, to provide engineering services required for the preparation of a Project Study Report (PSR) for the Balfour Road Interchange and 4 lanes from Sand Creek to Balfour Road, which is necessary for 2008 STIP Funding Application submittal, and AUTHORIZED the Secretary or designee to sign the amendment on behalf of the Authority.

- B. APPROVED Resolution 2007/03 Supporting Legislation Developed by CCTA to "clean up" SB1012, a bill passed in 2006 changing the legal process by which public agencies acquire properties by eminent domain and AUTHORIZED the Secretary or designee to sign the resolution.
- C. APPROVED Temporary Construction Permit and Indemnity Agreement with Brentwood Specialty Center, LLC (Streets of Brentwood Development), allowing construction of improvements included as part of the Sand Creek Road Intersection Lowering Project, until property has been formally dedicated to City of Brentwood, and AUTHORIZED Secretary or designee to sign agreement.

DETERMINATION ITEMS

- A. RECEIVE Status Report on the Segment 1, Segment 3 and the Laurel Road Extension Projects

Program Manager Dale Dennis reported that staff continued to move forward with Laurel Road and Segment 1 in finalizing the right-of-way (ROW) acquisition, and was working with PG&E staff to expedite final PG&E relocations for both Laurel Road and the service points. Given that PG&E had not performed based on commitment dates that had been provided, staff was redoubling its efforts to make sure those service points were in place and the joint trenches completed. He explained that the major issue with the project was the relocation of major utilities, which had turned out to be a frustrating process.

With respect to ROW acquisition, Mr. Dennis advised that three cases of eminent domain remained on Segment 1. Most other acquisitions had been completed and everything else was moving along. Staff was working with Caltrans with respect to the Transfer and Relinquishment process, with ongoing discussions.

Mr. Dennis reported that Segment 1 would be potentially ready to open by the late fall, early November timeframe provided PG&E was able to perform. There was no actual commitment from the contractor at this point, although significant work was being done.

Mr. Dennis added with respect to Segment 3, that it was scheduled for completion in the summer of 2008. As part of the Transfer and Relinquishment process, he stated that staff was also putting together the transfer (ROW) documents, a lengthy process. He described another related effort regarding development of a freeway agreement for approval between the City of Antioch and Caltrans for a local connection. The agreement had been approved by the City of Antioch and was on schedule for the California Transportation Commission (CTC) meeting on July 25, 2007. With that approval, there would be authorization from Caltrans and the CTC to open Segment 1.

Mr. Dennis identified another issue as the City of Brentwood's concern for potentially restricting truck traffic on Segment 1 as a Truck Route until Segment 3 was open.

The restrictions had been proposed to address the concern that the narrow section of Lone Tree Way near existing SR4 was not positioned well for heavy truck traffic and there was an additional concern given a school in that area. That situation was being evaluated to consider restricting truck traffic on Segment 1 until Segment 3 was open, with truck traffic to remain on the existing Highway 4 until Segment 3 was open.

Director Nix suggested that there were solutions to that situation, which would have to be further discussed.

Chair Freitas agreed that other options could be considered.

Mr. Dennis advised that he would work with the County Engineer and the City Engineers from the member agencies and bring the issue back to the Board of Directors.

Director Nix asked for a status of the acceptance of Lone Tree Way Improvements from the City of Antioch.

Director Freitas asked that the item be placed on the Authority's agenda for next month.

B. RECEIVE Status Report on Construction Activities for Segment 1, Segment 3 and the Laurel Road Extension Projects

Bart Littell of Parsons Brinckerhoff Construction Services, presented updated construction photographs and reported that it had been a busy month in that between two segments nearly \$5 million in construction had been completed.

For Segment 1, Mr. Littell reported that all cement treated base had been completed and the paving crew had done paving on Lone Tree Way overcrossing, Jeffrey Way and on the freeway with the tie-in to the SR 160 separation, as well as on the Laurel Road Extension. The deck had also been poured for the Laurel Road overhead bridge. The superstructure on all the bridges had been completed. False work would continue to remain for several weeks on Neroly Road and sound wall work was being completed. He stated that the utility work on Laurel Road was the biggest concern in the project at this point. He advised of a verbal commitment from PG&E to perform as promised.

Mr. Littell advised of some traffic switches anticipated prior to the next Board meeting, temporary detours where traffic would be moved to allow completion of the westbound tie-in at the SR4/160 Interchange, on Laurel Road, and for the new Jeffrey Way. He explained that they would be working around the PG&E poles. The plan was to have the poles out of the way before the next stage of construction.

Mr. Littell reported that Segment 1 was 80 percent complete, 75 percent on time.

