



DRAFT MINUTES

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

1. Roll Call

Chair Avalos called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m.

Present at Roll Call: Commissioners Avalos, Campos and Cohen (3)

Absent at Roll Call: Commissioners Kim and Mar (2)

Consent Calendar

2. Approve the Minutes of the March 10, 2015 Meeting – ACTION

3. Recommend Awarding a Three-Year Legal Services Contract, with an Option to Extend for Two Additional One-Year Periods, to Nossaman LLP and Wendel, Rosen, Black & Dean LLP, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$750,000 for General Legal Counsel Services, and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate the Contract Payment Terms and Non-Material Contract Terms and Conditions – ACTION

There was no public comment.

The Consent Calendar was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Campos and Cohen (3)

Absent: Commissioners Kim and Mar (2)

End of Consent Calendar

4. State and Federal Legislative Update – ACTION

Mark Watts, State Legislative Advocate for the Transportation Authority, presented the item. He noted that staff proposed amending the item to change the position on Assembly Bill (AB) 779 from watch to oppose because it provided too much flexibility for jurisdictions to define how environmental review is done for transportation projects and moves counter to reform efforts at the state level, which are supported by San Francisco.

Chair Avalos commented that the Committee had heard a detailed report on the other bills at the prior month's meeting.

Amber Crabbe, Assistant Deputy Director for Policy and Programming, reported that the federal transportation bill would expire at the end of May and the Federal Highway Trust Fund would be bankrupt by July. She said that President Obama recently introduced his GROW AMERICA Act which dramatically increased transit spending, doubled the discretionary Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program, and created a new freight program. She noted that staff was tracking this topic at the federal level but did not expect it to make progress, and that more likely than not, Congress would instead approve a continuing resolution of the current transportation bill.

Tilly Chang, Executive Director, added that the week prior she joined the Stand Up For Transportation rally to urge Congress to pass a long-term transportation bill. She stated that Malcolm Dougherty, Director of the California Department of Transportation, had shared that parts of the country that did not have local voter-approved transportation measures like Prop K were deeply impacted and in some cases were being forced to not award construction contracts and halt projects.

Commissioner Campos moved to amend the item to change the position on AB 779 from watch to oppose, seconded by Commissioner Cohen.

There was no public comment.

The amendment to the item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Campos and Cohen (3)

Absent: Commissioners Kim and Mar (2)

The amended item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Campos and Cohen (3)

Absent: Commissioners Kim and Mar (2)

5. **Recommend Awarding an 18-Month Contract to AECOM Technical Services, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$450,000 for Planning, Engineering, and Environmental Services for the I-280 Interchange Modifications at Balboa Park, and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate Contract Payment Terms and Non-Material Contract Terms and Conditions – ACTION**

Liz Rutman, Senior Engineer, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Chair Avalos stated that residents in District 11 were concerned about one aspect of the Muni Forward program which would reroute several Muni bus lines, but particularly the 29, 52 and 54 lines, from Geneva Avenue to Ocean Avenue. He said an assessment of the reroute was done around 2007 but that there had been dramatic changes in the traffic patterns since then, and that during certain times of day traffic on Ocean Avenue was at a standstill. He asked whether it made sense to reroute these bus lines onto Ocean Avenue, especially since the on-ramp from Geneva Avenue to I-280 was being closed down, which would move additional traffic onto Ocean Avenue. He recommended that staff consider how the changes proposed in the Transit Effectiveness Project would intersect with the changes to the freeway access.

Ms. Rutman responded that when the circulation study was completed it was assumed that the route changes proposed in the Transit Effectiveness Program (TEP) would already be in place so the study incorporated those changes. She said staff would continue to include those changes but would coordinate with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency on which elements of the TEP were actually moving forward versus those which may have changed since the TEP was produced. Ms. Rutman added that this traffic analysis would be more detailed than the original study to ensure that it incorporated all factors that could affect bus service.

Commissioner Avalos stated that he was concerned with diverting more traffic onto Ocean Avenue because it could lead to huge impacts to the bus service which was already being addressed by the Muni Forward program and the improvements to the freeway access.

Mr. Rutman responded that it was a valid concern which is why the traffic analysis would be the first task completed to ensure that these projects could continue to move forward.

There was no public comment.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Campos and Cohen (3)

Absent: Commissioners Kim and Mar (2)

6. Introduction of New Items

There was no public comment.

7. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.