

**SOUTH PLACER REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MINUTES
February 25, 2009**

The South Placer Regional Transportation Authority met on Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 10:45 a.m. at the Placer County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, California.

ATTENDANCE:	Jim Gray	Celia McAdam
	Peter Hill	Scott Aaron
	Linda Stackpoole	Sue Sholtis
	Kirk Uhler	Stan Tidman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Hill and second by Gray, the Board approved the minutes of the December 4 and December 23, 2008 meetings as submitted, with Stackpoole abstaining.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon motion by Gray and second by Hill, the Board unanimously approved the consent calendar as submitted.

PUBLIC HEARING: PLACER PARKWAY CORRIDOR PRESERVATION PARTIALLY REVISED DRAFT TIER 1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (PRD TIER 1 EIS/EIR)

Chair Kirk Uhler opened the public hearing on the PRD Tier 1 EIS/EIR. Stan Tidman presented background information on the Placer Parkway project leading up to the distribution of the PRD Tier 1 EIS/EIR. Chris Burke and Robert Harmony commented on the PRD. The hearing was documented by Kathryn Swank, Court Reporter.

Chair Uhler closed the public hearing, noting the deadline for comments on the PRD is Monday, March 16.

PLACER PARKWAY CORRIDOR PRESERVATION TIER 1 ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS: NEXT STEPS

Stan Tidman noted the steps taken thus far in the environmental process of the Placer Parkway Corridor Preservation project were summarized during his Public Hearing presentation. Tidman reported we have reached a stalemate with the regulatory agencies on the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA) concurrence during our Modified NEPA 404 process.

Staff recommends 1) concluding work on the Tier 1 Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) independent of the federal NEPA (EIS) process; 2) continuing to work with the regulatory agencies to resolve the

current stalemate over the corridor most likely to contain the LEDPA in a timely and cost-effective fashion and 3) organizing and attending a followup meeting in Washington, D.C. with headquarters-level regulatory agency staff to resolve the LEDPA concurrence dispute.

Celia McAdam stated that this process has been extremely challenging and added while we are hitting roadblocks from the federal agencies we can pursue under state law to preserve the corridor. If there is no resolution with the federal agencies through the dispute resolution process, we may have to start over with the construction level document under CEQA and NEPA.

Upon motion by Gray and second by Hill, the Board unanimously authorized the Executive Director to undertake the actions recommended by staff to complete the environmental process under CEQA, while continuing to work with the regulatory agencies to resolve the current stalemate over the LEDPA. The Board also authorized staff and the Board Chair to travel to meet with headquarters-level staff in Washington DC as may be necessary.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Celia McAdam reported with the passage of the state budget and federal stimulus package both the Lincoln Bypass as well as the I-80 Bottleneck Phase 2 projects remain under construction. Phase 3 of the I-80 Bottleneck project is shovel ready and awaiting proceeds for funding either from the federal stimulus package or Proposition 1B. Since the Lincoln Bypass funding is coming from Proposition 1B funds there is concern that the May revise of the state budget may not be as positive and we may face additional challenges. I-80 Phase 2 should be able to be completed due to the large federal earmark.

Peter Hill stated the Draft EIR on the Sierra College Boulevard improvements from Rocklin Road to Taylor Road has been completed and they are ready to proceed with the project.

Meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Celia McAdam
Executive Director

Kirk Uhler, Chair