For Segment 3, Mr. Littell explained that the grading on the Vasco Road cut had been completed along with lots of drainage work in the new alignment, electrical work and the installation of sound walls. The grading on Marsh Creek Road, Walnut to Sellers Avenue, was also continuing. He noted that some of the work on Marsh Creek Road was being accelerated. Drainage work between Sellers Avenue and Byron Highway would be started this week without impacting traffic, and saving time on the next phase on Marsh Creek Road. He added that the utilities on Segment 3 were coming along. The biggest issue on Segment 3 was the hawk issue. The biologist and the Department of Fish and Game had allowed work to start again.

Mr. Littell also noted that it had been determined that it would be cheaper to accelerate the contract with bridge construction rather than put in temporary false work in Marsh Creek to remain through the winter. An extension from the Department of Fish and Game had been tentatively secured to allow work through November 1. He anticipated the submittal of a change order to address all of the delays and future acceleration of the work. With that, he suggested that the overall project could be back on schedule.

Even with the hawk delay, Mr. Littell reported that Segment 3 was 37 percent complete, 37 percent on time. He suggested it was a good time for a tour.

A tour was tentatively scheduled for Saturday, July 28, at 9:00 A.M.

- C. APPROVE a \$169,850 Amendment to the Consulting Services Agreement with Mark Thomas and Company (MTCO) for a Revised Not-to-exceed Amount of \$14,612,053 for the Preparation of a Conceptual Landscaping Plan for Segments 1, 2 and 3, and AUTHORIZE the Secretary or Designee to Sign the Amendment on Behalf of the Authority.

Mr. Dennis reported that the item had been requested by the Board. A landscape architect was being secured through the Mark Thomas contract to develop a conceptual plan for a comprehensive approach working with the City Engineers of each jurisdiction and touching base with the Board at strategic times to address landscaping. He explained that landscaping for the Bypass would be a major issue with all jurisdictions.

Mr. Dennis explained that the process also had to include Caltrans to ensure Caltrans' standards were met. He noted that landscaping could be very costly. He advised that he would work with the Board with respect to what was desired for landscaping.

Director Taylor asked if there would be conceptual designs that could be shown to the public.

Mr. Dennis stated that conceptual designs would be prepared and meetings with the public would be scheduled.

Director Freitas referred to the proposed scope of work and a stakeholder community outreach plan. He asked about the stakeholder group, reported by Mr. Dennis that the stakeholder group would be the members of staff and Caltrans.

Mr. Dennis also advised, when asked, that public workshops had been planned to discuss the landscape plan and there would be a community meeting in the jurisdictional area.

Director Freitas noted for Segment 1 that many businesses, as opposed to residences were involved. He suggested that the proposal should initially be presented to the Board. He agreed with the extreme costs associated with landscape projects and he asked for some frame of reference as to what the landscaping would look like and what it would cost.

On motion by Director Nix, seconded by Director Taylor, members of the Authority unanimously APPROVED an amendment to the Consulting Services Agreement with Mark Thomas and Company (MTCO) in the amount of \$169,850 for a revised not-to-exceed amount of \$14,612,053 for the preparation of a conceptual landscaping plan for Segments 1, 2 and 3, and AUTHORIZED the Secretary or designee to sign the amendment on behalf of the Authority.

BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS

As to when the transfer and relinquishment would occur in response to Director Taylor, Mr. Dennis stated that once the project was complete there was a question as to whether or not the facility could be transferred to Caltrans prior to transferring the ROW, or whether the ROW transfer could take place after Caltrans adoption of the new facility and relinquishment of the existing facility. He explained that the ROW transfer process could be lengthy, potentially a matter of years. He emphasized the lengthy process and stated that there were four condemnation cases that remained to be settled, among others. As such, all the property to be transferred to Caltrans was not yet owned by the Authority.

As to what Caltrans would be responsible for, Mr. Dennis stated that when Segment 1 opened, it would open as a local roadway. Segment 2 was currently under the Bypass Authority and the City of Brentwood provided maintenance and police services. As a result, agreements would have to be negotiated. Until the adoption and relinquishment had taken place, the City of Brentwood would continue those services.

As an example, Mr. Dennis noted that after several years, ROW transfer had not yet occurred for many segments of the Highway 4 Widening Project that the CCTA had sponsored.

Chair Nix emphasized the need to work with Caltrans to address those issues.

Mr. Dennis advised that there were monthly meetings with Caltrans to address those types of issues. He responded to a number of questions with respect to various portions of the Bypass and described some of the constraints involved with the various pieces involved.

Director Freitas expressed the need to move as quickly as possible to address those issues.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the State Route 4 Bypass Authority, Chair Freitas adjourned the meeting at 7:35 P.M. to the next meeting scheduled for August 9, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita L. Tucci-Smith
Minutes Clerk