



SamTrans Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor

AGENDA

April 2, 2008 - Wednesday

6:30 PM

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Call to Order/Roll Call
3. Public Comments
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes for March 5, 2008
5. Presentation: Pedestrian Safety Campaign – Ron Jordan
6. Report of the Chair
 - a. Discussion of Possible Sub-committee Topics
7. SamTrans Staff Update
8. CAC Member Comments/Requests
9. Liaison Reports
 - a. SamTrans Board – Wayne Kingsford-Smith
 - b. ADA Technical Advisory Committee – Molly Kennedy
 - c. Caltrain Accessibility Advisory Committee – Molly Kennedy
 - d. Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board – Andy Chow
 - e. Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Citizens Advisory Committee – Andy Chow
 - f. Senior Mobility Action Plan – Ken Feldstein
10. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 6:30 p.m., 1250 San Carlos Avenue, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd floor, San Carlos, CA
11. Adjournment

All items on this agenda are subject to action

CAC MEMBERS: T. Ames, J. Baker, A. Chow, K. Chu, T. Collette, K. Feldstein, M. Hall, P. Hitchcock, M. Kennedy, W. Kingsford-Smith (Chair), D. Milton (Vice-Chair), K. Nobles, P. Ratto, D. Wilcox

INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC

If you have questions on the agenda, please contact the Assistant District Secretary at 650.508.6223. Assisted listening devices are available upon request. Agendas are available on the SamTrans Website at www.samtrans.com.

Date and Time of Boards and Advisory Committee Meetings

San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) Committees and Board: Second Wednesday of the month, 2 PM. SamTrans Citizens Advisory Committee: First Wednesday of the month, 6:30 PM. Date, time and location of meetings may be changed as needed.

Location of Meeting

The SamTrans Administrative Building is located at 1250 San Carlos Ave., San Carlos, which is one block west of the San Carlos Caltrain Station on El Camino Real, accessible by SamTrans bus Routes: 260, 295, 390, 391, KX.

Public Comment

If you wish to address the Citizens Advisory Committee, please fill out a speaker's card located on the agenda table. If you have anything that you wish distributed to the Citizens Advisory Committee and included for the official record, please hand it to the Assistant District Secretary, who will distribute the information to the Committee members and staff.

Members of the public may address the Citizens Advisory Committee on non-agendized items under the Public Comment item on the agenda. Public testimony by each individual speaker shall be limited to three minutes and items raised that require a response will be deferred for staff reply.

Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities

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**SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT
1250 SAN CARLOS AVENUE, SAN CARLOS, CALIFORNIA**

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING – MARCH 5, 2008**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: John Baker, Andy Chow, Kristina Chu, Tom Collette, Ken Feldstein, Maureen Hall, Pam Hitchcock, Wayne Kingsford-Smith (Chair), David Milton (Vice-Chair), Kim Nobles, Peter Ratto, David Wilcox

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Ames, Molly Kennedy

SAMTRANS STAFF PRESENT: Pat Boland, Brian Fitzpatrick, Nancy McKenna, Chester Patton, Ed Proctor

Chair Wayne Kingsford-Smith called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jeff Carter, Burlingame, reported on TransitCamp two weekends ago and said it was very interesting and informative. Mr. Carter hopes this type of forum can occur more often and encourage all CAC members to attend in the future.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The Committee (Baker/Feldstein) approved the minutes of February 6, 2008. David Milton abstained since he was not at the February meeting.

PRESENTATION –SAN CARLOS TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (TOD)

Brian Fitzpatrick, Manager, Real Estate and Property Development, gave an update on the San Carlos Village Transit Oriented Development Project. Mr. Fitzpatrick made the following key points:

- The location is a long and narrow site which covers approximately 8.7 acres.
- A TOD is a compact, walkable development centered around transit stations.
- Key features of a TOD is a mix of uses, moderate to high density, pedestrian orientation/connectivity, transportation choices, reduced parking and high quality design.
- A TOD is desirable because it provides affordable housing costs.

David Wilcox asked why this would be cheaper to build than an apartment building.

Mr. Fitzpatrick said that if you are building an apartment building to create the same number units as you would in a development, a single family residence, your cost per unit would be less, economy of scale.

- The project objective is to turn excess transit owned land into a TOD, promote connectivity to various transit modes and to create an example of a high-quality TOD to serve as a “model home” for the Peninsula.

- A visioning process with the City of San Carlos was entered into in 2002 to develop goals and policies for the development of the property. A 21-member CAC consisting of a cross-section of citizens and business owners was appointed.
- The District initiated a two-step process to solicit development proposals. Seven proposals were received and three were finalists. The city was actively involved in the process.
- Legacy Partners LLC selected as preferred developer.

David Milton asked what a reasonable financial return to the District is. Mr. Fitzpatrick said the target return is eight percent.

- The District's Board of Directors has authorized staff to engage in exclusive negotiations with Legacy Partners Residential, LLC for the development of the site.
- Legacy and the District are in the process of negotiating a long-term land lease.
- The current bus turnaround and parking will become a pedestrian walkway.
- The developer is not allowed to move the Depot Building.
- The development will consist of 281, one to three bedroom, residential units.

Kim Nobles asked if there are special accommodations for seniors and disabled. Mr. Fitzpatrick said the entire project will be built to ADA standards.

- The TOD will consist of 35,000 square feet of retail.

Mr. Milton said from a marketing point of view accommodations along a railroad are not desirable. What has been taken into consideration with noise from the train? Mr. Fitzpatrick said because the San Carlos station is elevated there is less of a bell noise issue. Legacy Partners did a development in San Jose that has light rail on one side and Guadalupe Parkway on the other and there is no noise issue. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that Legacy goes out and does sound testing.

Ken Feldstein asked if the units are going to be leased or sold. Mr. Fitzpatrick said the units will be rented.

Mr. Feldstein asked if there will be enough room to add two more tracks for high speed rail. Mr. Fitzpatrick said yes.

Mr. Feldstein asked if there will be more frequency on the rails instead of hourly. Mr. Fitzpatrick said there are plans for increasing the frequency, but these are two separate issues. Mr. Feldstein asked who owns the right-of-way on the rail. Mr. Fitzpatrick said the mainline corridor was purchased in 1994 by the Joint Powers Board (JPB). The land in San Mateo County is in title with SamTrans and the JPB.

Ms. Nobles asked if there is a completion date. Mr. Fitzpatrick said approximately 2 ½ - 3 years.

Andy Chow asked how the parking compares with other parts of the peninsula. Mr. Fitzpatrick said there is a balancing act. Mr. Fitzpatrick said retail is a very important factor for a project like this.

John Baker said the closest parallel to this project is Colma. The apartments filled, but the retail lagged. How dependent is the project on the retail side. Mr. Fitzpatrick said they have been in discussion with the City of San Carlos and there was a study on the optimal amount of retail and this study showed the TOD has the optimal retail.

Kristina Chu said the potential of idling trains and buses could be a problem. Mr. Fitzpatrick said it is being built today with new technologies.

Pam Hitchcock said this development seems to be catering to the upscale train riders and not the bus riders who need affordable housing. Mr. Fitzpatrick said the project would be designed with transit users, including bus patrons, in mind. In addition, as required by local housing laws, 15 percent would be affordable housing spread throughout the development.

Tom Collette asked who will own the buildings. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that SamTrans own the land and a 99 percent land lease. Legacy will own the product, which are the buildings. These units will not be sold as condos since it is a land lease.

Ms. Nobles asked if there are any aspects of the development that are green. Mr. Fitzpatrick said they are working with the city on the green issue.

Chair Kingsford-Smith thanked Mr. Fitzpatrick for a very informative presentation.

Public Comment

Jeff Carter, Burlingame, said he is glad the TOD doesn't preclude the four tracks for electrification and pleased to hear that SamTrans is keeping ownership of the land.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Kingsford-Smith asked if everyone had read the sub-committee reports.

Mr. Feldstein said it is time to revisit the sub-committees. He said that there are changes in BART and Muni and TODs in Millbrae and San Carlos. Mr. Feldstein said part of this committee is to make suggestions to the Board, but his only concern is that nothing occurred with reports that were written.

Ms. Chu asked what the time frame of these committees was and what the time commitment to these committees is. Chair Kingsford-Smith said because of the Brown Act these ad-hoc committees can only last for six months.

Ms. Hitchcock said sub-committees are good, but the topics should come from the Board level.

Peter Ratto said the committees are a good idea to submerge deeper into a topic.

Andy Chow said the sub-committees are looking at problems and not necessarily finding solutions. The CAC is more of an advisory and staff has the tools.

Ms. Nobles said she worked on the bus shelters/stops and found it to be very valuable.

Mr. Milton said that the mission of the CAC is to advise the board where the advice will be taken seriously. The El Camino project was not something the Board was ready for and there needs to be some consideration between the Board and staff.

Mr. Collette said that a previous member of the CAC brought up the smoking issue and that was brought up to the Board level.

Mr. Wilcox reviewed the sub-committee reports, i.e. connectivity, and found it interesting and topics should be picked that would be beneficial to the CAC and the Board. His impression is to represent the riders.

Mr. Milton said a lot of work was done on the sub-committees and nothing was done with them. There are certain things that he sees that should be addressed such as connectivity.

Mr. Milton said staff needs to clarify the CAC position/role. Chester Patton, Director Bus Transportation, said periodically this body asks what the role is of the CAC. The CAC is the eye and ears of the service at the rider level, whether good or bad. The more you use the service the more valuable you are to the CAC. Mr. Patton said change does not happen quickly in public transit. Routes were matured many years ago. He said the CAC voices are being heard. The CAC has made it clear that there is a need for a day pass. Mr. Patton said that many of the recommendations were broad and complex, taking years to realize, including the farebox project which enables the usage of day passes. Mr. Patton said Ms. Hall informed staff of an unsafe bus stop in Pacifica and recommended that it be moved and this was done last month.

Andy Chow deals with the VTA CAC and their composition is mostly non-riders. In terms of this group he thinks that this CAC represents riders.

Mr. Milton said that if staff doesn't want these issues looked at then there needs feedback given to the CAC.

Mr. Feldstein would like to know if staff would be interested in the CAC doing a follow-up on the previous reports that were done. Mr. Patton said the tasks haven't been completed that were given to staff previously.

Pat Boland, Marketing Manager, said the CAC recommended the day pass and the peer committee overlooked this issue. It wasn't until the CAC and the FRED committee pushed the issue that this came along. Spanish language has been increased on brochures and looking at web for Spanish. Shuttles came from this committee and the TA is doing. Deadheading is a gigantic project. Stop callouts was an issue that came from this committee and Mr. Patton took that and had the changes made. Mr. Boland said if the CAC wants to form sub-committees to give to Mr. Patton or him the ideas before continuing.

By a show of hands seven members are interested in creating sub-committees.

Ms. Nobles left at 8:17 p.m.

Mr. Baker said that those interested in sub-committees should bring back topics at the next meeting and present to staff.

Ms. Hitchcock said the topics need to be focused. Staff doesn't need to come back with comments on reports. If things are brought forward the CAC needs a context of time and staff does not need to feel resentful. She said she hasn't seen any outdated ad cards since the last meeting.

SAMTRANS STAFF UPDATE

Mr. Patton reported the following:

- Distributed the performance report for January. There was a slight decrease in ridership from January 2008 vs. 2007 due to the amount of rain this year. On-time-performance rose in January to 88.28 percent and the goal is 85 percent.

Mr. Boland reported the following:

- SamTrans passes are not sold on the Safeway web.
- Attended Transit Camp and almost certain it will occur again.
- Staff is in the process of developing the new website for SamTrans.
- Hispanic promotion this month will include television and print ads.
- Bus shelter design is in final stage

MEMBERS COMMENTS

Mr. Milton would like a discussion on new fareboxes at the next meeting and the compatibility with Translink.

Mr. Feldstein said Muni is looking to run the Route 14 to Daly City BART and run an owl service from San Francisco State to Daly City BART. Muni also plans to discontinue the Route 20 and this will eliminate service to the Transbay Terminal. Is there any RM2 money to bring service from Daly City BART to South San Francisco BART. Mr. Feldstein would like Mr. Boland to report back at the next meeting. Mr. Feldstein said that the BART stations at Colma, South San Francisco and San Bruno are not serviced by all night service.

Ms. Hitchcock said the PX was playing the KX announcement about the last stop on El Camino Real and that patrons mistake the RX for the KX because the letters are so similar. Mr. Patton said staff will take this as an action item.

LIASON REPORTS

a. SamTrans Board – Wayne Kingsford-Smith

Chair Kingsford-Smith reported the following from the February SamTrans Board meeting:

- Mr. Harvey gave a presentation on fixed route service.
- Ridership was up 1.7 percent in December 2007 vs. 2006.
- The Board approved the authorization to amend the FY08 operating budget.
- Staff will be filing an application with the MTC to replace 1993 Gillig buses

b. ADA Technical Advisory Committee – Molly Kennedy - Absent

- c. **Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board – Andy Chow** - Nothing
- d. **Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Citizens Advisory Committee – Andy Chow** –
The Caltrain 2025 was discussed at the February meeting.
- e. **Senior Mobility Action Plan – Ken Feldstein**
Staff at MTC recommended to give seed money to set-up a non-profit that will work on senior transportation.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held April 2, 2008, at 6:30 p.m., 1250 San Carlos Avenue, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor, San Carlos, California 94070.

ADJOURNED:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.